



# LONG DITTON

## INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL

THE HEART OF LONG DITTON SINCE 1911

## NEWSLETTER

### 22nd May 2020

## LATEST NEWS

### **Dear Parents and Carers**

I have to start this week by saying thank you to the all the staff. At the start of the week I felt sick at the thought of how much there was to do to enable us to be able to open the school on June 1<sup>st</sup>. On Monday morning it quickly became clear that every single member of staff came to work with a determination that was inspirational. They have worked together to think about the safety, care, and education of all the children while all the time following the stringent guidelines and directions of the government. They have been side stepping, laminating, shifting, moving, making, designing and socially distancing. It has been incredible. I must make a special mention and thank you to Mrs Nolan who has helped us navigate our way through so many risk assessments, policies and procedures – pages and pages and pages of guidance that have to be implemented – all with a smile on her face. Everything is in place and we are ready to do our best!

### **Thank a Teacher Day**

We have loved all the messages, pictures and videos. Thank you all very much indeed ☺

### **Home Learning from June 1<sup>st</sup>**

All the teachers and teaching assistants will be teaching the children from June 1<sup>st</sup>. This will impact the home learning offer we can manage for those children working hard at home. Nursery, Reception and Year 1 will be able to access the teachers plans for the week on the website. It will be up to parents and carers to use these plans if they so wish. Year 2 children will be provided with a little more detailed planning, again from the website. While we don't want the home learners to be

forgotten, it is not going to be possible to maintain the structured and comprehensive planning we have offered so far. The Oaks Academy is the Government suggestion for you to use for ideas of what to do while at home. This is the website to explore: <http://www.theoaksacademy.co.uk/> Alternatively, now you are such excellent teachers, you could go to the National Curriculum website and look for the Programmes of Study for each subject. Using the aims contained here you could develop your own ideas! The link to the website is: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum#programmes-of-study-by-subject>

I will do my best to keep sending out Golden Certificates to those children who are completing the weekly learning challenge at home – it might take a little longer though! Keep sending in pictures of your home learning achievements to be included in the newsletter and celebrated!

### **Behaviour Policy Covid Update 2020**

In line with the government guidelines we have updated our Behaviour Policy by including an appendix specifically for the change in policy and procedures during lock down. This amendment is specifically for those families whose children are coming back to school. It will be important for all parents and carers to have this to help prepare for the return to school. One thing that keeps coming up is how, because of social distancing, we may not be our usual 'warm and friendly' selves for a while. It also important to note that with the best intentions in the world we can plan and plan what we expect the children to be able to do but in reality we have to recognise that they are children. And that children will be children! You can access the

update on our website here:  
<http://longditton.surrey.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Covid-Behaviour-Updates-May-2020.pdf>

### Strict Procedures from June 1<sup>st</sup>

From June 1<sup>st</sup> there will be stricter guidelines for everyone to follow. Although the school will be open for children, we will not be readily open for parents and carers to come into school. Late arrivals and collections, forgotten water bottles and fruit, dropping off messages to the office – anything that we usually would be able to help with – we won't be able to. Don't be offended if we refuse entry or say that we can't help. Contact should be by emailing or calling the school office only. I'm sure over time we will all adjust, it may just seem harsh to begin with.

### Updated Policy Addendums

Please see the links below for updated Covid19 specific policy addendums. They can also be found on the website on the Policy Page.

#### Medical Policy addendum

<http://longditton.surrey.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Addendum-to-Medical-Policy.pdf>

#### Infection Control Guidance

<http://longditton.surrey.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Infection-Control-Guidance.pdf>



### Super Hero Competition

Thank you for your wonderful and extremely artistic super hero posters that will go to Kingston NHS staff. The winners, decided by the Key worker children in Celebration Assembly are... Amaan, Tuuli, Nancy, Sylvie, Theo and Evelyn. They will be receiving their winning stickers and colouring book in the post. Every person who entered will receive a 'Super Hero' sticker to be proud of 😊

### Staying in Touch

From the 1<sup>st</sup> June there will be a change in how we are able to keep in touch with parents and carers at home. This is due to the fact that all the teachers will be teaching. We do still want to be able to offer

advice, help, support and praise for all of those working hard at home.

From the 1<sup>st</sup> June Mrs Adams will be responding to Nursery emails, Mrs Bailey will be responding to Corgi and Beagle emails, Mrs Healy and Mrs Thorncroft will respond to Year 1 emails and Mrs Clark and Mrs Siebert will respond to Year 2 emails. They will also have other responsibilities in school so please be patient if you don't get an immediate response – they will be busy 😊

**Nursery Class:** [sheltie@longditton.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:sheltie@longditton.surrey.sch.uk)

**Corgi Class:** [corgi@longditton.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:corgi@longditton.surrey.sch.uk)

**Beagle Class:** [beagle@longditton.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:beagle@longditton.surrey.sch.uk)

**Dalmatian Class:**

[dalmatian@longditton.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:dalmatian@longditton.surrey.sch.uk)

**Husky Class:** [husky@longditton.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:husky@longditton.surrey.sch.uk)

**Spaniel Class:** [spaniel@longditton.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:spaniel@longditton.surrey.sch.uk)

**Labrador Class:**

[labrador@longditton.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:labrador@longditton.surrey.sch.uk)

### Fun ideas to help children understand

As we begin to adjust to this new normal it is still important to give our children the opportunity to talk about and learn about the situation we are in. Remember they will be listening to the news, hearing you talk about it and just because we think 'oh they don't really understand' it doesn't mean that they don't or that they have stopped thinking about it because now it feels normal. They will be feeling and thinking all the things we are but they might not be able to have the words to express their concerns. Below are some resource ideas that you can use, if you haven't seen them already, to look at and use to open up a conversation.

