



LONG DITTON

INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL

THE HEART OF LONG DITTON SINCE 1911

NEWSLETTER

13th September 2019

LATEST NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers

Happy Friday everyone and welcome to all the new Reception children and returning Nursery children. They have been fabulous this week learning the rules and routines of school and adapting to school life. Congratulations and well done all!

For all new parents and carers, this is our weekly newsletter which we use as one method of communicating with you. It is very important that you take some time each week to read the newsletter because in it you will find information about:

- Changes to the diary dates.
- Important upcoming events that may need some preparation such as dressing up days, mufti days, special visits or visitors.
- Parent/Carer information meeting dates.
- Reminders about our rules and Values.
- Guidance for parents and carers.
- Homework for the children.
- Celebrations and shout outs.

We always endeavour to ensure we keep it as succinct as possible and we value the newsletter as a way of communicating and take time to include as much as we can – so please take the time to read it.

This week's newsletter is very 'rule' heavy – this is in an effort to ensure everyone has been given the information they need to make our school the best it can be!

The School Office and Communications

The school office is a very busy place for the whole day. Please make sure if you have a query that cannot be written on the communication clip

boards put out in the mornings but you have to speak to someone in person, you wait until after 9.10am to speak to the office. Between 8.45 and 9.10 the office's priority is ensuring the children are all in school and registered. Please help us to ensure this takes place by waiting to speak to someone if you have to.

Emails – the office receives many emails a day. It would be appreciated if you could try to be considerate about what you are emailing to ask eg. finding a missing jumper or a pair of shoes are not things to email about and expect an immediate response. Emails will be 'triaged' and responded to accordingly.

Thank you for your help and understanding.

Year 1 and Year 2 Parent Information Mornings

The Year 1 and Year 2 information meetings will be next week. Year 1 on Wednesday 18th September at 9am in the hall and Year 2 at 9am on Thursday 19th. I appreciate this is short notice but we want to get the information about the coming year out to parents so that they know more about what to expect. There will be hand-outs given to those parents and carers who are unable to make the meeting.

Attendance

As a school we expect all children to attend every day. Surrey County Council issues all head teachers in Surrey guidance on term time absence. The important part of the guidance, that our school has agreed with, states that 'pupils are expected to attend school 100% of the time' and that we must 'issue penalty notices for 5 or more days unauthorised leave of absence.' For us this means that **any absence request of 5 or more days,**

regardless of the level of attendance, **may attract a penalty notice**. Holidays are not considered to be an 'exceptional circumstance'. Also any **unauthorised** absence over a period of 6 weeks of **5 days** or more will also be referred to Surrey for a Penalty notice. Please note that the money for these fines does not come to the school but goes to Surrey County Council.

I met with the Education Welfare Officer this week to look at the attendance of all of the children. If a child's attendance should fall below 90% a letter will be sent requesting a meeting and asking for medical evidence. If there is no improvement, then the school has to refer the child to the Education Welfare Service who will then set attendance targets that will need to be reached.

The national average is 96% and last year we met the national average – which is super. Sadly, to be Outstanding, attendance has to be above average – so we are still working towards that!

It is very important that parents and carers always let the school know why their child is not attending school. This can be done with a phone call or an email on the day of absence followed up with a letter when the child returns. 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' and 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' documents identify 'Educational Neglect' as a kind of abuse and that schools are responsible to make sure children registered with them are seen and safe.

Remember that education is every child's right.

You can access the Government documents by following these links:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2> and

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2>

Our school attendance policy can be found on our website or by following this link:
<http://longditton.surrey.sch.uk/parent-information/school-policies/>

Keep to the Left!

While the Reception parents and carers are walking to the classrooms with their children, can I ask everyone to try to walk on the left as they enter the school grounds and walk through the gates. People with buggies and pushchairs. please try to be considerate of each other and the children. If you are in a hurry, barging past people with a pushchair is not the best way to exit school. As we say to the children 'use your words' to express your haste and I know the path will clear much faster for you. This will also be an excellent way to demonstrate this month's Value of the Month 'RESPECT' to each other. Remember your children are watching you all the time and will mimic your behaviour. If we demonstrate excellent behaviour towards each other they will too.

