



NEWSLETTER

10th September 2021

LATEST NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to all the new Nursery and Reception parents and carers! We hope this week has been positive and that your children have enjoyed the start to school. The feedback I have received from the teachers is that they have been a pleasure to meet and work with.

The Weekly Newsletter

This is our weekly newsletter which we produce once a week for all parents and carers. This newsletter is a way for us to communicate important information to you about school life. There is always a section from me, Mrs Paines, in which I include information that is more general concerning parents and carers, INSET days, special events and usually some reminders about following the rules of the school. I always include the Celebrations – these could be Golden Certificates, achievements that you have shared from home, Birthdays and any other well done's we need to be proud of.

There are also sections from each year group. These are written by the teachers and contain homework ideas, important vocabulary to be working on, what the children have learned that week and information about dress down days, PE days and anything else to do with teaching and learning.

Following that there will be messages from the Office and the Friends and right at the back there might be a few adverts.

All in all, it is a very useful read for the whole school. My suggestion is that a few minutes is taken each week to read the newsletter so that

you are up to date with what is happening in school 😊

Summer Fair on Saturday 18th September

We are all very much looking forward to the Summer Fair on 18th September. This has been postponed from the summer term but we are still hopeful it will be a great success. There will be lots of stalls to see, things to do and games to play. This year the Friends are trialling a new 'pay once' system on the gate. This will mean that for £5 you can experience lots of activities at the fair as much and as often as you like. More information is shown in the posters and in the the Friends section of this newsletter.

Specials Days to help the Fair

- **Wednesday 15th September** will be a 'bring in chocolate' day for the fair.
- **Friday 17th September** will be a 'wear your own clothes in return for bringing in a bottle' of something lovely!
- **Friday 17th September** will also be the day to bring in any cakes and goodies to sell at the teachers' café at the fair.

Reception saying goodbye from the main gate

From Tuesday 14th September we are asking all Reception parents and carers to say goodbye to their children from the main gate. The Reception staff will be on hand to help if there are any who may find this a little challenging at first. Remember saying goodbye here should be similar to saying

goodbye to go and do a normal activity – one kiss, one hug, one I love you and ‘I will look forward to seeing you later and finding out all you have done today’ and then leave. If you are confident, your children will be! (And we will be there to help)

Car Park is Restricted

Please know that the car park is now in use at all times of the day and is therefore a very dangerous place to be. No parents and carers should use the car park at all – for parking or for ‘sneaking a peak’ at their children. Even after school the car park is for staff only and shouldn’t be used by parents while they are picking up their children after school. The car park is solely for the use of staff who are working at the school; please make sure you are demonstrating to your children how well you can follow this safety rule.

New Web Pages for Parents and Carers from Healthy Surrey

Please see below for the links from Surrey to help parents and carers be the best they can be. There are loads of useful ideas, suggestions and links for places to go if you need help and advice! <https://www.healthysurrey.org.uk/children-and-families> is the link to keep safe and use when you might need to.

Pre-School Immunisation Booster

Please use this link <https://www.nhs.uk/start4life/toddler/vaccinations-and-immunisations-toddler/> to access information on how to ensure your child is up to date with their immunisations.

Protecting children against flu – resources for parents and carers

Flu can be a very unpleasant illness in children causing fever, stuffy nose, dry cough, sore throat, aching muscles and joints, and extreme tiredness. The good news is that there are ways we can minimise the impact of flu this winter, such as having the flu vaccine which will help protect a child from suffering with this nasty illness.

This year, helping to protect children from flu is particularly important if COVID-19 is still circulating because people at risk from flu are also vulnerable to the complications of COVID-19. So let’s give parents

and carers all the information they need to make an informed decision about their child’s health.

More information can be found by visiting [flu vaccination for children: leaflets and posters](#) for parents and carers of preschool and primary school-aged children and young people in years 7 to 11. Leaflets, information and promotional resources to support the 2021 to 2022 annual flu vaccination programme are available in English, English large print, Braille and British Sign Language video.