Socially Distancing Songs

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PYULTeYWWNQ>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3nQgTywKmvQ>



### Dave the Dog Book

An interesting book to help children talk about their worries and concerns.



## Long Ditton Infant School Half-Term Challenge

*Can you re-design our woodland area?*

We are looking at developing our outdoor woodland area to the rear of the playground both to be used for play and learning opportunities.

We would love you to have a go at designing your ideal outdoor learning area. Follow this link (to be forwarded asap) for the template, ideas and more information. We really need your help.

## Plans for the Future

The DfE and the Government haven't given us any indication of what the plans are for admittance of Year 2 children. Currently, like all schools, because the classes have been split into two they are taking up twice as much space and teaching staff. All the classrooms are now being used across the school. While we are really hopeful that we will get to spend some time with the Year 2 children before the summer, if we are instructed to take them back, it might mean another lot of change for the whole school. I will keep you informed and as up to date as I can and I hope that we do get to see Year 2 when it is safe to do so!

## Top Teaching Tip Week 7: Resting is Important

I should imagine that this week most of you have had to 'be a little more relaxed' about home learning. You've let things go, not faced that battle and spent more time doing more enjoyable, less academic things. If the children had been in school, it would have been exactly the same. The last week of term, no matter what anyone says, is always hard work. That's why we try to put in a special week or special learning ideas to help keep them motivated. They are tired. You (the teachers) are tired. You know that a break is coming. Well research suggests that resting is just as important as working hard – especially for good health. "Ensuring that teachers have regular

opportunities to recover from the considerable demands of the job will help prevent burn out."

It's half term. The only homework will be to relax, get out and about, play games and have fun. You have done the impossible and achieved much more than you will ever know.

Turn off the emails, switch your phone on silent (off would be better), find a space where you can be alone (even if it is the bathroom) and breathe. You are amazing – Mrs Paines said so.

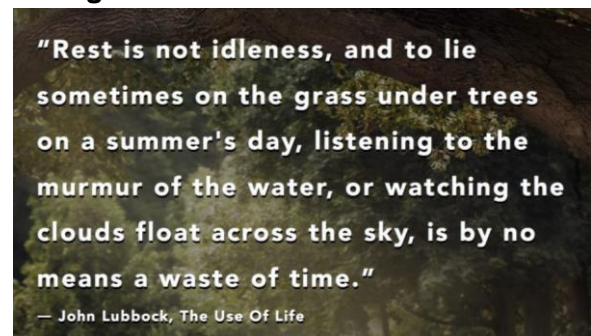
## Learning from Home Gallery

Remember to keep your Golden Certificates completed for the Weekly Learning Challenge. When you have 4 Golden Certificates you can send them in for a Credit Card 😊

## Skipping Challenge

1. Mrs Paines 160
2. Sophie 123
3. Georgina 100
4. Mrs Emmett 86 (Go Mrs Emmett!)

## Thought for the week:



Enjoy your bank holiday, please stay safe. Rest over half term and we will see some of you on the 1<sup>st</sup>! (As I write this I am so excited to see the children all on the 1<sup>st</sup> whatever it may bring!!!)

## Mrs Paines

---

## Nursery

---

Dear Nursery Class

Thank you again for all your lovely work and photos. Keeping in touch in this way has made a great difference to the nursery team. We hope you enjoyed this week and had some lovely fun in the sunshine. Over half term we will be getting ready to welcome back some children on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June and we are always hopeful that we will be able to see even more of you soon. Keep sharing stories, counting, singing and drawing over half term. Have a lovely rest!

Stay Safe  
The Nursery Team

---

## Reception

---

Dear Beagle and Corgi classes

We are coming to the end of another half term and what a strange one this has been! We have been so impressed with all the learning you have been doing from home and have loved being able to share in this with you via email and Tapestry. It has been wonderful to see you all making progress and as we move into a new half term we think you should all be very proud of yourselves for all your hard work. As next week is half term we will not be sending home the usual weekly home learning pack but rather some ideas for activities you could complete at home, detailed below. We do however, think it is important that you make sure you have some fun and enjoy the break.

### Home Learning Ideas:

- Can you plant a seed and observe how it grows? How long does it take to sprout? Can you measure it and see how much it grows over the week? See Mrs McQuillan's video on planting a seed on Tapestry.
- Using the story book cover recreations made by the teachers, can you make one of your own to share with us? Remember you can only use things you find around your homes, no premade costumes!