Name Labels

Ensuring that your child has their name in their uniform, shoes and PE kit is very important. If you notice your child has someone else's jumper, please bring it back in to school so that it can be returned. As you can imagine keeping track of 30 sets of uniform has its challenges and teaching your child to remember to be responsible for their own property really helps.

The Trim Trail

After school please ensure that your children do not play on the trim trail. I know we are a friendly school and that the trim trail is a piece of equipment that children like to play on while their parents have a chat at the end of the day. As a school we encourage parents and carers to have their chat in the park where their children can play, not in our grounds. Please make sure once you have picked up your child you are leaving the school site promptly and safely. The park is a much bigger, more exciting venue to play!

Online Diary

We are attempting to increase our use of an online diary that all parents and carers can access on our website. We are having some user issues which we hope to resolve but in the meantime please keep an eye on our school calendar for upcoming dates!

Always push bikes and scooters in school

Please ensure that ALL CHILDREN, including younger siblings, push their bikes and scooters once they enter the school premises. This is to ensure the safety of everyone.

Birthday Books

Thank you to Esther, Tuuli and Theo R for choosing birthday books to give to their classes to celebrate their birthdays.

Thought for the Week

'What you see in this world is a reflection of your thoughts. If you have ugly thoughts the world becomes ugly.' Mike Dooley

Have a brilliant weekend!

Mrs Paines

Parent Helpers

Calling all parents/carers interested in being a 'parent helper'

Our parent helpers are truly amazing - not only do they enable us to offer more activities to the children, but the support they give makes a huge difference to the children's learning. If you would like to join our happy group of "Helping Hands" or simply find out more, please join me at one of our parent helper / safeguarding meetings this month. Please see dates below.

Even if you have been a regular helper in the past, you will need to attend one of the safeguarding workshops before you can come in again this year.

This year we are slightly adapting the parent helper system to make the organisation more manageable and efficient.

Baking will be done as part of a rotation morning organised by the class teachers and they will be asking for helpers via the class reps nearer the time. **All helpers must have a current DBS check and have attended a safeguarding parent helper meeting.**

Library helpers will be working with their own child's class and the rota will be organised by the

class reps for each class. **All helpers must have a current DBS check and have attended a safeguarding parent helper meeting. You will also need to attend the library workshop on Friday 18th October at 9.00am.**

Reading helpers will continue to work across the school and not with their own child's class. We have found this is the most effective way to target and improve children's reading enjoyment and skills. If you would like to share your passion for books and help motivate and inspire children to read, this is the role for you - please join us! **Come along to the one of the safeguarding meetings and attend one of the reading workshops either Tuesday 15th October at 9.00am OR Wednesday 16th October at 2.30pm.**

Safeguarding meeting dates (every parent helper **MUST** attend one, even if they were a helper last year)

- Tuesday 24th September at 9.00am
- Wednesday 25th September at 2.30pm
- Thursday 26th September at 9.00am

Please note that the workshops are for parents/carers who are interested in helping out in school and we ask that children are not brought to the meeting. Thank you.

Please let the school office know by email if you will be attending one of these workshops so that we can ensure we have enough information packs for everyone.

Reading workshop for parent helpers

- Tuesday 15th October at 9.00am, OR
- Wednesday 16th October at 2.30pm

Library workshop for parent helpers

- Friday 18th October at 9.00am

Nursery

We hope everyone had a lovely summer break. It has been so nice to meet new and existing parents. We have had a successful first short week back and our returning children have settled back into routine well.

We are very fortunate that during the summer holidays we have had some exciting new additions to our nursery; we have some brand new toilets and we have a lovely new garden area. The children have enjoyed playing parachute games in the new garden area. In the school entrance area we will be putting up our hand prints as part of a whole school display.

We would like to say thank you to Desiree and family for taking care of the fish Barry and Shep during the summer holidays.

Reception

Wow, what a fantastic first week we have had in Reception! A massive well done to all the new children in Beagle and Corgi class, they have all been great. Everyone has been so impressed with how all the children have settled into school so quickly. A big thank you to all the parents and carers for your help and support. As the children have been so super at coming into school, next week please can you bring your child into the playground and allow them to walk into the Reception cloakroom independently. Saying goodbye at the door will help the children to settle into the school day quickly.

