



LONG DITTON

INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL

THE HEART OF LONG DITTON SINCE 1911

NEWSLETTER

29th November 2019

LATEST NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers

Mrs MacIver has had a beautiful baby girl! Both mum and daughter are doing very well and I know you will join with us to celebrate such wonderful news!

Christmas Production 'The Story of the Nativity'

The children have begun rehearsing their songs ready for our school production of the Story of Christmas. One afternoon this week was incredible as I listened to the songs as the music drifted up from the classrooms! Friday 6th December is our dress rehearsal and we have invited parents and carers with younger siblings to come to this. The following week will be for grown-ups. Younger siblings, even babes in arms, will not be welcomed into the hall. Thank you in advance for helping us to ensure this is followed. We operate a strict system of entry to the production and it is very helpful for everyone to follow this for safety reasons. Please help us to ensure we have the day you are coming to watch so that we can accommodate everyone safely.



Christmas Tree of Kindness

In assembly this morning we talked about our 'Christmas Tree of Kindness.' This tree is for the whole school to demonstrate how kind we can be. Any time a child is seen by an adult demonstrating fantastic kindness (without being asked!) they will be given the opportunity to put a bauble on the tree. If we can fill the tree up with baubles by Christmas, the whole school will have a special Christmas treat – decided by the children!

FRED Assessments

I have just completed the first FRED assessments for Years 1 and 2. On Monday the children will be in different FRED groups. I know that sometimes if a child remains on the same FRED level it can seem that they haven't made progress. This is not the case. Every single child I have assessed has made progress. However, some children will benefit from repeating a level to consolidate their learning. If you are concerned about the FRED level your child is on, please come to speak to me and I can arrange a meeting to go over the assessment and what your child needs to do next to continue on their phonic learning journey.

Decoration Afternoon

Next Friday 6th December will be our decoration afternoon. This is an opportunity for parents and carers to come into school and help the children decorate the whole school in preparation for Christmas. The afternoon is very busy indeed and is full of 'big people' in school. Please remember that while in school no mobile phones or cameras are allowed. Once the decorations have been made the adults put up the decorations around our school. In the past I have seen grown-ups climbing on chairs and tables to hang decorations (and in some cases chairs on top of tables!). Please be mindful of your own safety and hang the decorations safely. As outside people will be coming into school for polling day the following week we are going to ask the Reception parents only to decorate the hall with reception made decorations from 2.30-2.45pm. We will be being judged on how Christmassy it looks!

Please read information about the afternoon on the next page

- **Please inform the school office by email or write on the class message boards if you will be coming on Friday.** We ask that you do this **by the end of Tuesday 3rd December.** The teachers need to know numbers so that they can plan groups and materials for the activities. Please note that you will not just be able to turn up on the day.
- **Start time: 1.30pm** (please arrive at the school office a few minutes before this to sign in).
- **Finish time: 2.45pm** – we ask that all parents/carers leave the school by the main door and wait at the front of the school until home time. Please note that school will finish at the normal time of 3.00pm. The teachers need to make sure that the children have all their belongings and are ready to go at the end of the day and this takes at least 15 minutes! Thank you for your cooperation with this.
- **No siblings** – the decoration afternoon is for the children in our school and because it will be very busy, we are not able to accommodate siblings or other children on this occasion. Thank you for your understanding.

Golden Manners Table

On Monday Alice, Luca, Eva W, Dexter, Daisy and Bea will be joining me on the Golden Manners table because they have remembered their manners this week!

Mrs Pearson is Leaving!

Mrs Pearson is leaving us at Christmas. She has been a valued member of our Nursery team for over 5 years and we are going to miss her very much indeed! Mrs Pearson's last day will be the last day of term and I know you will all be wishing her well in her exciting future adventures. We currently have an advert out looking for a new member of nursery – I will keep nursery parents informed of the arrangements when appropriate. Good luck Mrs Pearson!

Naming the Elf on the Shelf

The servery ladies are running a 'name the Elf on the Shelf' competition! From Monday the children can put their idea for a good name for the Elf into the special box. On the last day of term Nikki will

draw one name from the box and the winning person will receive a special prize of muffins or biscuits from the servery! We have said that the children can put in up to 3 name suggestions and that they must remember to write their own name and class on the back of each name suggestion. The Elf will be hidden each day for the children to find in the hall – good luck!

