



LONG DITTON

INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL

THE HEART OF LONG DITTON SINCE 1911

NEWSLETTER

19th October 2018

LATEST NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers

Oh my goodness! Ground Force Day – what an incredible difference all the volunteers made to the whole of the school. A great big massive THANK YOU to every single person who came to help either clearing, pruning, child minding, providing tools, bringing in refreshments, cakes and snacks, arranging the list of jobs and organising the whole morning. The school looks wonderful and I know that it makes a huge difference to all the community. ☺

Smart Watches

It's been brought to my attention that some children are wearing smart watches to school that have the ability to take photos and videos. While we do allow children to wear watches to encourage them to begin to tell the time we cannot support them wearing watches to school that have the potential to take photos or videos. This is to safeguard all the children in our school. Also they are expensive and if one were lost, damaged or stolen we could not be held responsible. Any children coming to school with a smart watch on their wrist will have to remove it and give it to the teacher to put in a safe place until the end of the day.

Change One Thing – keeping the gate clear

We had a 'change one thing' idea this week from a parent that might help the congestion in the morning and make it easier for the children to walk through into school. After half term please could we try to keep the sloping area leading up to the school gate which I open in the morning completely clear of grown-ups and buggies. This will make it easier for the children to walk into school and easier for parents and carers to see their child walk

through into school. Let's see if we can remember to do this after half term and see if working together we can make a difference.

It's a NO to Birthday Sweets!

As part of our commitment to being a healthy school our policy is that we do not allow or encourage children to bring in sweets on their birthday for their class. Instead we inspire children to bring in a 'birthday book' which will have a dedication put inside celebrating who gave the book to the school and how old they were. The birthday book can be either an old book that they do not want any more, a new book bought outside of school or indeed a £3 birthday book which they can choose from the office in return for bringing in £3. The children love reading their birthday books with the class. I know that it creates a lasting memory of them in our school, because last Saturday when Mrs Emmett and I were sorting out the library books, we came across a book donated by a child who had been here four years ago and both of us spent a moment reminiscing about them! If you insist on bringing in sweets for your child's birthday we will ask you to distribute them outside the school.

Spellings

After half term the way that we encourage children to learn their spellings will change slightly. This is following on from training that the staff had during our first Twilight INSET. After half term the children that are ready to take spellings home to learn will only be tested on half of the spellings. They should continue to try to learn all of them but only a selection will be used to check how well they know them. If your child is in a group that is working

towards learning spellings, they will be given a simple spellings check using words containing the sounds that they have been learning or red words. All children will play spelling games or writing sentences using the spellings when there is time. We will be increasing the FRED session on a Monday by 10 mins to carry out this spelling change.

Good Manners Table

I am really looking forward to starting the Good Manners Table after half term and sharing my lunch with the children. I will let you know who will be the first on my Golden Manners table in the newsletter after half term.

Handwriting Policy Change

Following on from training and research we will be introducing a new handwriting policy after half term. (Please find attached to this newsletter). Our handwriting policy has been, for the past 8 years, to introduce writing to children using a cursive style right from Nursery and Reception. Research now suggests that this may not be the best way to encourage children to love writing from an early age. We have adapted our current policy to reflect this and now the aim for the majority of children will be that we teach handwriting in this order. Our aim is to support children who find handwriting a challenge and extend children who find handwriting easy. Over this year we intend to implement the new policy and change our own practice. I know you will support us as we adapt to the new policy. Parents and carers can find out more by looking at this website: <https://www.teachhandwriting.co.uk/handwriting-teaching-manuals.html> that also contains lots of ideas for helping children to learn to write.



Parent Workshops – Growth Mindset

We had arranged this for the same night as the Fireworks!! This will now take place after Christmas.

Birthday Books

Thank you to Jago for choosing a birthday book for his class.

Class with the most attendance

The class with the best attendance this week was Sapphire with 98.5%. Well done!