This week we have been focusing on introducing the children to school routines and getting to know each other. We have been talking about the importance of listening and sharing. We have also been practising lining up, sitting on the carpet and putting things in the right places. We have been exploring different parts of the school and our outside area.

Next week we will start the topic 'All about me'. Children will be using a mirror to draw and paint a self-portrait of themselves. They will focus on adding details, for example choosing the right colour paint for their eyes. During learning time, we will talk about the similarities and differences between everyone in the class. We will also have lots of circle times throughout the week. In each circle time we will talk about a different topic, these include being respectful, politeness, kindness and

the importance of being ready to learn. On Friday we will introduce 123 Magic, our behaviour system to the children. We will discuss why it is important to follow this.

Just a few reminders:

- Please can children bring a named waterproof coat to school for rainy days.
- Snacks in the afternoon should be fruit or vegetable only (fresh or dried).
- Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school for next week.

Have a lovely weekend!

Reception team

Year 1

Welcome back to school after the summer break. We have been really impressed with how quickly the children have settled into their new routines. Well done Year 1!

The children have all been given an animal group in class. Every child knows which animal group they are in. Please ask your child the animal group they are in, as they will need to know this for show and tell. If they can't remember, please check on the show and tell sheet (gave out earlier in the week).

Our new topic for this half term is Monsters and Giants. This week we have been busy focusing on the story 'The Smartest Giant in Town' by Julia Donaldson. The children have written about what their favourite part of the story is, remembering capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. In Maths we have been identifying shapes and adding numbers to 20. Children have been using their independent learning books to complete different activities set around the classroom.

Next week, we will be sequencing the story of 'The Smartest Giant in Town.' Children will order pictures from the story and then write sentences to explain what happens in the beginning, middle and end of the story. In Maths, we will practise counting

numbers 1-30 and complete practical activities linked to this. In Science we will start to look at different materials and what they are used for and in Geography we will continue to look at maps and symbols.

Home Learning

Maths – Can you make and design number cards to 30. What games can you play with them? Can you put them in the correct order?

Literacy – Write a sentence about Year 1 so far. What have you enjoyed, what have you found tricky?

Key Vocab -

Maths: less, more, single digit, double digit, teen number

Literacy: finger space, capital letter, full stop

Show and Tell group

Monkeys: something that is special to you/why?

Reminders

Next week is Meet the Teacher, Year 1's parent/carer information meeting is on Wednesday 18th at 9am in the hall. We look forward to seeing you there.

If you have any junk modelling at home, please send it into school to be used for a class display on 3D shapes. Thank you! Please, no egg boxes.

We have started to give out reading records and reading books this week. Please check in your child's book bag to see if they have a new one. If not, your child will be given one next week.

Year 2

What a busy first full week back we have had! The children have settled into Year 2 so well and have already been working really hard. We had a mysterious start to our week. Something very strange appeared in our playground. Luckily Mrs Eaton and Mrs Bradley managed to draw a picture

of the creature to show us before it disappeared into the trees. We wondered what it could be so we decided to write a letter to the creature to find out more about him. We thought of lots of interesting questions to ask and talked about the importance of using a question mark to finish a question. We are hoping that he will write back to us.

This week we have begun our super topic, *Regal Royals!* We discussed what it means to be royal, and identified kings and queens we already knew some information about.

In Maths we have been investigating sequences. In groups, we created caterpillars showing different number patterns, counting in steps of 2, 3, 5 and 10. We also learned about place value, deciding how much each ten and unit is worth in a number, our challenge being to identify how many hundreds. We have used this knowledge to order numbers from the smallest to the largest.

Vocabulary: sequence, pattern, place value, hundreds, tens, units, royal, adjectives, conjunctions, adjectives

Next week we will be learning about our current royal family and their lives. We will continue to use our knowledge of place value to order numbers.

Homework: Please research facts about our current royal family. Record your findings including pictures ready to be displayed on our Regal Royals Fact Wall. **Please return homework by Wednesday.**

Year 2 Information Meeting – Thursday 19th September at 9am in the Hall.

