



Long Lane Primary School
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 @LL_Primary

7th April 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

The weather during the last few days has meant that the children have been able to play on the field which was a very exciting event indeed! I do hope it continues when we return after the Easter holidays. Please note the following with regard to children bringing toys/balls into school for use on the field:

1. NO toys are allowed to be brought in.
2. Footballs can be used on the **field but only at lunchtimes** and then only on Tuesdays and Wednesdays (as we have a football coach in on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays!)
3. Tennis balls, provided by staff, can be used on the field during breaktimes and lunchtimes for catching and throwing only.
4. Other equipment will be supplied during lunchtime only (ie tennis rackets/cricket bats) so NO equipment like this needs to come to school.

West Berkshire Primary Heads funding letter

I have attached a letter from fellow headteachers relating to school funding. Please take some time to read and if you feel moved enough then please do contact our local MP, Alok Sharma.

Our budget for this financial year was agreed by Governors on Wednesday and we have set a deficit budget. This means we will be spending more than we receive. As part of the budget setting we have also made substantial cutbacks to a number of our expenditure lines, including the curriculum and training. We have also taken on our own grounds maintenance - Mr Darling will be even busier! As staffing accounts for over 85% of our budget we are also going through redundancy procedures which means our teaching assistant provision will reduce by a third and the non-class based deputy headteacher role will be replaced with a class based leadership role. At Long Lane, despite these challenges, the teaching quality will remain high.

Primary assessment in England

The Department for Education has launched a [public consultation exercise](#) about the future of the primary assessment system in England. Details are included in a [statement](#) made to Parliament today by Secretary of State for Education, Justine Greening.

The consultation sets out wide-ranging proposals for improving the primary assessment system. These include consideration of the best starting point from which to measure pupils' progress, how to ensure the assessment system is proportionate, and how to improve end of key stage assessments.

A [parallel consultation](#) is asking for views on the recommendations of the independent Rochford Review. The recommendations focus on the future of statutory assessment arrangements for pupils working below the standard of national curriculum tests at the end of key stages 1 and 2.

They have produced a short [video](#) which introduces the main consultation themes.

All those with an interest in primary education are encouraged to engage with these consultation

exercises and to share their opinions and insights. The consultation is open until 22 June 2017.

If you have any questions please contact the assessment policy team at PrimaryAssessment.CONULTATION@education.gov.uk or the Rochford review team at Rochford.Review@education.gov.uk.

Parent's corner!

As I have been asked if I would help spread the word for a couple of parents I thought it would be a good idea to start a 'Parent's corner!' in my newsletters. If you'd like something promoted, which is either for a local group or for charity, then please let me know!

Georgina Cox's mum and dad are part of an amateur dramatics group called The Sainsbury Singers (nothing to do with the supermarket) and will be performing in **The Wizard of Oz** at the Hexagon 17th to 20th May. There is a 2pm and 6.30pm performance on Saturday 20th May which would be perfect for children to attend with the tickets costing only £10 for children. Some parents in Georgina's class have bought tickets already! Please see the posters around school for more information.

Harry Shorthouse's mum, grandma and auntie will be participating in **Ride the Night** in May 2017. This is a 100 km cycle ride through London at night to raise money for Women's Cancer. The charities that will benefit are Jos Cervical Cancer Trust, Breast Cancer Care and Ovarian Cancer Action. If you'd like more information or indeed act as a sponsor then please go to :

<http://www.ridethenight.co.uk/>

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/lucyshorthouseRTN2017>

Nearly –new and second hand uniform sale

On the 24th April, during the Parent/Teacher meetings day, we will open up the spare classrooms for one last time to sell second hand uniform. This will be the last chance to view and buy some!!

Other news in brief (more detail on Twitter)

March

- 8th – House Tag-rugby competition run by Sports ambassadors
- 14th – Year 5/6 netball league finals at Marlston House (finishing second!)
- 18th - Year 5/6 netball team at Park House School netball tournament
- 21st – Science week including Keep-Y-Uppy marble run science
- 22nd – PTA Mother's Day secret present room
- 23rd –Y3/4 and Y5/6 Tag rugby matches vs Downsway (both teams winning)
- 24th – Red Nose Day Dress down day and Staff 'Bake off' - **£211 raised**
- 28th – Comedy show in assembly
- 29th - Sports ambassadors lead 'wake up...shake up' assembly
- 31st – NSPCC Board Game day
- 31st -PTA children's discos

April

- 6th - Rev Archer in to hold an assembly about Easter
- 6th - Year 4 children to Denefield for a special Easter Egg hunt!

Finally I'd like to say a huge thank you to all the parents/carers, other family members and staff colleagues who have donated items or volunteered their time recently in the Foundation Stage garden. They have all been busy over the past few weeks painting the fences and other wooden items. It's looking amazing!!

The pupils return to school on Tuesday 25th April and don't forget the Parent/teacher meetings on Monday 24th April! I hope you all have a restful and relaxing Easter holiday.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. P. Thorne,
Headteacher



IMPORTANT DATES 2016/17



<u>Term dates</u>	
Term 1	Monday 5th September 2016 – Friday 21st October 2016 (3.15pm finish)
<i>Holiday</i>	<i>24/10/16 – 31/10/16</i>
Term 2	Tuesday 1st November 2016 – Friday 16th December 2016 (1.30pm finish)
<i>Holiday</i>	<i>19/12/16 – 03/01/17</i>
Term 3	Wednesday 4th January 2017 – Friday 10th February 2017 (3.15 finish)
<i>Holiday</i>	<i>13/02/17 – 17/02/17</i>
Term 4	Monday 20th February 2017 – Friday 7th April 2017 (1.30pm finish)
<i>Holiday</i>	<i>10/04/17 – 24/04/17</i>
Term 5	Tuesday 25th April 2017 – Friday 26th May 2017 (3.15pm finish)
<i>Holiday</i>	<i>29/05/17 – 02/06/17 *plus Bank Holiday Monday 1st May 2017</i>
Term 6	Monday 5th June 2017 – Friday 21st July 2017 (1.30pm finish)

Welcome time (3.15pm – 3.45pm)

- Summer Term – Thursday 8th June 2017

Parents' Meetings

- Spring Term – Monday 24th April 2017 (All day – please note this is an INSET day)

Denefield Roadshow for Year 5 pupils and parents

- 3rd May 2017 – 7-8pm in the hall

Learning Showcase to Parents (including refreshments)

- Year 6 - w/b 22nd May 2017
- Year 5 - w/b 10th July 2017

Scoot, walk or ride weeks –, 5th June 2017

Sports Day -Wednesday 21st June 2017, Infants am, Juniors pm (Reserve day Thursday 22nd)

Curriculum evening - Thursday 22nd June 2017

Transition week/Class swap - week beginning 26th June 2017 (For Year 6 moving to Year 7 and all classes in school)

Leavers' Assembly and BBQ- Thursday 20th July 2017 6.30pm