



LONG DITTON

INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL

THE HEART OF LONG DITTON SINCE 1911

NEWSLETTER

20th December 2019

LATEST NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers

I can't believe I am writing the last Newsletter of 2019. It really does not seem that long ago that I was writing last years!

This term has been very eventful with Ofsted arriving so early on. We have continued to ensure our term has been action packed, filled with excellent learning and exciting opportunities for the children.

Thank you to all the children, teachers, parents and carers for a very successful term and start to the academic year.

Next term we will begin Class Assemblies and have some surprising new learning ideas ready! We are looking forward to the term already.

Good Luck Miss Pearson!

Today is Mrs Pearson's last day with us as she moves to Cornwall tomorrow. I know you will all be wishing her lots of good luck in her new home and that we will miss her greatly. Mrs Blackwood will be working in Nursery from January and we have two new Teaching Assistants starting. Miss Ridings and Mrs Bailey will be working in Reception from January. They are looking forward to getting to know the children and school and we are very lucky to have them start with us 😊

Over £2500 Raised by Panto

Thank you everyone who came, shouted, hissed, booed, sang and joined in the panto this year. Altogether we have raised over £2500 and this will go towards exciting learning weeks in the school over the coming terms. The cast and crew were incredible and I know that despite their terror of being on stage they all thoroughly enjoyed taking part – because of the responses of the children.

You don't get to see how engaged they are with the production in the way the actors do – it is most marvellous!

Golden Manners Table

For the first week back in the new year Denes, Joshika, Millie, Alex B, Sophia S and Charlie JS can all join me on the Golden Manners table. On the Christmas lunch day, I observed all of them remembering to say please, thank you, use their knives and forks and speak kindly to those next to them.

Christmas Tree of Kindness

Eleanor was the person with most baubles on the Kindness tree – demonstrating how kind she was! Dalmatian Class were the kindest class with the most baubles on the tree altogether. Well done everyone for demonstrating over 150 acts of kindness in December 😊

Christmas Jumper Day

We raised £189.56 for Save the Children by wearing our Christmas jumpers to school. Brilliant, thank you!

Birthday Books

Thank you to Sofia and Molly for choosing a birthday book to give to their classes to celebrate her birthday.

Last day of term Church Visit

Thank you to all the people who helped walk with us to the church and to Dr Kuhan for allowing us again to hold our final assembly of the term in such a special place.

Attendance

Our attendance for this term is 96.4%. The National Average for the Autumn term 2018 was 96.6%. This means that although we are just below the National Average we have in fact increased our attendance this year! Super job!

Thought for the week

'A season of blessings from heavens above,
A season of sharing with all those we love,
A season of caring, warmth and good cheer,
A season of hope for the coming year'

I hope you have a wonderful, marvellous and amazing Christmas and New Year. Remember this time is precious – they will never be this age again. Take one moment to just watch them enjoying the magic – it'll be gone before you know it!

Mrs Paines

Nursery

What a brilliant term we have had in the nursery!

The children have worked so hard to learn about routines, friendships, problem solving and resilience. They have all become responsible and independent learners during the course of the term, we think they are awesome!

This week we have enjoyed making Santa wish lists and finishing our Christmas crafts.

We have been looking at daffodil bulbs and discussing what they need to grow as we planted them in our garden areas. We enjoyed playing games with the large parachute working together as a team and collaboratively. The children have also been working together and problem solving using the marble run.

We enjoyed a movie and popcorn as reward for putting lots of baubles on the Kindness Christmas tree and we visited the large playground for a play with year one and two.

We were lucky enough to have two visits from Santa Claus in the nursery and we had some lovely gifts, a box of mobilo and some superhero capes!

We say a fond farewell to Miss Pearson who will be starting her new adventures in January and say a big thank you to her for everything she has done over the years in the nursery. We wish her lots of best wishes and luck.

We look forward to Mrs Blackwood joining the nursery team in January.

Just a quick message from Miss Pearson to say thank you so much for all your kind words, gifts and beautiful cards!! You have been so generous and it is so much appreciated. I will miss you all very much but am so excited for my new adventure. I will send the nursery a postcard when I am all settled by the sea!

The nursery team thank you for all your support in settling the children this term and we wish you a very relaxing and a very Merry Christmas and we look forward to welcoming you all back in the New Year. Thank you so much for all the lovely Christmas gifts and best wishes!

The Nursery Team 😊😊😊😊

Reception

We have continued to enjoy our Christmas celebrations this week in Reception. The children have been making and decorating gingerbread men; they listened carefully, followed instructions and talked about how to stay safe when cooking. We had a special visitor on Tuesday who brought Christmas gifts for both classes and answered questions from the children. We are still trying to spot the sleigh on top of the school roof!