School Office

Nearly new PE kits/bags

We have red shorts, white t-shirts, grey tracksuits, plimsolls and PE bags in the school office that are in nearly new condition. If you are interested in any of these items for your child's PE kit, then please contact the school office to come and have a look. If you can let us know what you would be interested in, then we can have the items ready.

Student Photos

Individual student photos and sibling photos (siblings attending our school and Nursery only) will take place on Tuesday 1st October and will once again be taken by Imago Juniors photographers.

Nasal Flu Immunisation

This will take place on Friday 22nd November and will be administered by Nurses from the immunisation team at Children and Family Health Surrey. A letter from CHS will be sent out about this next week by email. This year you will be able to give your e-consent online and information on how to do this will be in the letter. The nasal flu immunisation is offered to all children in years Reception to 6.

Friends

First week; done. Good weather for the weekend; done. Hope everyone has had a good start to the year. Do reach out to your class reps if you need anything.

A big welcome to anyone who didn't get last week's newsletter, we have lots going on this year so we hope you are able to help out – it's lots of fun and hugely appreciated!

Here are the dates for the events we currently are planning to run:

- AGM 7.30pm for 8pm @school 19th Sept
- DittON Yer Bike 12-3pm 22nd Sept
- Ground force day 5 Oct 9.30am-1.30pm
- Spooky bounce 19 Oct 10-12.30am - committee?
- Hinchley Wood School Fireworks night 5 Nov
- Children's Christmas Workshops - 25th/26th/27th/28th Nov
- Adults' Christmas wreath workshop 27th Nov
- Long Ditton Christmas lights switch on 5th Dec
- School Christmas Fair 7th Dec - committee?
- Cabaret 24th Jan
- Ground force day 29th Feb
- Ball 7th Mar
- Pamper evening 18th Mar
- Ground force day 25th April
- Pudding and Pj MAYhem 1st May
- Teacher appreciation week 4th-6th May

- Ground force day 6th June
- Tropical Beach party Summer Fair 13th June
- End of year family fun day 11th July
- Dragon Boat Race 26th July

We will be looking to willing helpers to join organising committees for the Christmas Fair and the Spooky Bounce. Please join in, if you would be willing to help organise in any capacity, email us at longdittonfriend@outlook.com

Hoping you will be able to join us for the "DittON Yer Bike" family fun day at St Mary's Junior School from 12pm on 22nd September please come along as, in addition to those cycling 50 or 80 miles, there will be loads of activities for everyone to take part in; children's fun run, BBQ, inflatables, Sumo suits, cakes, face painting, fantastic raffle prizes, and a bar. Maybe even showing the rugby! If you can give any time during this event to help on a stall, please sign up, all help is greatly appreciated. Please use the sign up on line at <https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/60b0b48a8a82aaaf94-ditton>

And if you'd like to support our cyclists, please donate whatever you can here: <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/charity-web/charity/displayCharityCampaignPage.action?charityCampaignUrl=Dittonyerbike2019>

Have a great weekend
Friends

ACHIEVEMENTS

ValueStars: Responsibility



Ava O'C
Charlie H
Nyla
Evelyn

Golden Certificates:

Teddy F
Marley
Olivia S
Charlie J-S
Nora
Freddie M
Harrison
Sofia
Emily
Poppy C

Credit Card:

Emilia



Sophia S
Theo R
Esther
Tuuli

Outside Achievements:

Nora receive a certificate for achieving Level 1 Swim Skills
Joshua completed the summer reading challenge and received a certificate