Children in Reception, Years 1 and 2 will be able to have their nasal flu immunisation in school by the CFHS immunisation team in November. Information on how to give your e-consent for your child will be sent out over the next few weeks.

Golden Certificates and Celebrations

As I mentioned earlier, we love to celebrate in our newsletter. In school we present children with Golden Certificates if they have achieved something exceptional, and a Value Star for one person in each class who demonstrates the Value of the month. When your child receives a Golden Certificate hold on to it because 4 Golden certificates can be exchanged for a special ‘Credit Card’, and this year 2 Credit Cards can be exchanged for a special Golden Badge.

If your child is proud of something they have achieved out of school then we like to celebrate these achievements too. It might be that they have learnt to ride their bike or how to tie their shoe laces, or how to do a somersault on the trampoline or completed a park run, please email the school office to tell us. Certificates, medals, and trophies can also be brought in and these will all be celebrated in our Celebration Assembly which we hold each Friday. Their achievements will all be added to the newsletter too 😊

Parent Governor Vacancy

Please see below for information on becoming a Parent Governor of our school.

Over the next couple of weeks a letter will be sent out on ParentMail inviting parents & carers in the main school (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) to stand for election as a parent governor.

No special qualifications are needed, and the most important thing is to have a keen interest in the school and to be prepared to play an active part in the governing body's work. However, we would particularly welcome nominations from parents with the following skills: Premises or Finance.

If you have any questions about this role and would like to discuss it in more detail with the Chair of Governors, please email the Clerk to the Governors, Vicky Morgan, at clerktogovs@longditton.surrey.sch.uk

Rocksteady Rock & Pop Band Lessons

On Thursday afternoons during school time, Rocksteady come in to provide rock and pop band lessons to children in Years R (Reception), 1 and 2. Children can choose from electric guitar, keyboard, drums or vocals. This is a paid activity and lessons should be booked online at <https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/>

For more information about Rocksteady and what they offer, please see their flyer attached.

Twelve 15 Catering Job Vacancies

Surrey's school catering service has a number of job vacancies available in schools across Surrey. Please visit their website for more information <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/jobs/search?keywords=twelve15>



Birthday Books

Thank you to Sophie W, Teddy, Sophia J and Luke for each choosing a

birthday book to give to their class.

Volunteering to help in School

Following the success of the excellent volunteers from last term we would like to ask for more volunteers to help this year. There will be some provisos though that are important to know. Please see below:

1. If you would like to volunteer, you must be able to volunteer in school at least once a fortnight. This is to ensure we make the sessions with volunteers purposeful and is in line with our safeguarding policy.
2. All volunteers need to be DBS checked and will need to undertake our school Safeguarding training.
3. Except for Nursery, the volunteers will be working with children across the school, not with their own children/classes. This is to enable us to identify need and provision successfully. The only exception will be for school trips (which we will hopefully be able to run this year) and then volunteers can accompany their child's class, but may well be needed for another class too.

We would love volunteers to help with reading, writing, maths, social skills, library and trips. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please let either me or the school office know so that we can begin the DBS checks. We are very hopeful that the volunteers can begin after half term and we will really appreciate the offers of help!

Thought for the week:

Our first Value of the month is Respect. The children will be learning about what respect is and what it means and more importantly how we show and demonstrate respect every day. For this week's thought of the week 'Respect is for those who deserve it, not for those who demand it.'

Have a brilliant weekend – my 10 days quarantine are finally ending and I am really looking forward to going for a walk outside in the real world!

Mrs Paines

Nursery

Welcome to Sheltie Nursery!

It has been so lovely to speak to new Nursery parents and meet you all at the stay and play sessions. We have been very impressed with how well the children have come in to Nursery and we are really looking forward to working with them this year. We have also enjoyed welcoming back our returning children, finding out what they have been up to over the summer.

This week the children have spent time exploring the Nursery environment and getting to know the staff and each other. We have read some favourite stories and we have been singing favourite nursery rhymes. We also went on a tour of the school exploring the main hall and the big playground, it has all been very exciting!

