



Longstone CE (VA) School  
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Executive Headteacher: Mr Simon Beahan

Friday 9 September 2022

## **Newsletter – September 2022**

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Welcome**

On behalf of the staff and governors, I would like to welcome you all back to a new school year at Longstone Primary School. Although it now seems an age ago, we hope you had a fantastic summer break and we all look forward to sharing in an exciting new term, and school year, with you all.



I know you will all join me in an extending an especially warm welcome to our new children and new families who are joining the Longstone Community. A child starting at school is an exciting time and it's been a pleasure to see them settle in to school. As a parent of three young children myself, I understand the rewards and stresses that parenting can bring. It is my hope that through a collaborative school and home partnership, we can continue to ensure the success of your child's learning journey at Longstone Primary School.

### **HM The Queen**

I am writing this having recently heard the sad news of the death of Her Majesty The Queen. I will keep you informed if we receive any specific guidance that parents need to know about.



### **Well done!**

We have only been back one week but the children have been amazing. Every child I have spoken with has been polite, friendly and excited to be back. The children are settled in their classes and are working hard and really enjoying being back with their peers and teachers.

### **Staffing in September**

As shared in July's newsletter, we have appointed Mrs Sarah Gregory on a part time basis for the 2022/23 year. The main purpose of this role is to support and enhance our current teaching structure in years 5 and 6. Many of you will know Mrs Gregory from when she covered Mrs Crease's maternity leave for part of last year. She is very excited to be returning to the Longstone fold and we know she will add a lot of value to our staff team. Also, Mrs Shimwell is now working two days (Thurs/Fri) in Donaldson class to allow Mrs Rawding to fulfil her leadership and management role.



### **Smart Children and School Uniform**

It's great to see all the children looking so smart on their return to school. Please ensure that your child does not wear any jewellery to school (apart from watches), including wrist bands and friendship bracelets. Children may wear small stud earrings, but no dangly ones please. Long hair should be neatly tied back. Please ensure nail varnish and tattoos are also removed for school.



New rules have come into effect from September to ensure that school uniforms are affordable to all pupils and families. Whilst we have our own uniform provider ([www.logoleisurewear.com](http://www.logoleisurewear.com)), you are not obliged to make all of your purchases from here. Please also feel free to donate good quality, preloved uniform to school and we aim to hold 'Uniform Sales' at some points throughout the year.

**Vision – 'Nurture, Ignite, Shine'.**

We explained the school's new vision in a letter to parents last term. We will be exploring this in more detail with the children this half term. Amongst other things, we will be learning the school's new charter (which can be found in the back of your child's planner), developing a new school code of conduct and designing a new logo.

### The Hive



The school and its governors are committed to running The Hive after school club. However, we have struggled to recruit following Mrs Clemson leaving last year and Miss Dicken was running the club on a temporary basis in the summer term. We have recently re-advertised the position. Please share with anyone you think might be interested. In the short term, and until we can hopefully find a longer-term solution, Mrs Jo Mitchell will be running the Hive. Please contact the school office if you would like to arrange a place from Monday 12 September.

### Road Safety around Longstone

The Longstone community is passionate in ensuring the safety of the children and other road users around the village. Firstly, we would like to encourage children who live in the village to walk whenever possible, rather than coming to school in a car. Secondly, we would like people who have to travel by car to find considerate places to park rather than on the main street through Great Longstone or by The Cross area. There can be a build-up of cars on the main roads during drop off and pick up times. This makes traffic slow and more importantly, dangerous for children to walk safely. There is also a concern from residents about access for emergency vehicles if required.



Please consider parking at the following places:

- Station Road (please don't park on top of the grass verge)
- Grisedale Road (please be aware of blocking people's drive ways)
- Both the local pubs (The White Lion and The Crispin) have kindly said we can drop off and pick up in their car parks.

**Please be reminded to drive and park safely and considerately in these car parks**

(especially up the drive at the side of the White Lion). Thanks for your support in ensuring the continued safety of our children.

### 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](http://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.



### Nut Free School

Please do not send any food items, including snacks, that contain nuts.