Quiz Night

Congratulations to the Topaz team quiz winners and a big thank you to Eilidh's mum and dad for all their help. Also, a special mention for Dave OHO (on his own), who didn't do too badly considering the other teams had at least 11 members!

Parent Helper Workshops

These take place w/c 29th October and are for parents/carers who have signed up/applied for DBS (if applicable) to be a parent helper this year and who came to one of the Safeguarding workshops that took place earlier this term. These will take place as follows:

Baking workshop – 1st November 9.00-9.30am

Library workshop – 2nd November 9.00-9.30am

Reading workshop – 2nd November 2.30-3.00pm

Thought for the week

'Mistakes are proof that you are trying!'

Have a brilliant half term!

Mrs Paines

Nursery

Happy Friday Everybody!

We cannot believe that it is half term already, the time has really flown by. We are all so proud of how well the children have settled in and how much progress they have made. It has been brilliant.

We have now finished our All About Me topic with an interesting week discussing bones and bodies.

We've very much enjoyed reading *Funny Bones* and doing the skeleton dance.

The children all want to say a big thank you to the ground force team for clearing all the mess away. They are very impressed, as are the team. You must all be very strong!

We also want to thank Desiree for helping us to plant daffodil bulbs this week in our new wildlife garden area. The children cannot wait to see what happens when they start to grow. We plan to develop the wildlife garden over the coming months so hopefully you will hear lots more about it.

We will begin our PE sessions after half term on Wednesdays. The children do not need to change into a kit as they will only remove their shoes. However, we would ask that no skirts or dresses are worn on Wednesdays and that earrings are removed.

We hope to start baking and the library on our second week back, more information will follow after half term.

Our topic after half term will be Festivals and Celebrations. For the first week we will be looking at the story *Pumpkin Soup*. Nursery will be able to explore the sensory and physical aspects of carving pumpkins and other vegetables, as well as enjoying the story. We think it will be great fun!

We are still very happy to have any cardboard from your recycling for our junk modelling, as well as any old magazines and catalogues to cut up. It would also be helpful if you could bring in a plastic carrier bag as we are running a bit low.

We hope that you all have a wonderful, restful break and are excited to see you after half term. Happy holiday,

The Nursery Team ☺

Reception

Wow, we have reached the end of our first half term in Reception and we have all be astounded by how settled, polite, kind and ready to learn the children have been.

This week we have continued to focus on our topic of Autumn with a focus on leaves. The children went on an Autumn hunt and found items related to Autumn. We then sorted the leaves by colour and looked at the similarities and differences between different types of tree seeds. We even learnt about why leaves change colour in the autumn.

The children then examined leaves closely and created some fantastic drawings of their chosen leaf and added some labels to their drawing. Later in the week we practiced matching leaf shapes and then ordering them by size.

We are enjoying our FRED sessions and our new sounds. Children's FRED folders will stay in their bags all week. Teachers will look at their work on Friday and add in their new sheets.

Today, the children will also bring home a storybook that they have chosen from their class library. It would be great if you could share this story at home and then talk to them about it to see how much they remember and understood. Repeated re-reading of stories help children to learn how stories are structured, support their ability to sequence and supports the development of a wide vocabulary.

There is also a holiday sheet in their bag. If your child would like to draw or add a photograph of their favourite half-term activity or experience and perhaps they could dictate a few sentences for you to scribe to describe their experience, we would love to read about their adventures on their return.

After half-term we are finishing our autumn theme with a week dedicated to pumpkins. As part of this theme, we will be making pumpkin soup. If you have any allergy /dietary concerns, please speak to your class teacher. We are also going to be planting bulbs so please could children bring in their wellies and if they have them, gardening gloves.

We wish you a relaxing and happy half-term.

Reception Team

Year 1

Wow! What a busy half term we've had! Well done to all the children for settling so well into Year 1!