We hope you enjoyed the Church service this morning and thank you to all those parents who walked to church with the children. A big thank you for all your support over the past term and for your kind gifts. We hope you all have a fantastic

Christmas and look forward to hearing the children's news in January.

In the Spring Term, we will be exploring traditional tales. There will be a focus story each week around which we will base our learning.

Learning ideas:

- Please continue to practise our speed sounds set 1.
- There is a sheet in your child's FRED folder. Please encourage them to draw a picture and write a sentence about what they did over the holidays.

Key vocabulary: Santa, Christmas, excited, stocking, sleigh, reindeer, North Pole, presents, decorations

Year 1

Wow! This term has flown by! We are really proud at how settled the children are in Year 1 now and how much progress they have made since September! Thank you for your continued support and encouragement.

The children have enjoyed a very eventful, fun packed week. In literacy, the pupils watched 'The Snowman'; they thought about how the boy felt during his adventure with the Snowman. They then got into character and did some 'hot seating' in pairs with one child pretending to be the boy in the film and the other child asking questions relating to the adventure. Then they swapped. The children also had the opportunity to write a letter to the Snowman as if they were the boy in the film. They had to think carefully about what the boy would say, including thanking the Snowman for the adventure and explaining what they liked about it. In handwriting, we practised writing the capital letters D, E, F.

In maths, we recapped addition and subtraction using a number line. The children had to think carefully about what way to move on the number line.

In science, the children started to learn about nocturnal animals.

We really enjoyed making party hats and place mats for our Christmas lunch this week. They all turned out fantastic! The children also loved baking shortbread cookies. We would like to say a very big 'Thank You' to the helpers for making this possible.

Our topic next term will be 'Our Planet'. We will start by learning about recycling and endangered animals. We are really looking forward to teaching this exciting topic.

Thank you so much for our Christmas gifts, we really appreciate it. We hope you have a fantastic Christmas and best wishes for a happy and healthy 2020!

From all of the Year 1 team

Home Learning - Enjoy Christmas, laugh, smile, be kind and spend lots of time with family and friends.

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

Year 2

What a busy last week of term Year 2 have had! In Maths the children have been working hard to solve some tricky Christmas problems, these included answering addition and subtraction problems to make a Christmas image and some Christmas word problems. In Literacy we listened to, discussed and then rewrote the Christmas Story in the form of a newspaper article on the chrome books. We also found out some information about penguins on the chrome books, in books and information sheets to create a factual poster about Penguins.

On Tuesday, we had a special visit from Father Christmas! The children loved meeting him and were extremely thankful for the class gifts they received. We sang our Christmas songs to him, Rockin' around the Christmas tree and the Calypso Carol, with some great actions and it sounded fabulous.

We are getting really good at playing the recorders now and we can now play the notes B, and A.

It was lovely to see so many of you at the church on Friday, we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!

We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you so much for your generous gifts and cards. We feel truly spoilt!

Homework: To write a diary telling us about all the different things you do during the Christmas holidays.

Key vocab for this week: Nativity, symbol, celebration, habitat, Antarctica, research, search engine.

TDJS Spelling Bee 2020 - 17th January

We will be sending 3 children from Year 2 to participate in the 'TDJS Spelling Bee Competition' next half term. This year, 3 other schools in the Ember Learning Trust will also be sending Year 2 children.

In your child's book bag there is a list of year 2 spellings to practise over Christmas.

Spelling heats will take place in classes during the week beginning 6th January, so children should aim to learn the spellings before this time. The words will be read in isolation and in the context of a sentence when tested. Children will be expected to be able to write the correct spelling and also spell the word out letter by letter (using letter names rather than sounds) if asked to.

Children do not have to enter the competition, however, we want to encourage as many children to be practising these spellings on a regular basis at home and this is a great way to ensure this happens.

The 3 winning spellers will go through to the final which will take place at TDJS on 17th January along with other schools in the Ember Learning Trust. Words in the final round will not be given out to be learnt at home but will be selected from the National Curriculum word lists appropriate for each year group. We will keep you posted on the results. Happy spelling!

School Office

Thank you very much for your gifts, cards and Christmas wishes. We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and are able to find some time to relax with your favourite drink!

Happy Christmas and see you in the New Year!

Friends

Merry Christmas!!

It's been an amazing start to the year, we've already raised a fantastic amount and had some brilliant events!

A huge thanks to everyone who has helped in any way, to all the teams of people organising and planning the events, the helpers, bakers and attendees!

Special thanks to Ilse Bredenoord our library coordinator and Eimear Faherty our baking coordinator - the children get so much out of these activities!

Don't forget in the new year we have: **That Cabaret** performing in the George Evelyn pub on 24th January. Tickets will be on sale soon for £12 (£15 on the door). They have a new range of songs and it will be a good show!

29th Feb is pencilled in for a **Ground Force day** when we tidy up the gardens around the school and make the outside areas look lovely. Please save the date.