### Celebration Assembly

Weekly celebration assembly is always a favourite part of the week and we are pleased to announce its return on **Friday 16 September at 9:10am**. If your child is in receipt of an award, we will notify you by text in advance so you have notice to be able to attend. This ensures that throughout the year parents have opportunities to share the joy of their child winning an award. The teachers will not tell the class who has won each week so it is a surprise during assembly – you may wish to do the same!



### What are the awards?

Two children from each class will receive a 'Learner Award' from their teacher for demonstrating spectacular learning and effort throughout the week. Secondly, two children from each class will receive a 'Citizenship Award'



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for being a wonderful member of the school community based on the school citizenship theme that week. Sport awards will also be presented and other successes will be celebrated, including a new SMILERS well-being award, as they crop up during the week.

We have decided that the trophies will remain in school this year and the children can put them in prime position in the classroom to be celebrated amongst their classmates. The children will receive Learner, Citizenship and SMILERS certificates to keep on receipt of the award.

### SMILERS

SMILERS are the new Derbyshire Ways to Well-being. We will be focusing on one theme per week with the children. They will also be celebrated in our weekly Celebration Assembly.

### 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 [dracs.adminchanginglives@nhs.net](mailto:dracs.adminchanginglives@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](http://www.derbyandderbyshireemotionalhealthandwellbeing.uk)



### Open Evening – Prospective Reception Intake September 2023

We are holding an Open Afternoon and Evening on Wednesday 19 October from 1.30 – 3pm and 5.30 – 6.30pm. This drop-in event – no booking required – **is for the parents of children due to start Reception in September 2023**. It is an opportunity to meet with staff and see what the school has to offer! Please share with anyone who might be interested.



### School Photographer

Our school photographer from Tempest Photography will visit on **Friday 14 October** to take individual photographs of the children.

### PE Days

We are an active bunch at Longstone and we know that PE is not only good for our health but is also good for our well-being and mental health. We are asking children to come to school in PE kits on the days that they have PE.

\*Swimming for Rowing class is starting on Wednesday 21 September.

<b>Donaldson</b>	<b>Wednesday &amp; Thursday</b>
<b>Dahl</b>	<b>Tuesday &amp; Friday</b>
<b>Morpurgo</b>	<b>Tuesday &amp; Thursday</b>
<b>Rowling</b>	<b>Tuesday &amp; *Wednesday</b>

### Lunchtime and After School Clubs

We are very fortunate to have so many talented staff and who are so willing to give up their time to provide our children with a range of extra-curricular activities. You should have already received a letter about our clubs offer for this half term. Further information can be found on ParentPay.

## **Safeguarding**

We take the safeguarding and well-being of our children very seriously at Longstone. In line with statutory obligations, we are updating our Child Protection policy.



## **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!

## **Attendance and Punctuality**

To remind you, children can come into school from 8.50am to be ready for learning in the classroom by 9:00am. Children who are in school are able to learn and achieve more both academically and socially. We understand that children become unwell and cannot always attend school. However, if your child is well enough, they should be at school. The school will send out termly attendance letters to inform you of your child's attendance. If we have concerns about your child's attendance we will contact you to see if we can offer any support.



## **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.

## **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 first 'Reading Together' session on Tuesday 20 September from 8:50 – 9:10 when adults are welcome to come into their child's classroom and read with their child. We will also be arranging a 'phonics session' for parents who are new to the school to share how we teach early reading in Reception. We will confirm details shortly.

## **Class Information Evenings**

We will also be holding class information evenings (please see diary dates below) where your child's class teacher will spend some time-sharing key information about the year ahead and will be able to answer any of your questions. You are welcome to join the meeting.

## **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](mailto: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.

## **Autumn Term Dates**







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Please find a list of key dates which I hope you find useful to know in advance. Please be aware that some of these dates may alter due to factors beyond our control. Additional dates will naturally be added as we go through the term. Keep your eye on the newsletters for changes and/or more details.