- See Mrs Paines' section of the newsletter for the whole school project to redesign the wooded area behind Reception. We can't wait to see all your ideas.
- Please do continue with short bursts of reading and phonics practice daily to ensure your child is practising their skills in this area.

Following half term, your children as well as yourselves will be experiencing yet more change. As a result, we thought that over half term it might be nice to look back on the excellent learning you have completed this half term. We would like you to take or choose two pictures of your learning or something you have achieved since the school's closed. We would then like you to share this via Tapestry so that we can celebrate your achievements together when we are back at school. If your child is not returning to school but you would still like to take part, we would love to see your achievements on Tapestry too.

We hope that you have a wonderful half term,  
The Reception Team.

---

## Year 1

---

What a beautiful sunny week! We hope that you have enjoyed the sunshine as well as the home learning. Thank you for continuing to update us regarding the progress of your children at home. It has been lovely to receive the photos of the children hard at work and to be able to see what the children have been accomplishing at home. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Staff have been busy preparing for a return on 1<sup>st</sup> June, should the school reopen at this time. Mrs Paines will be providing the details regarding the reopening of the school. If your child is returning to school at this time, they will receive a 'Welcome' pack outlining important information for their return to school. Please read this information over with your child before his/her return to school. This will help prepare them for some of the necessary changes that have taken place in school both in terms of the structure of their classroom and their learning day.

After half term, we will be looking at using question marks in our writing and learning to write a formal letter. In maths, we will recap 2D and 3D shape and start some work on place value. We will also be starting our new topic of 'The Enchanted Woodland' and drawing some plants and flowers in the woodland area of the school. For the children who will continue learning at home, an overview of the planning will be sent out to you, however, this will not contain the detail of our previous home learning packs. For further explanation regarding the changes to the home learning, please see Mrs Paines' section of this newsletter.

We look forward to welcoming the children back at school and supporting them in the best way that we can.

The Year 1 Team

---

## Year 2

---

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a gloriously sunny week we have had! Thank you for all of your emails and photos of home learning. It has been lovely to chat to more of you and your children this week.

In Maths this week the children have been solving division problems using the plate method and an empty number line. We have seen lots of photos of your hard work and resilience solving these tricky problems. Our focus in Literacy this week has been on diary writing. We have written our own diary entry in the character of the Big Bad Wolf.

Our exciting Topic learning has included using a rocket launcher to propel a mouse into the air and creating a fact file about an animal and its habitat using our own research. If possible, you will need some broad beans seeds for our future science learning.

Next week is Half Term and we hope you are able to have a relaxing time in the sunshine. After Half

Term we are going to ask the children to reflect upon their time at Long Ditton Infants so far and to write down their memories. Our aim is to ask the children to video themselves talking about their memories and send them in to us via email. We would then like to put these videos onto a dvd to share as a celebration of Year 2 and their life at Long Ditton Infants. We have other ideas for our Year 2 Celebration that is in the planning stage at the moment.

Have a great Half Term!

Best wishes  
The Year 2 Team.

---

## School Office

---

We hope you can all have a restful week next week and are able to get out and enjoy the sunshine.

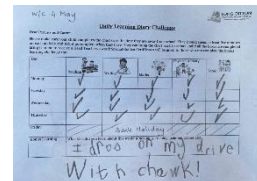
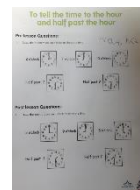
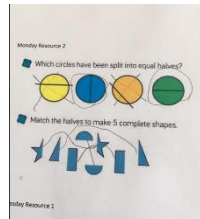
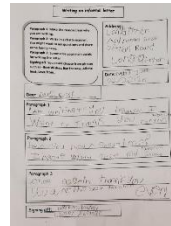
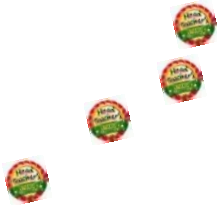
We are looking forward to seeing the children again who are returning on 1<sup>st</sup> June. You should all have received your Welcome Bubble information by ParentMail. If you didn't and have already informed the school office that your child will be returning on 1<sup>st</sup> June or 3<sup>rd</sup> June for Nursery, please email the school office so that we can ensure this is sent out to you as soon as possible.

Take care and stay safe.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

Have a look at the wonderful learning from home gallery!

Well done everyone 😊



### Other Achievements

Teddy has earned a Credit Card for 4 Golden Certificates!



Ava G – 6  
Charlie H – 7  
Esmee – 5  
Amelie - 6

**DIARY DATES****May 2020**

Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Eid al-Fitr (Festival of Breaking the Fast)
25 <sup>th</sup> to 29 <sup>th</sup>	Half term break
28 <sup>th</sup> -30 <sup>th</sup> May	Shavuot (Jewish festival)

**June 2020**

Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>	International Children's Day
Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Summer Solstice
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Father's Day

## EVENTS / ACTIVITIES (outside of school) / School Adverts

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