



Long Lane Primary School
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@LL_Primary

14th February 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had an extremely busy 6 weeks and I cannot quite believe it is the half-term holidays already! The wet and windy weather continues to cause us some issues but currently it has not caused too much damage. With this in mind, please can you ensure you send the appropriate clothes (named of course) into school each day? We try to get all the children **outside** at some point and a warm waterproof coat will enable us to do this. Thank you in advance.

PTA

A huge thank you to our PTA members for all of their efforts this half-term. I know there is a **RACE NIGHT** on Saturday at the Purley Social Club – it will be a great evening and you do not need any racehorse knowledge to take part.

We have had some great news from the '**Winter Wonderland**' fundraising day last term. As you know, the total raised was a fantastic **£5,800** but I am delighted to tell you that **Microsoft will match the funding raised**, as Mrs Mahoney is an employee with them. As a result, we have just spent **another £1500 on some new phonics 'book bag' books and £1500 on updating our handwriting scheme across the school**. More funds are going to be allocated to our School Grounds Strategy.

Parents' forum

A reminder that our next Parents' Forum will be on **Wednesday 26th February 2020 at 7.30pm** when we will be discussing the proposed changes to our Behaviour Policy and also publicising our School Grounds strategy (as a result of our consultations this term).



Bug Busting

The half-term break is an ideal time to have a go at **BUG BUSTING!**

Instead of relying on products with potentially harmful ingredients, Bug Busting works by combining specially designed combs with your usual shampoo and conditioner.

Unfortunately, there are no shortcuts to eradicating head lice. It requires time checking everyone in the family regularly. I know the majority of parents are very proactive and do check their children's hair on a regular basis. However, if there are parents who do not do this then the head lice their children may have will very quickly spread. 'Bug Busting' is just a way to gently remind you all to carry on checking and to persuade those not doing it to take part!

Head lice is not a school problem but a social problem. However, school is where children are gathered in large numbers and are in very close contact with each other, particularly the younger pupils and so it is in the school environment that head lice are able to move from one head to another and spread. We are always willing to give advice and work together with parents to eradicate the problem of head lice. For more information please follow the link: <https://www.chc.org/what-is-bug-busting/>

Safer internet day 2020

Following on from the 'Digital Parenting' booklet that we sent out last month, please do visit the safer internet website below. They have a resources pack for parents that includes activities, conversation starters and information to help parents and carers talk to their children about how to navigate the issue of online identity in a digital age in a safe, responsible and respectful way. Ideal for half term!

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2020/i-am-parent-or-carer>

Coronavirus – Advice for parents/guardians from the Department of Education

You should not be unduly worried about the possibility of your children catching the Coronavirus. There is no reason why your children should not continue to attend their early years, school or further education setting as normal.

We recognise that some families or children may be planning to travel to China during the forthcoming half term period. If so, please refer to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office's latest travel advice via the link below: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>

I have also attached a thank you from the school nursing team and a poster that I have been asked to pass on to you all.

Updates from the eco-committee

- We are nearly ready to apply for our bronze award.
- We have written an action plan focussing on reducing waste, energy and litter.
- We have started litter picking at lunchtimes and reminding pupils and adults to switch off the lights and plugs.
- During the summer term we are hoping to hold a 'switch off day', this would mean that anything that can be turned off will not be used for that day (more details to follow).
- After half term pupils will be asked to **take their packed lunch waste home** unless it can be recycled in school. Currently, we can recycle and dispose of paper, crisp packets, fruit and vegetable peelings.

By Jamie & Isabella (Year 4)

Routeguard app

Developed in conjunction with road safety officers at West Berkshire Council, this pioneering new app helps families to plan travel together and provides reassurance for parents and young people alike. It can give you peace of mind whether your child is walking or cycling, on journeys to school, or anywhere else. It lets you plan travel together whilst supporting them to travel independently.

In order to use RouteGuardian, the app requires you to have an organisation code provided by your school or registered organisation. If you are interested then please contact the school office and request the organisation code that will enable you to use the app.