The lunch club children have impressed us, eating their lunch in the hall.

Reminders

Please remember that your child needs to bring a named water bottle, only water please, to Nursery every day. If your child has a pack lunch please also make sure that it is clearly labelled with your child's name, so that we can ensure they get the correct lunch. It is also important for your child to bring a hat for those sunny days!

Please could you email to the school office a photo of the adults who will be picking up your child, if you haven't done so already. It is really important we have a record of who is collecting your child. If it is helpful, we can take a photo of you at the Nursery door.

Thank you for all your support with the gradual introductions to Nursery life.

Have a lovely weekend!
The Nursery Team

Reception (Year R)

It has been so lovely to meet you and your children over the past week and we have been so impressed at how well the children have settled into school on their first full days. We are looking forward to having the children in school for their first full week from Monday. At the moment we are focusing solely on learning the rules and routines of school, settling in and starting to make some new friends. We have spent a lot of time this week in 'independent learning time' where the children get to choose which activities they take part in. This has allowed the staff lots of time one to one and in small groups with your children so that we can get to know them and their interests. We look forward to continuing to learn more about them all next week.

Please remember to bring in a photo of your child with their family next week, if you have not done so already. We will be using these as part of our getting to know each other activities.

Have a lovely weekend,

The Reception Team

Reminders

- Please remember to send your child's PE kit into school with them so that we can keep it on their peg.
- Please send your child in to school each day with a labelled piece of fruit and a water bottle. The fruit is stored in a box until snack time and it is much easier for us if each snack is labelled so that we can avoid tears at snack time!

Year 1

We have had a super week in Year 1 and have been very proud of how quickly the children have remembered the new routines. We are enjoying exploring Rainbow Classroom and the outside area. In the classroom the children have spent

time working in focussed small groups and completing independent learning tasks.

Our topic for this half-term is 'Once Upon a Long Ditton'. In literacy next week, we will be looking at how stories are structured, identify the characters and settings of familiar stories and learn to write descriptive phrases using adjectives. In maths we will practising our sorting skills, represent numbers in different ways and practise counting on and back from a given number,

In Geography, we have been exploring our place in the world and started with identifying what type of home we live in and who is in our family. Next week we will be thinking about what a village is. In science we are learning about different materials and will be sorting items by materials and their properties in the coming weeks.

The children have all been given an animal group in class. 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 inside cover of your child's reading record. Show and Tell will start on 25th September.

The children will be bringing home reading books and records this week and library books next week.

Home Learning

Maths – Choose a number between 1-20 and count on 20 and back to 0 from that number. Can you practise writing your 3, 7 and 9, making sure they are the right way round?

Literacy – Can you write a sentence about your home and family? Remember a capital letter at the start and full stop at the end

Topic – Can you go on a material hunt around your house and find an object made from: wood, metal, plastic, glass, paper and 1 item made from a combination of these materials

Key Vocab

Maths: number names to thirty, forwards, backwards, add and subtract

Literacy: tricky words: come, here, was, the, of, you, are

Topic: house, flat, bungalow, material, metal, wood, plastic, fabric

Reminders

- PE is on a Monday and Thursday, please ensure PE kits are in school
- If you have any junk modelling at home, please send it into school to be used for during independent learning time.
- Reading books are changed on Thursday for Husky and Friday for Dalmatian

Have a super weekend

The Year 1 Team

Year 2

We have had a fantastic first full week back at school. We have been really proud of the children and what super role models they are for all the other year groups.

At the start of the week, a strange creature visited our woodland area. Luckily, Mrs Bradley and Miss Moore saw it before it vanished. We went out to explore the area for clues and found a message from the creature. We wondered what type of animal it could be so we decided to write a letter to the creature to find out more about it. 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 it will write back to us.

This week we have begun our new 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. 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.

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. We will also start a new science topic on different materials.

