



Longstone CE (VA) School
The Cross
Great Longstone
DE45 1TZ

Telephone: 01629 640377

Email: enquiries@longstone.derbyshire.sch.uk

Website: www.longstone.derbyshire.sch.uk

Executive Headteacher: Mr Simon Beahan

Newsletter – October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I can't quite believe that we are almost at the end of this half term. Summer has suddenly become autumn and the nights are drawing in. It's been a busy half term with plenty of exciting learning and things to celebrate but, boy, we are tired! When it comes around, I hope you all manage a well-deserved rest and we look forward to seeing you after the half term holiday. School closes for the break on **Friday 21 October and re-opens on Monday 31 October at 8:50am.**



Covid and other respiratory illnesses in school

As we enter autumn, it seems Covid cases (and colds etc.) are on the rise– we have had some recent confirmed cases of Covid in school. Please see a summary of the guidance below:

What to do if your child develops symptoms of a respiratory infection, including Covid 19

Children and young people with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend their education setting.

Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, where they can. They can go back to school, college or childcare, and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough to attend.

All children and young people with respiratory symptoms should be encouraged to cover their mouth and nose with a disposable tissue when coughing and/or sneezing and to wash their hands after using or disposing of tissues.

It can be difficult to know when to seek help if your child is unwell. If you are worried about your child, especially if they are aged under 2 years old, then you should seek medical help.

What to do if your child tests positive for Covid 19 *(Please note that the guidance for adults over 18 years of age is different).*

It is not recommended that children and young people are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to by a health professional.

If a child or young person has a positive COVID-19 test result they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test, if they can. After 3 days, if they feel well and do not have a high temperature, the risk of passing the infection on to others is much lower. This is because children and young people tend to be infectious to other people for less time than adults.

Harvest Celebrations

It was a pleasure to welcome everyone to our recent harvest assembly at St. Giles and we hope that you enjoyed the class performances and songs.

Thank you to all who were able to generously donate gifts. The church is collecting all the food items on behalf of school and is taking them to the local foodbank in Matlock. It is so encouraging and heart lifting to see how we have been able to support and help others as part of our harvest celebrations.



As a school community we have supported The Bishop of Derby's Harvest Appeal this year. This year, the funds raised from the appeal will support three different charities:

- Derbyshire Wildlife Trust: Re-wilding project.

- The Anglican Communion Forest Initiative.
- Restoring Kenya's Coral Reefs – An A Rocha Project

The above charities are aimed at rectifying the damage of climate change so that future generations can still know the beauty, richness and diversity of God's natural world. You can still make an online donation to this year's harvest appeal through the following link: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/harvestappeal2022>

Advent Calendar Donations for a Chesterfield foodbank

It's the most wonderful time of the year...Up until **Tuesday 30th November**, the school will be accepting donations of advent calendars from parents and pupils. The advent calendars will then be taken to a local foodbank to be distributed to families in need. An advent calendar is not a necessity but a special treat that most children (and some adults) look forward to receiving each year. You may wish to donate a calendar that does or does not contain chocolates/ treats/ gifts. Please feel free to drop them off at the school office or to send them in with your child. Thank you in advance for your support.



The British weather...

Please ensure your child has a coat in school each day after half term. Even if it is a bit wet and wild(ish), we like to get our children outside (we're a hardy bunch) and it is much more comfortable if they have a coat! Please ensure all items of clothing that come into school are named.

Y6 Transfer to Secondary School

A reminder that the closing date for applications is midnight on **31st October 2022**. Please find further information at Derbyshire Admissions <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/school-places/apply-for-a-school-place.aspx>

Requests for leave of absences during term time



Headteachers are only allowed to grant leave of absence to pupils in exceptional circumstances. Department for Education guidelines are clear that taking term-time holidays or extended leave will not be considered as an exceptional circumstance. If leave of absence is declined by the school, yet parents or carers still remove their child, then this would be classed as unauthorised absence for which a fixed penalty notice and/or prosecution could be pursued.

Requests for exceptional term time leave must be made in advance of any arrangement being made. This will allow sufficient time for the request to be considered by the school. The request must be made in writing (letter or email) by the parent/carer using the 'Leave of absence request form' that can be collected from the school office. One form per child per request should be completed. Please note that both parents (if applicable) are required to sign this form. You will be notified in writing about the school's decision as soon as possible.

School Dinners

Our wonderful school dinners cost £2:40. School dinners are free to those children in Reception and KS1 and those in receipt of Free School meals (see below). Please note that these can be paid for on Parent Pay. Please ensure your account is up to date.

Income Based Free School Meals

For every child who qualifies for free meals due to family income or benefit levels, our school receives the maximum funding (£1320) to support your child through something called the Pupil Premium. It is only available to schools **if you apply and are eligible** for income based free school meals. With Pupil Premium funding, schools can organise extra help and support for children. Applying for free meals is very quick and easy so if you think you may qualify for free school meals, please still take the time to apply. Even though your child might be able to have a free meal anyway, **our school needs the funding that comes from Income Based Free School Meals**. To find out if you are eligible, please go to the Council's website at www.derbyshire.gov.uk and search for 'free school meals'. You are also welcome to contact the school office on 01629640 for further details and advice.