September 2019	
Wednesday 18 th	9.00am Yr 1 Parents/Carers Information meeting
Thursday 19 th	9.00am Yr 2 Parents/Carers Information meeting
Tuesday 24 th	9.00am Parent Helper safeguarding meeting
Wednesday 25 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9.05am Parents' Forum 2.30pm Parent Helper safeguarding meeting 6.00pm Full Governing Body meeting - please give one week's notice to Clerk of Governors at clerktoqovs@longditton.surrey.sch.uk if you would like to attend
Thursday 26 th	9.00am Parent Helper safeguarding meeting
Monday 30 th	Start of Safety week
October 2019	
Tuesday 1 st	Student photographs by Imago Juniors photographers
Monday 7 th	Road Safety show
Thursday 10 th	9.15am Yrs 1 & 2 Harvest Festival assembly with Juniors at St Mary's Church
Friday 11 th	Yr R and Nursery Harvest Festival assembly in school (children only)
Tuesday 15 th	9.00am Parent helper reading workshop
Wednesday 16 th	2.30pm Parent helper reading workshop
Friday 18 th	9.00am Parent helper library workshop
Saturday 19 th	Friends' Spooking Bounce
Wednesday 23 rd	3.30-8.00pm Parent/Teacher consultation meeting by appointment (<i>information on how to book an appointment will be sent out w/c 30th September</i>)
Thursday 24 th	3.30-5.30pm Parent/Teacher consultation meeting by appointment (<i>information on how to book an appointment will be sent out w/c 30th September</i>)
Friday 25 th	Finish at 3.00pm for half term break
November 2019	
Monday 4 th	Return to school at 8.45am
Tuesday 5 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9.15am Open morning for parents/carers of children starting in Reception 2020 (<i>please contact school office to book a place</i>) Fireworks Display at Hinchley Wood Primary
Monday 11 th	Yr 2 lunch-time clubs start
Wednesday 13 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anti-Bullying day 6.00pm Full Governing Body meeting - please give one week's notice to Clerk of Governors at clerktoqovs@longditton.surrey.sch.uk if you would like to attend
Thursday 14 th	9.15am Open morning for parents/carers of children starting in Reception 2020 (<i>please contact school office to book a place</i>)
Tuesday 19 th	9.15am Open morning for parents/carers of children starting in Nursery 2020 (<i>please contact school office to book a place</i>)
Friday 22 nd	Nasal Flu Immunisations (Yrs R,1,2)
Thursday 28 th	2.15pm Rocksteady concert – parents/carers of children who take part are invited

DIARY DATES

December 2019

Friday 6 th	Children's Christmas Production dress rehearsal
Monday 9 th	Children's Christmas Production – time tba
Tuesday 10 th	Children's Christmas Production – time tba
Wednesday 11 th	Children's Christmas Production – time tba
Thursday 12 th	Children's Christmas Production – time tba
Friday 13 th	Christmas Jumper day for Save the Children
Tuesday 17 th	3.00-4.00pm Nursery & Yr R Christmas Disco (run by teachers)
Wednesday 18 th	3.00-4.00pm Yrs 1&2 Christmas Disco (run by teachers)
Thursday 19 th	Nursery last day – finish for Christmas Holidays
Friday 20 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9.15am Christmas Assembly at St Mary's Church – all welcome to attend 1.30pm Last day of term – school finishes for Christmas Holidays

January 2020

Monday 6 th	Inset Day – school closed
Tuesday 7 th	8.45am Return to school for start of Spring term

EVENTS / ACTIVITES (outside of school) / School Adverts

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

at Long Ditton St Mary's Junior School



FAMILY FUN DAY
Sunday 22nd September
12-3.30 in the school grounds
FREE ENTRY

WIN a bike in the raffle
Donated by Humphrey and Brand

Bouncy pirate run and slide

- Giant Sumo wrestling • Face painting
- Bar • Bbq • Cakes • Raffle
- Nerf target shooting
- Music and lots more!

Don't forget to cheer the returning cyclists after their 50 or 80 mile rides!

HUMPHREY & BRAND

DITTON YER BIKE

join us for a charity BIKE RIDE
Ditton to Ditton 50 or 80 Miles

All monies raised will go to Long Ditton St Mary's School, Long Ditton Infant School and The Royal Marsden Cancer Charity
Contact: rebecca.lowth@hotmail.co.uk
Closing Date: 26 July 2019

SUNDAY 22 SEPT 19



In aid of
The ROYAL MARSDEN Cancer Charity
Registered Charity No. 106917

Long Ditton St Mary's
Church of England (Aided) Junior School

Is your child starting school in September 2020?

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

If your child was born between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016 you will need to apply for a school place. You can apply between **04 November 2019** and **15 January 2020**.

If you live in Surrey, you can find out all you need to know about school admissions and apply online at surreycc.gov.uk/admissions or you can call us on **0300 200 1004**.

Applying on time will give your child the best chance of getting one of your preferred schools.

Apply online
between
04 November 2019
and 15 January 2020



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