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

Launchpad

We have supported this local charity for the homeless and those at risk of homelessness in recent years and I am delighted to be able to let you know that the Hawleys are now coordinating our next donation week this year on Tuesday 25th, Wednesday 26th and Thursday 27th February (first week back). We have been asked to donate the following:

- New hats, New Gloves, New Underwear mens size small, New socks mens
- Cereal bars, Chocolate bars, Tea coffee / instant hot chocolate, Pot noddle's style snacks
- Unopened Shower gel, Unopened Hair Shampoo, Unopened deodorant 'roll on' male / female
- Unopened Wet wipes, Unopened Pocket tissues, Unopened Lip balm, Unopened Hand cream

This year sees the celebration of Launchpad's 40th birthday and they are also opening Reading's first work and life skills centre. They have acquired a unit in Cardiff Road, just ten minutes' walk from Launchpad's town centre offices, where people who are homeless or at risk of losing their home will be able to learn new skills, get back into work, socialise in a safe space and build their confidence. The centre is set to welcome clients in

Spring/Summer 2020, and the service will initially support up to 200 local people who are homeless or at risk of losing their home. Your kind donation will allow them to continue our work and develop our services so we can support more people in the Reading community.



Reading Eggs and Mathletics reminder

You will have received a reminder about our on-line subscription to Reading Eggs for all children in the last few days. Half term is a great time to explore this even more and then 'screen time' can be so much more beneficial rather than just a distraction! Do not forget you can also access Mathletics.

Other news

January

- 6th Gym coach begins Y5/6 (weekly)
- 7th Eaton Environmental water checks
- 7th Pupil Progress Meetings
- 8th PTA Meeting
- 9th Archery at Theale (x6 Pupils)
- 10th Y5 – Fire safety with Fire Brigade
- 13th School Council meeting
- 14th Severe Allergic Reaction and asthma training for staff
- 15th Resources committee meeting
- 17th Tudor workshop for Year 3 and 4
- 17th Active Girls meeting
- 21st Y3/4 Boys 5 a-side at Trinity, Newbury
- 27th School Council meeting

February

- 4th Netball match vs Theale
- 5th Year 3 & 4 Shakespeare Acting workshop
- 5th Full Governors' meeting
- 5th PTA meeting
- 6th Severe Allergic Reaction and asthma training for staff
- 7th Netball match vs Springfield
- 11th Netball match vs Pangbourne
- 12th Year 3 Learning assembly to parents
- 12th Emotional Coaching (Parents' workshop Wednesday 18th March 6.00pm)
- 13th Harry Potter Book Night
- 14th School finishes at 3.30pm for half-term

Book Week – from Monday 2nd March

Please do read the information about Book week that you will have received from Miss Penn. Remember all the challenges are optional and one is to dress up as a book character on World Book Day (Thursday 5th March).

School opens after the half-term break on Monday 24th February.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. P. Thorne,
Headteacher

Thank you...


Berkshire Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

For your support with The National Flu Programme

The flu uptake for your school was:

88%

(Across Berkshire we are expected to achieve an average uptake of 65%)



More
details...

[If you want to contact us or need more info...](#)

Email: schoolimmunisationteam@berkshire.nhs.uk

CORONAVIRUS: PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Government and NHS are well prepared to deal with this virus.

You can help too.

Germs can live on some surfaces for hours.

To protect yourself and others:

- Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.
- Bin the tissue, and to kill the germs, wash your hands with soap and water, or use a sanitiser gel.
- If you have arrived back from China within 14 days follow the specific advice for returning travellers.

This is the best way to slow the spread of almost any germs, including Coronavirus.

Find out more at [gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)



IMPORTANT DATES 2019-20



Open classroom (3.15pm – 3.45pm)

- Spring Term – Wednesday 25th March 2020

Parents' Meetings (evenings)

- Spring Term – Tuesday 31st March 2020 4-6pm, Wednesday 1st April 4-6pm, Thursday 2nd April 5-7 pm

Parents' Forum

- Spring Term – Wednesday 26th February 2020 7.30pm
- Summer Term – Thursday 7th May 2020 7.30pm

'Class assembly' to Parents

- Year 4 - THURSDAY 26th MARCH 2020 at 2pm.
- Year 5 – THURSDAY 9th JULY at 2pm

Y6 Statutory test – week beginning 11th May 2020

Y2 test window – 4th May – 22nd May 2020

Y1 Phonics screening window - 8th June 2020 – 19th June 2020

Scout, walk or ride weeks – 2nd March 2020, 15th June 2020

Year 5 Bikeability – Monday 27th April, Tuesday 28th April, Wednesday 29th April 2020

Sports Day -Wednesday 24th June 2020, Infants am, Juniors pm (Reserve day Friday 26th June)

Transition evening – Wednesday 17th June 2020, from 5.30pm

New to Foundation Stage meeting - Tuesday 23rd June 2020 6.00pm

Transition week/Class swap - week beginning 29th June 2020 (For Year 6 moving to Year 7 and all classes in school)

Leavers' awards ceremony- Thursday 16th July 2020 6.30pm