Birthday Books

Thank you to Sophia A for choosing a birthday book to give to her class to celebrate her birthday.

Attendance

The class with the most attendance this week is with Husky with 100%! Perfect!!

Thought for the Week

'Inner compassion and outer tolerance can easily make a new world, a better world.' Sri Chimnoy

Thought for the week

This time of year is incredibly busy for everybody. The inspirational leadership conference I attended this week talked about mental health and how important it is to be able to talk about personal mental health and look after ourselves – especially at this time of year. The busier we become the less time we take to look after ourselves but it should be the opposite! So for the final Tolerance thought of the week:

'Your mental health is a priority,
Your happiness is an essential,
Your self-care is a necessity,
Your tolerance is crucial,
Your positivity is powerful.'

Have a jolly weekend!

Mrs Paines

Nursery

We have had a truly amazing week at nursery! We have shared the nativity story and talked about the characters in the story in relation to the

costumes that the children are choosing to wear for the Christmas production.

We have been over to the hall to practise our role on the stage, the children have worked hard to understand what it means to be a performer on the stage and that there will be an audience watching them!

We have been practising Away in a Manager our own song to perform at the Christmas production. Please practise at home with your child if you can, ask them to show you the actions we are doing to accompany the song.

We have been learning about repeating patterns, recognising, continuing and make our own repeating patterns particularly using colours.

We were lucky enough to have some volunteer parents to help run our baking session which we linked to our story this week The Gingerbread Man. Thank you to our baking helpers, I think we were all very impressed with how responsible the children were during these sessions.

Our baking sessions will continue in the spring term, they are really helpful in developing lots of key skills, turn taking, language, hygiene, measuring to name just a few areas of learning. Please look out for the sign-up sheet to help with our baking sessions in the new year.

Please could all costumes be in school by Wednesday 4th December, in a bag clearly labelled with your child's name. Please see a member of the nursery team if you need any help with costumes.

Thank you for your continued support and have a lovely weekend!

Reception

This week in Reception we have continued to learn about patterns and different ways these can be represented, for example as a sequence of actions or in nature in different animal prints. We have continued to look at 'A Squash and a Squeeze' and 'What the Ladybird Heard'. We have been sequencing these stories and thinking about

alternate endings to the stories. We have begun to practise our class Christmas songs and have been doing a fantastic job at remembering and singing all the words! Thank you to everyone who has helped the children to learn their songs at home.

Next week we will move on in our maths learning to look at different 3D shapes and where we may find them in the environment, both in the classroom and outside. We will continue to practise for the Christmas production, with our dress rehearsal on Friday morning. **Please make sure that all costumes are in school in a named bag by Wednesday 4th December.** We will be getting in the festive spirit creating headbands for our Christmas performance costumes and finishing our own Christmas decorations.

Key vocabulary: pattern, repeating unit, sequence, time connectives (first, next, then, finally).

Home learning ideas:

- Practise segmenting and blending simple words to support your child's reading. Asking your child to s-i-t (sit) to the table or hang their coat on the p-e-g (peg) will help them to hear the sounds in simple words and then blend them.
- Use lego or coloured pencils to create simple patterns and ask your child to follow the pattern, create their own or spot a deliberate error.
- Ask your child to sequence a simple daily routine e.g. bedtime - undress, put on pyjamas, get into bed, read story, say goodnight.

Reminders:

- Please make sure your child's costume is in school by **Wednesday 4th December** in a named bag before our dress rehearsal.
- If you have any bubble wrap at home, please could you bring it into school, we will be using it as part of our Christmas craft and would appreciate any donations.

Year 1

The children have enjoyed another busy and productive week in Year 1. The lead up to Christmas is getting exciting, with both classes starting to rehearse for the Christmas production. On that note, each respective class will send home the words for their Christmas production songs and we would appreciate it if you could go over the words with your child.

In both literacy and numeracy, the children have worked through a variety of independent learning activities. In literacy, the activities have included story writing, fine motor control activities, letter formation work and learning time on the chrome books. The children also really enjoyed writing about Edgar the dragon from the John Lewis Christmas advert. In numeracy, the children continued to develop their understanding of one more and one less, shape, and number work including the part whole method amongst other activities. This independent learning will continue next week as the teachers continue to work with individual children and we prepare further for Christmas.

In handwriting, we once again practised letters in cursive script.  Next week we will move on to capital letters.