Another date to save is 18th March - the last **pamper evening** was so popular and such a success we are having another one! So come along have your nails done, get a facial and have a glass of bubbly! If you are or know a therapist or stall holder please email us for more details longdittonfriends@outlook.com

Tickets for the **80s Ball** are selling well, if you would like tickets please send in the form with

either payment in full or £10 per person deposit.
Always a great night and with a theme that is dear
to us all this year, 80's!!!

Wishing you all a great Christmas, lovely holiday
and a fab 2020!

Friends

ACHIEVEMENTS

Value Stars: Peace



Valkyria
Jago
Dalal
Neveah
Declan
Dylan

Golden Certificates:

Daniel G
Leo P
Eva W
Olly
Sophie D
James S
Riley
Florence
Dylan S
Maia
Quentin
Edward B

Credit Card:



Jake
Evelyn

Charlie J – 7
Marley – 7
Rufus – 7
Lauren – 6
Harry A – 5
Nila – 6
Archie – 6
Georgia – 6

Jemima - 4
Eleanor C - 4
Arthur - 4
Molly – 7
Daniel B – 5
Oscar G – 6
Bo – 5

Outside Achievements:

Edward M achieved level 1 Swim Skills certificate
Amaan achieved Learn to Swim level 2 Swim England award
Joshika was awarded a cup for Girls champion at Tamil school Youth Sports Club
James C was awarded a certificate of achievement for Judo and achieved his 5m swimming certificate for backstroke
Rebecca achieved her 10m Rainbow Distance swimming certificate for front crawl
Alice achieved her Duckling 4 level certificate for swimming
Zachary was awarded his Duckling 3 swimming certificate
Bo did a dance show
Amaya received here Learn to Swim level 4 certificate
Molly made her Rainbow promise
Betsy was awarded her 15m Rainbow swimming certificate

DIARY DATES

January 2020

Monday 6 th	Inset Day – school closed
Tuesday 7 th	8.45am Return to school for start of Spring term
Wednesday 15 th	6.00pm Full Governing Body Meeting
Thursday 16 th	9.05am Labrador class assembly – parents/carers of children in Labrador are welcome to come and watch
Thursday 23 rd	9.05am Spaniel class assembly – parents/carers of children in Spaniel are welcome to come and watch
Tuesday 28 th	Yr 2 visit to Wagamama (Spaniel)
Thursday 30 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yr 2 visit to Wagamama (Labrador) 9.05am Dalmatian class assembly – parents/carers of children in Dalmatian are welcome to come and watch

February 2020

Tuesday 4 th	Yr 2 to Stokes Field – Winter visit (Labrador)
Wednesday 5 th	Yr 2 to Stokes Field – Winter visit (Spaniel)

EVENTS / ACTIVITIES (outside of school) / School Adverts

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



Managing Behaviour Effectively for Parents & Carers

No one has ever said parenting was easy. Living with children can be one of life's most enjoyable experiences, but it can also be unbelievably frustrating. 123 Magic is a simple, precise and effective way of managing the behaviour of children. It's not magic but works like magic!

The aims of the programme are:-

- Job 1: Controlling Challenging Behaviour** – Learn an amazingly simple technique to get children to STOP doing what you don't want them to do (whining, arguing, tantrums, sibling rivalry etc.).
- Job 2: Encouraging Good Behaviour** – Learn several effective methods to get your children to START doing what you want them to do (picking up, eating, going to bed and staying there!, chores etc.).
- Job 3: Strengthening Your Relationship** – Learn powerful techniques that reinforce the bond between you and your children.

Will the programme work with children who have learning difficulties?

It certainly can. The program has been used successfully with Autistic, Asperger's, ADHD and ODC children. In fact when parents have children with these difficulties, the clarity of the 123 Magic warnings is especially helpful for the visual and auditory understanding.

The course is a 4 week programme and the following courses available are as follows:-

Mon 20th Jan 2020 - 4 consecutive weeks 9am-11am at Cardinal Newman School, Hersham

If you would like to book onto a course please contact Michelle Talboys - Home School Link Worker on 07703 322066 or email at hslw@thames-ditton-infant.surrey.sch.uk



JOIN US FOR A FABULOUS EVENING...
FRIDAY 24TH JANUARY 2020
That Cabaret
THIS FABULOUS WEST END SHOW IS
COMING TO WOW US IN LONG DITTON
TICKETS £12 in advance / £15 on the door
AT Long Ditton Infant School
HOSTED BY Stewart Briggs
7:30 PM FOR 8 PM START
FOR TICKETS CONTACT:
desireeharris@sky.com
07932542380
ALL PROCEEDS FROM THIS EVENT
GO TO LONG DITTON INFANT
AND NURSERY SCHOOL
FOOD FROM HALLOUMI BITE
FROM 8.45PM
PREORDERS AVAILABLE