Parent Hub

We will soon be changing the way we communicate with parents using an app called 'Parent Hub'. Parent Hub will become the main system we use to communicate with parents/carers and the easiest way for you to keep up-to-date with everything



Longstone CE (VA) School
The Cross
Great Longstone
DE45 1TZ

Telephone: 01629 640377

Email: enquiries@longstone.derbyshire.sch.uk

Website: www.longstone.derbyshire.sch.uk

Executive Headteacher: Mr Simon Beahan



that is happening in school. We will soon be stopping the use of SMS text messages and are asking **all parents to download the app** so we can start using the new system by 30 November. You will need the app to receive news, messages and updates from school. Parent Hub is FREE for parents to download and use and very easy to set up. You should have received a letter last week detailing how to set up Parent Hub. We will continue to use Parent Pay for payments for school dinners and payments and consent for trips.

Enterprise Week Enterprise Week (Week beginning 31 October 2022)

Do we have the next Lord Sugar or Baroness Brady at Longstone? We may find out during our 'Enterprise Week' when children will be given the opportunity to utilise their entrepreneurial skills. Each class will have a budget of £35 and a week to create a product to sell at the **'Farmers' Market' on Friday 4 November at 2.30pm**. Please join us to buy the wonderful products available from each class. All goods will be sold on a first come first served basis with proceeds going to charity.



Musical Showcase – Friday 4 November at 2pm (just before the Farmers' Market)



We provide great musical provision at Longstone including peripatetic teachers who visit school each week to teach some of our children brass, drums, singing, piano, guitar, cello, violin and woodwind. We are going to showcase these lessons in the hall on Friday 4 November and parents are invited to attend to see what we do.

Well-being:



The Changing Lives Service is Derby and Derbyshire's Children and Young People's Mental Health Support Team. You can refer your child for support if you have concerns about their emotional wellbeing. You can contact the service for more information and advice on: 0300 303 4663 or email drcs.admin@changinglives@nhs.net.

To find local information about support you can access yourself, this is available via the Derby and Derbyshire Emotional Health & Wellbeing Website: www.derbyandderbyshireemotionalhealthandwellbeing.uk

SMILERS

Walter the wise owl came to visit school to see all of the amazing work that children are doing around their SMILERS and to present the SMILERS awards during our Celebration Assembly.



Safeguarding

We take the safeguarding and well-being of our children very seriously at Longstone. In line with statutory obligations, we have updated our Child Protection policy in accordance with national and local guidelines. The policy can be found on the school's website.

FOLS – Wreath Making Workshop

FOLS have arranged a wreath making workshop on Friday 25 November at 6.30pm in the School Hall. Come along and create your own Christmas wreath under the expert tuition of Bethan from Finishing Flourishes -as seen on Chanel 4's Kirsty's Handmade Christmas. Mince pies, mulled wine and Christmas nibbles included. £30 Per Person.

Call or text: 07530972697 or email jomitchell@longstone.derbyshire.sch.uk to book your place.



Parent Meetings

You should be receiving a letter soon with details on our first parent meetings on Tuesday 8 and Wednesday 9 November.

Job Squad



We are always looking to involve the community in school life (and save money!). So, if you're handy with a power tool or skilled with a screw driver, please contact the office and we can add you to our 'job squad'. It means we might just give you a buzz if we require a bit of DIY!

JOB ALERT – if you're handy with a wheelbarrow and shovel (and can provide your own!), please contact Mrs Rawding as we require the stones in the bags at the front of the school to be transported to outside Donaldson.

The importance of reading

Research shows that learning to read is directly linked to children's success at school and beyond. It also shows that those who read regularly and for longer dramatically increase the number of words they are introduced to. This in turn impacts on their success across the whole curriculum as they know and understand more. Longstone is a 'reading' school and we are always keen to share our love of books and reading.



We will be holding our next 'Reading Together' session on **Friday 21 October from 3 – 3.30pm** when adults are welcome to come into their child's classroom and read with their child.

Librarians

We are this year's school librarians and we would like to share with you three books each half term to inspire your reading at home. This half term we have chosen: 'Flotsam', 'Poppy Field' and 'The Goldfish Boy'.

- 'The Goldfish Boy brings humour and mystery together in an exciting read for Key Stage 2 children.'
- 'Poppy Field is a great book, which is ideal in the lead up to Remembrance Day.'
- 'Flotsam is a fantastic picture book for younger readers, where they can let their imagination run wild and they can create their own stories based on the pictures.'



Lost property and pre loved uniform



Pre loved uniform can now be found in the school entrance so please feel free to come in and have a look. Any cash donations can be put into the FOLS red post box under the window in reception. The lost property box can also be found in the school entrance – we are accumulating quite an amount!

Getting in touch...