In Literacy this week we have been writing instructions for 'How to catch a spider!' We even went outside with a cup and a piece of paper to pretend to catch one! We thought about the steps we would need to take and the language we would use. For example, first put the cup on the spider. We learnt how to make a 'You will need' list for our instructions, and learnt that it is helpful to know what equipment is needed when following instructions.

In Maths we have been sequencing days of the week and also things we do in a day. We had to think carefully about which order to put them in. We have looked at number bonds and ways to make 10 and 20.

The children were very proud of themselves when they showed their amazing monster dances to the other class.

After half term in Literacy we will be concentrating on the story 'Aliens Love Underpants' and we will be designing our own monsters and using adjectives to describe them. We will write a character description about what they look like and what they like to do. We will also be making lists of what monsters do to scare people, we will use bullet points in our lists.

In Maths we will be continuing to add on a number line and begin to learn how to add on a hundred square. Some of us will learn how to add in jumps of 10.

Show and Tell group – Giraffes (The children can choose what they bring in as long as it is not a toy and they can tell us two facts about it.) Show and Tell is on Friday. Please ask your child what animal group they are; if they are unsure then check with their class teacher.

Home Learning – Please can you read with your child as much as possible and record it in their reading diary.

Maths - Practise the skill of adding on a number line (remember to put the biggest number first)

Literacy- Ask your child to write a shopping list for you (with bullet points)

Vocabulary- Describing word (adjective), full stop, capital letter, list, bullet point, number line, hundred square, addition, add, equals

Have a lovely relaxing half term break!

Year 2

This week we took part in our first Year 2 Science experiment. We made boats from different materials then tested to see which was the best material to use. It was rewarding to see some of our boats float and exciting to see others sink. Some of our predictions were correct but some of us had interesting results!

In Art we used different autumn objects such as conkers, fir cones and leaves to create beautiful, detailed observational drawings. We used different techniques including cross-hatching and stippling to create different effects.

In Maths we have been looking at doubling and halving. We noticed that finding $\frac{1}{2}$ of a number is the opposite of doubling. If you can work out the double of a number you can also find out half. We have been using lots of exciting vocabulary in Literacy this week. We have used our senses when thinking about Autumn, considering what we might see, smell or hear on an Autumn walk. We wrote our ideas into sentences using some lovely adjectives and adverbs and then used these ideas to write a leaf shaped poem.

We hope you have a happy, safe and restful half term break. We look forward to hearing all about it when you return.

Literacy Homework: Can you spot the conjunctions in the sentences? Can you write

sentences in your book using a conjunction? (and, until, because, since, but although...)

After Half Term we will be finding out about more famous people using different sources, such as photos, diary entries and non-fiction texts. In Maths we will be learning about arrays and how they represent multiplication number sentences. In Art we are going to create our own versions of Pop Art inspired by the art of Andy Warhol.

Key vocabulary - adjective, alliteration, adverb, onomatopoeia, prediction, conclusion, method, halve, double.

School Office

Reminder: Absent Notes

If your child has been absent from school due to illness, please remember to send an absent note to the school office once they return to school. This can be sent by email or a note posted in the black 'Office Post' box. Please include your child's name, class, dates they were absent from school and the reason for their absence. This is for their attendance records and without a note, their absence may be recorded as unauthorised. Thank you.

Friends

Woo Hoo!! Go team Topaz! Quiz winners! And a massive shout out to Dave, who played a one-man-team.

Another fun quiz night, and lucky for everyone, there was a problem with the alcohol license so we did not charge for anything!

Just a reminder this is our just giving page:
<http://UK.virginmoney.com/charities/friendsoflongdittoninfantsschool>

Just saying!

Big thanks to everyone who joined in the bake sale and Ground Force day, much appreciated!

There were 37 volunteers working hard to improve the school grounds, and thanks too to those entertaining the children in the hall.

As you are all aware there is a school calendar, where pictures of your lovely children will appear, each page will be sponsored by a local business, if anyone can think of a local business who might like to sponsor a page, with advertising please get in touch, jessica2179@yahoo.co.uk

Similarly, if there are any businesses who would like to advertise in the Christmas Fair programme or anyone who can help with raffle prizes or printing get in touch.