Homework

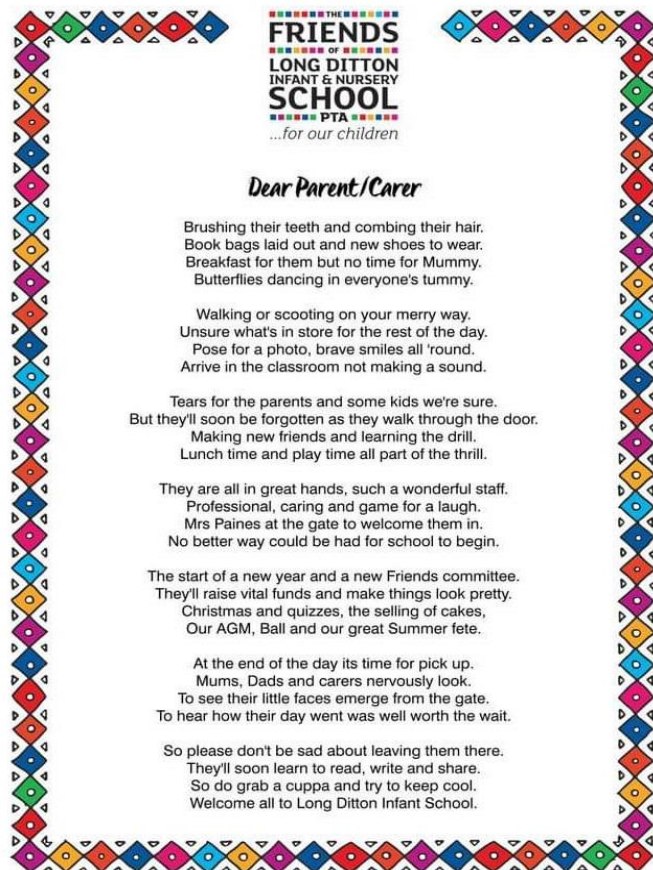
We will be sending out a worksheet for homework this week. Please research facts about our current royal family. Record your findings including pictures on the worksheet, ready to be displayed on our Regal Royals Fact Wall.

Please return homework by Wednesday.

The Friends

Welcome!

A huge welcome to all our new Reception and Nursery children and their families who have begun their Long Ditton Infants journey this week. It has been amazing to see all the happy, excited faces as the children come out of school after their first few sessions – there has been a real buzz in the air!



Dear Parent/Carer

Brushing their teeth and combing their hair.
Book bags laid out and new shoes to wear.
Breakfast for them but no time for Mummy.
Butterflies dancing in everyone's tummy.

Walking or scooting on your merry way.
Unsure what's in store for the rest of the day.
Pose for a photo, brave smiles all 'round.
Arrive in the classroom not making a sound.

Tears for the parents and some kids we're sure.
But they'll soon be forgotten as they walk through the door.
Making new friends and learning the drill.
Lunch time and play time all part of the thrill.

They are all in great hands, such a wonderful staff.
Professional, caring and game for a laugh.
Mrs Paines at the gate to welcome them in.
No better way could be had for school to begin.

The start of a new year and a new Friends committee.
They'll raise vital funds and make things look pretty.
Christmas and quizzes, the selling of cakes,
Our AGM, Ball and our great Summer fete.

At the end of the day its time for pick up.
Mums, Dads and carers nervously look.
To see their little faces emerge from the gate.
To hear how their day went was well worth the wait.

So please don't be sad about leaving them there.
They'll soon learn to read, write and share.
So do grab a cuppa and try to keep cool.
Welcome all to Long Ditton Infant School.

Pre-loved Uniform Shop

There is a whole host of good quality uniform at our Uniform Shop. Good for the planet as well as the purse, our pre-loved uniform comes as either single items or ready-made bundles (PE kit boy aged 5-6 etc). Just send an email to ldiuniforms@outlook.com to contact the organisers. On that note, we are keen to find a new preloved uniform co-ordinator, no history in fashion necessary ;-). If you're interested in getting involved, please email the address above. There will also be a uniform stall at the Tropical Beach Party on the 18th September (see below for more details on this event).