If you need to get in touch then please either ring (01629 640377) or email the school at enquiries@longstone.derbyshire.sch.uk If your call isn't answered then leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as possible. If you would like to speak with a teacher, then also ring the office to make an appointment.

Rec to Y6 - Flu Immunisations reminder

The School Health Team are due to visit us on Thursday 24 November to vaccinate children from Reception – Year 6. Only children whose parents have given consent will receive the nasal flu vaccine. You should have received an email with further details and how to give consent online. Please contact the office if you require further information.

Building Works

We are having significant roof works undertaken over the half term break that will continue into November. As a result, there will be lots of scaffolding around school after the holiday. It should not impede access to anywhere on the school site but please be mindful of the ongoing works and builders on site.

Dairy Dates for the autumn term

Please see diary dates below. Please note these are subject to change.



Kind regards

Simon Beahan, Executive Headteacher



Longstone CE (VA) School
The Cross
Great Longstone
DE45 1TZ

Telephone: 01629 640377

Email: enquiries@longstone.derbyshire.sch.uk

Website: www.longstone.derbyshire.sch.uk

Executive Headteacher: Mr Simon Beahan

Longstone Primary School Diary Dates Autumn Term

Half Term 1

Diversity Theme – People of Colour

17.10.22 Citizenship Theme for next week: Harvest

Monday 17 October 2022	RE Week
Wednesday 19 October 2022	'Girls Mini Soccer -Y5/6 Girls Rural Derbyshire Sport Event at Highfields Open Day: 1.30 – 3.30pm and 5.30 – 6.30pm
Thursday 20 October 2022	Cluster Tag Rugby Event for Y5/6 at Bakewell Jnr School – 1230 – 3.30pm
Friday 21 October 2022	Read Together Session for parents – 3 – 3.30pm School closes for Half Term break

Half Term Holiday – Monday 24 October 2021 – Friday 28 October 2021

Half Term 2

Diversity Theme – Human Rights, Migrants and Travellers

31.10.22 Citizenship Theme for next two weeks: Courage

Monday 31 October 2022	Start of Autumn Term 2 – School Open to pupils at 8:50am Enterprise Week UK Parliament Week Lunchtime and After School Clubs begin
Wednesday 2 November 2022	Weekly swimming resumes
Friday 4 November 2022	Enterprise Week Farmers Market – 2:30pm
Tuesday 8 November 2022	Parent Consultation Meetings 3.40 – 6.00pm
Wednesday 9 November 2022	'Cyclo Cross' -Y5/6 Rural Derbyshire Sport Event – Venue TBC Parent Consultation Meetings 3.40 – 6.00pm
Thursday 10 November 2022	Cluster Dodgeball Event for Y2/3/4 at Longstone School– 12.20 – 3.30pm
Friday 11 November 2022	Celebration Assembly for invited adults (weekly at 9:10am) Remembrance Day

14.11.22 Citizenship Theme for next week: Kindness

Monday 14 November 2022	ANTI-BULLYING WEEK – 'Reach Out'. Children to wear odd socks ROAD SAFETY WEEK – 'Safe Roads for All' CHILDREN IN NEED WEEK Y6 Bikeability Week 'Girls Tag Rugby -Y5/6 Rural Derbyshire Sport Event at Cromford Meadows
Friday 18 November 2022	Children in Need fundraising activities Children to wear bright colours

21.11.22 Citizenship Theme for next two weeks: Christmas/Advent

Tuesday 22 November 2022	Read Together Session for parents – 8.50 -9.10am
--------------------------	--

Wednesday 23 November 2022	'Boys World Cup' -Y3/4 Rural Derbyshire Sport Event at Anthony Gell
Thursday 24 November 2022	Rec – Y6 Flu Immunizations
Wednesday 30 November 2022	Last swimming session before Christmas Final After School Clubs this term
Thursday 1 December 2022	Decoration Day
Friday 2 December 2022	FOLS Christmas Bazaar – 3pm
8.12.22 Citizenship Theme for next three weeks: Christmas/Reflection	
Thursday 8 December 2022	'Sleeping Beauty' – Whole School Pantomime Visit to Chesterfield 1:45pm – parental help required
Friday 9 December 2022	Longstone 'Save the Children' Christmas Jumper Day FOLS Christmas Film Night 5pm - TBC
Monday 12 December 2022	RE week
Wednesday 14 December 2022	Nativity (Donaldson/Dahl classes)– 2pm and 6pm – School Hall
Thursday 15 December 2022	Read Together Session for parents – 3 – 3.30pm
Friday 16 December 2022	Citizenship of the Term Assembly – 9:10am Christmas Dinner for children and staff Christmas Service – 2pm – St Giles
Tuesday 20 December 2022	Sparkle & Shine Performance at school (Morpurgo/Rowling) 2:15pm
Wednesday 21 December 2022	Party Day! End of Autumn Term – School closes for Christmas holiday
Christmas Holidays – Wednesday 22 December 2021 – Friday 6 January 2023	
Monday 9 January 2023	Start of Spring Term – School Open to pupils at 8:50am