Kind regards

Simon Beahan, Executive Headteacher

Longstone Primary School Diary Dates Autumn Term 2022	
Half Term 1	
Diversity Theme – People of Colour	
Tuesday 1 September 2022	Whole School Training Day – School Closed to pupils
Wednesday 2 September 2022	Whole School Training Day – School Closed to pupils
5.9.22 Citizenship Theme for next two weeks: Caring	
Monday 5 September 2022	Start of Autumn Term 1 – School Open to pupils at 8:50am Reception part time table for the week
Monday 12 September 2022	Lunchtime and after school clubs begin Pupil Parliament elections to take place this week
Friday 16 September 2022	Celebration Assembly for invited adults (weekly at 9:10am) Rowling - Wider Opportunities weekly class ensemble teaching of the clarinet - 1.15 - 2pm
19.9.22 Citizenship Theme for next two weeks: Helpfulness	
Tuesday 20 September 2022	Read Together Session for parents – 8.50 -9.10am
Wednesday 21 September 2022	Swimming Starts for Rowling – every Wednesday – 2.00 – 3.30pm
Thursday 22 September 2022	Cluster Football Event for Y 5/6 at Tideswell School – 12.30 – 3.30pm
Monday 26 September	Class Information Evenings – Dahl and Donaldson - 4.30pm
Tuesday 27 September 2022	Class Information Evenings – Morpurgo and Rowling – 4. 30pm
Thursday 29 September 2022	Cluster Cross Country Event and Fun Festival Years 1 – 6 – Bakewell Junior School -12.30 – 3.30pm
3.10.22 Citizenship Theme for next two weeks: Cooperation	
Monday 3 October 2022	Black History Month
Tuesday 4 October 2022	‘This Girl Can’ -Y5/6 Girls Rural Derbyshire Sport Event at Longstone
Friday 7 October 2022	Harvest Service in school 2pm – All Welcome
Thursday 13 October 2022	Cluster Football Event for Y1/2 at Tideswell School – 12.30 – 3.30pm
Friday 14 October 2022	Individual photos by Tempest Photography – from 8:30am
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
<b>Half Term Holiday – Monday 24 October 2021 – Friday 28 October 2021</b>	
<b>Half Term 2</b>	
<b>Diversity Theme – Human Rights, Migrants and Travellers</b>	
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
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 – Venue TBC
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 – All Welcome – Venue TBC
Tuesday 20 December 2022	Sparkle & Shine Performance (Morpurgo/Rowling) 2:15pm



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Wednesday 21 December 2022	Party Day! End of Autumn Term – School closes for Christmas holiday
<b>Christmas Holidays – Wednesday 22 December 2021 – Friday 6 January 2023</b>	
Monday 9 January 2023	Start of Spring Term – School Open to pupils at 8:50am

## Longstone Primary School Terms and Holidays 2022/23

### Half Term 1 (37 days)

Thursday 1 September 2022	Whole School Training Day – School Closed to pupils
Friday 2 September 2022	Whole School Training Day – School Closed to pupils
Monday 5 September 2022	Start of Autumn Term 1 – School Open to pupils
Friday 21 October 2022	End of half term

Half Term Holiday – Monday 24 October 2022 – Friday 28 October 2022

### Half Term 2 (39 days)

Monday 31 October 2022	Start of Autumn Term 2 – School Open to pupils
Wednesday 21 December 2022	End of term
Thursday 22 December 2022	Whole School Training Day – School Closed to pupils

Christmas Holiday – Thursday 22 December 2022 – Friday 6 January 2023

### Half Term 3 (30 days)

Monday 9 January 2023	Start of Spring Term 1 – School Open to pupils
Friday 17 February 2023	End of half term

Half Term Holiday – Monday 20 February 2023 – Monday 27 February 2023

### Half Term 4 (25 days)

Monday 27 February 2023	Whole School Training Day – School Closed to pupils
Tuesday 28 February 2023	Start of Spring Term 2 – School Open to pupils
Friday 31 March 2023	End of term

Easter Holiday – Monday 3 April 2023 - Friday 14 April 2023

### Half Term 5 (29 days)

Monday 17 April 2023	Start of Summer Term 1 – School Open to pupils
Monday 1 May 2023	School Closed (May Day Bank Holiday)
Friday 26 May 2023	End of half term

Half Term Holiday – Monday 30 May 2023 – Monday 5 June 2023

### Half Term 6 (35 days)

Monday 5 June 2023	Whole School Training Day – School Closed to pupils
Tuesday 6 June 2023	Start of Summer Term 2 – School Open to pupils
Friday 21 July 2023	End of term





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