GDPR Data

Slightly more exciting than the title suggests! Please follow the link below to give permission for the Friends of Long Ditton Infants to add you to class whatsapps and other useful things. You may already be in a class / year whatsapp but we need your official permission to keep your details every year so even if you're already added, please use the link to sign up. There's no need to download the dropbox app, just use the web version if you'd prefer and we promise it takes less than 5 minutes.

<https://forms.gle/KWPWQFfe7ygoUvue9>

Dates for the Diary

Pens / thumbs at the ready? Here are the important dates to make sure you've got noted down...

18th September - Long Ditton Infant School.

Dust off those Hawaiian shorts and cross your fingers for sunshine because, on Saturday 18th September, Long Ditton Infant school is holding our very own Tropical Beach Party (late) Summer fair and it's going to be amazing! We've got our very own waltzer cars, a bouncy slide, Boh and Bees on ice cream duty plus the usual bar and BBQ delights. They'll be a wealth of themed crafts to occupy those creative fingers, face painting, a puppet-show and all manner of games. We've even got a visit from Monkey Music lined up to entertain those little monkeys of ours, as well as a whole host of other musical talent on the stage.

To make this all happen, we need your help! Please sign up using the link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F48A8AC2CA1FE3-long1>

Each slot is half an hour and you can mix and match. You may have your child help you provided it's not on the Bar or BBQ for Health and Safety reasons. You can sign up grandparents too. For set up you may bring your child provided they are able to play safely.



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23rd September – 7:30pm Long Ditton Infant School
It's the big one folks – the Friends of Long Ditton infant School AGM. Come along to find out about everything we've been up to over the last year and our plans for the future.

Elmbridge Lottery

You've got to be in it to win it! Follow the link below to buy your tickets and to support your school.

<https://www.elmbridgelottery.co.uk/support/friends-of-long-ditton-infant-and-nursery-school>

ACHIEVEMENTS



Golden Certificates



Credit Cards (4x Golden Certificates)



Outside Achievements

Daniel B for showing courage and have a go at everything!
Mosi for always showing respect to everyone in Spaniel class
Callum for his readiness to learn.
Milo for having a can-do attitude towards learning. You have a go at everything.

Sidra for settling in well at Long Ditton Infants.
James C a great first week at Long Ditton Infants.
Luca for always remembering to use his manners.
Jemima for an excellent start to Year 1. You listen carefully, share, help others and have a positive attitude.
Henry for contributing thoughtful comments in science and ICT.
Theo S for having a great attitude to learning.
Ruby for your beautiful dancing and great focus during the ballet workshop.
Calla for a fantastic start to Year 2 and for being a fantastic role model.
Freddie T for sharing fantastic ideas in topic this week.
Zayd for a fantastic start to Year 2.

Teddy – 7
Sophie W – 6
Sophia J - 6

James C has moved to stage 3 in swimming.
Clara has learned to ride her bike.
Theo M is very proud to finish the Surrey Libraries' summer reading challenge during the summer holidays – he read 15 books to receive a certificate and medal.
Sophie D read every day during the summer holidays – she is very proud of her achievement.

DIARY DATES / EVENTS

September 2021

Wednesday 15 th	Bring a chocolate day for Summer Fair
Friday 17 th	Mufti day (wear own clothes to school) in return for a bottle donation for summer fair
Saturday 18 th	Friends' Summer Fair
Thursday 23 rd	Friends' AGM

October 2021

Tuesday 5 th	Individual Student photos by Imago
Thursday 21 st	INSET Day - School and Nursery Closed
Friday 22 nd	School and Nursery Closed in lieu of additional Bank Holiday in June
25 th -29 th	School and Nursery Closed for half term break

EVENTS / ACTIVITES (outside of school) / School Adverts

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

Is your child starting school in September 2022?

If your child was born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018 you will need to apply for a school place. You can apply between **01 November 2021 and 15 January 2022**.

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
01 November 2021
and 15 January 2022