This week the children have enjoyed learning about the Christmas story in RE. Their 'Starry Night' pieces in art look fantastic and are on a wonderful display outside of the Year 1 classrooms.

Home Learning Ideas

- Please take some time to help your children to learn the words to 'Bumpy Journey (Husky) and 'No Room at the Inn' (Dalmatian).
- Christmas is a wonderful time of year providing many opportunities for writing for a purpose with your children (writing a Christmas Wish list, a letter to Father Christmas, Christmas cards, Thank You letters, etc.) Please continue

to reinforce capital letters, full stops and finger spaces.

Vocabulary we will be using next week

- Maths: add, take away, 2D shapes, 3D shapes, part-whole model
- Literacy: capital letters, full stops, finger spaces, adjectives, conjunctions

Show and Tell: Giraffes (something that is special to you and why that is not a toy)

Reminders:

- **Please bring your child's costume in a named bag by Wednesday next week** ready for the dress rehearsal taking place on Friday at 9:15 am. Thank you.
- Next Friday afternoon is also our Christmas decoration afternoon.

Costumes for Christmas production:

- **Husky: Donkeys**
- **Dalmatian: Inn keepers**
(unless you have received a letter)

Year 2

Monday was a very exciting day with our trip to Stokes Fields. Even though we got a little bit wet and cold we had a great time. We hunted for bugs, we made hedgehogs out of clay and even made homes for our hedgehogs to live in to keep them warm and dry. We looked at signs of Autumn and noticed how all the leaves were changing colour and falling to the ground.

In Literacy we wrote a recount about our trip to Stokes Field and all the exciting things we did while we were there. We have also been learning about Queen Elizabeth I and facts about her life

In Maths we have been learning about angles in shapes and symmetry in shapes. We cut out various shapes and folded them to find out how many lines of symmetry they had. We drew the lines of symmetry on the shapes and wrote how many into their books.

We have begun practising our songs and dances for our Christmas production. The children have all

learnt the words really well and we are now perfecting our dance moves.

History Homework: Please write some information about the various Queens we have learnt about on the sheet that has been stuck into the homework books.

Key vocabulary: shape, angle, symmetry, symmetrical, Elizabeth I,

Next week: Please ensure your child's costume is in school by next Wednesday in a named carrier bag.

School Office

Christmas production - The Nativity

We have been able to allocate everyone who has returned their seat booking forms their first choice for coming to watch the Christmas performances. There are lists up outside the classrooms should you need to remind yourself what this is! If you need to change your seat booking, please contact the school office (please do not swap with another parent). Monday's performance is full. We will let you know next week if there will be any spaces at the other 2 performances.

Chameleon Christmas card/gift orders

The orders have now been sorted and should be sent home with your child on Monday. If your order is missing, please contact the school office.

Friends

With one week to go until the Christmas Fair, we are appealing for helpers! If you can sign up to a stall or 3 that would be great! We have made the slots for 30mins each to make it easier for you to help out and see the fair yourself too! <https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/60B0B48A8A82AAAF94-christmas>

Please take a look at the 'instructions' you should find in book bags today, there will be 2 raffle ticket books, if you can fill these in and return them via the red post box with the money, or if you don't sell

them please return them so we can try and sell them.

All donations of prizes and wrapping etc, can be put in the boxes in the bike sheds. We are still collecting raffle prizes, so please do keep donating these - email baamonde@gmail.com We are also collecting unused Christmas Crackers for a game so if you have any random ones lying around, please drop them off too.

Thanks to all the elves for cutting felt, wrapping boxes, filling jars and wrapping gifts. We have one more elf prep on 3rd December at Mrs Christmas' house so if you'd like to help out before the big day, please email her on desireeharris@sky.com

A fantastic thank you to Ilse Bredenoord and her elf helpers for their Amazing work on the Santa's workshops. The children were mesmerized at her stories and had the best 90 minutes of fun (this is what we've been told.)

Ilse has also told the Friends that she already has an idea for next year. Mrs Christmas better get the elves on next year's prep.

Of course before the Christmas Fair, on 5th December is long Ditton lights up so pop along to Manny's shop car park from 5.30pm for some mulled wine, mince pies etc.