Thanks for everything and have a great half term

Friends

ACHIEVEMENTS

ValueStars: Responsibility



Florence W-M
Georgina
Isabella C
Tom S
Jack D
Sophie C

Golden Certificates:

Emily
Moonstone Class
Iris
William B
Lauren
Archie
Isla C
Ethan
Roshan
Luna
George C
Diamond Class
Ava D-F

Credit Card:

Arsad
Miller



Vristhi – 7
Jago – 5
Adelaide - 4

Outside Achievements:

Tate has learnt to ride her bike without stabilisers!
Henry J represented Kingston Juniors Cycling Club in the 5th round of the central cyclo-cross league and he came 3rd in the U8 boys' race.
Eilidh was awarded the trophy for Rainbow of the Week
Parth has his Duckling 1 certificate from Swim England
Rory won 'Closest to the Pumpkin' Halloween golf competition
Jake won a football medal from Platform Sports. He got 'Player of the Week' for the most goals scored in the session
Ava O'C was awarded a 5m Rainbow swimming badge

DIARY DATES

October 2018

22 nd -26 th	School closed
Monday 29 th	8.45am return to school Yrs R,1, 2 Nasal Flu Immunisations (information packs/consent forms sent home this week)

November 2018

Thursday 1 st	9.00-9.30am Parent Helper Baking workshop Hinchley Wood Fireworks
Friday 2 nd	9.00-9.30am Parent Helper Library workshop 2.30-3.00pm Parent Helper Reading workshop
Tuesday 6 th	9.15am Open Morning for Reception 2019
Wednesday 14 th	Anti-Bullying Day – wear blue to raise awareness
Friday 16 th	Children In Need Appeal day
Tuesday 20 th	9.15am Open Morning for Reception 2019
Tuesday 27 th	9.15am Open Morning for Nursery 2019 Yr 2 to Wagamama
Wednesday 28 th	Yr 2 to Wagamama
Thursday 29 th	2.15pm Rocksteady concert (parents/carers of children who take part are invited)
Friday 30 th	1.20pm Christmas Decoration Afternoon – parents/carers invited to help
Saturday 1 st	Friends' Christmas Fair

EVENTS / ACTIVITIES (outside of school) / School Adverts

Please note the school does **not** promote or endorse any children's clubs or activities advertised.



HINCHLEY WOOD
PRIMARY SCHOOL
(WITH THE LONG DITTONS SCHOOLS!)

Fireworks

Thursday 1st November
Gates open @ 5.30pm
Buy online at:
<http://buytickets.at/hwps/204568>
OR
Tickets on
the gate

Parenting Talk

FUTURE PROOF YOUR CHILD:

A parent's guide to helping
your child develop the skills
they need to succeed in
today's world.



Renowned speaker **Dr Kathy Weston** will discuss what we could be doing as parents to help our children develop the skills they need to succeed in today's world. Sharing her practical and straightforward tips, derived from the best research evidence, Kathy will cover:

- How we can help children get into a positive mind-set, embracing all of life's opportunities
- Personal resilience
- Character
- Social skills

During this information-packed and motivational evening, you will get the chance to ask Kathy any questions you have! Join us:

When: Thursday 15 November 2018, 19.30 / 20.00 - 21.30
Venue: Surbiton High School
Price: £10 each (including light refreshments)
Book at: <http://bit.ly/2QhQAYB>

Proceeds will support the work of local charity **Home-Start Richmond, Kingston & Hounslow**.

homestart-rkh.org.uk

**Home
Start**
Support and friendship
for families

Ditton Hill Road, Long Ditton, Surbiton, Surrey, KT6 5JB

T: +44 (0)20 8398 4398

<http://longditton.surrey.sch.uk>

Info@longditton.surrey.sch.uk