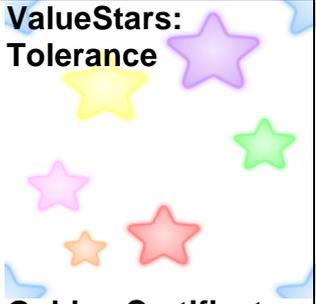
Stalls are a game from LDIS, LDSM tombola, raffle, free hot drinks & mince pies, pay for bbq. The Guides have a stall too. Music by Baz & Dave, there's an accordion player, singing by LDSM choir, bauble competition & switch on of tree lights at 7pm.

For the bauble competition, give your bauble entries into Manny's shop by Sunday for judging.

Our 80's Ball tickets are selling well. There is a ball meeting on the 9th December at the Limping Fox if you want to get involved on the committee. We are looking for names and ideas for 2 charity cocktails that will be sold on the night at the ball, put your ideas in the Friends box or email us on longdittonfriends@outlook.com

ACHIEVEMENTS

ValueStars: Tolerance



Eleanor
Charlie J-S
Joseph W
Felix C
Millie
Thomas G

Golden Certificates:

Sophie C
Nyla
Darcie
Olivia A
Dylan S
Jake
Luke
Asiya
Leo T
Sofia
Hanna
Harry A

Credit Card:



Zachary - 5
Nathan - 6
Joshua S - 5
Joshika - 5
Sophia A - 7

Outside Achievements:

Jake received the Chief Scout's Bronze Award
Olly received medal for player of the week at rugby
Amaan received a gold medal for coming 1st in a tennis competition
Michael received a certificate for completing the Daytona Bambino induction circuit
Daisy made her Rainbow promise and received her badge and certificate

DIARY DATES

December 2019

Friday 6 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9.15 Children's Christmas Production dress rehearsal 1.30pm Christmas Decoration afternoon
Saturday 7 th	Christmas Fair 12.00-2.30pm
Monday 9 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9.15am Children's Christmas Production Yr 2 to St Mary's Juniors to watch Christmas production in afternoon
Tuesday 10 th	9.15am Children's Christmas Production
Wednesday 11 th	9.15am Children's Christmas Production
Thursday 12 th	School closed for polling – General Election
Friday 13 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christmas Jumper day for Save the Children 7.00pm Pantomime – tickets available
Saturday 13 th	12.00pm (tickets available) & 4.00pm (sold out) Pantomime
Tuesday 17 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christmas Lunch for children & staff 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"> 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 / ACTIVITIES (outside of school) / School Adverts

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



Dear Parents and Carers

DITTON LIGHTS UP 2019 will be held on Thursday 5th December from 5.30pm till 7pm. As well as seeing the fabulous Manny's tree lit up with lights for the festive season the event will include a BBQ, mulled wine, mince pies, games, tombola and St Mary's School choir carol singers.

It has just been announced that there will be a **CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATION COMPETITION**.

Children are invited to design and make a Christmas bauble or ornament for our Village Christmas tree, located near Manny's.

Label your decoration with your name and age and hand it in to Manny's shop by the deadline of **Sunday 1st December**. Entries will be judged by the St Mary's Church Committee and prizes have been kindly donated by Humphrey and Brand, these will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. All entries will be hung on the Village tree, although unfortunately they will not be returned after Christmas.

Please ensure your child's name label is attached to the decoration rather than stuck on, to ensure it doesn't get lost.

You could use anything to make a decoration such as sticks, jars, pine cones, all sorts of things. So, get creative and start decorating.

Let's make this year's Christmas tree the best one yet!

The Friends



Friends of Parkside presents



Ice Rink & Christmas Fair

PARKSIDE SCHOOL



A stunning setting for Ice Skating, Mulled Wine, Unique Gift Ideas, Exclusive Shopping Stalls and much more

Saturday 30th November & Sunday 1st December • 10am-6pm
Parkside School, Stoke Road, Stoke D'Abernon, Cobham KT11 3PX

Ice Skating Tickets: £12 Adult, £10 Child, £40 Family

Book at www.trybooking.co.uk/NLL

Christmas Tree Orders from the Scouts - Take the hassle out of getting a Christmas Tree and support the local community at the same time!

For the 36th year, 1st Hinchley Wood Scout Group will be supplying Christmas Trees, in association with 1st Claygate & 1st Oxshott Scout Groups. All prices remain unchanged from last year! Non-Drop Nordman Fir and the Traditional Norway Spruce plus undecorated Fir Wreaths are available. Choose your size and delivery date. Delivery is free and direct to your door. Order via www.1sthwscouts.org.uk before 1st December. Any queries please call 07834 413627.