



NEWSLETTER

17th September 2021

LATEST NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers

Wow everyone! On my return to school on Monday (which I was really looking forward to) I was completely in awe of how well settled all the children are. After the gate, I walked around the school and across the whole school every single child I saw was engaged, taking part, behaving superbly, polite, respectful and very happy. You should all be extremely proud of your children – they have been superb.



Home School Link Worker

Michelle Talboys is our Home School Link Worker. Her role is to help parents and carers 'be the best that they can be' and she offers a number of services to help parents navigate the wonderful job of being a parent. Bed wetting, tantrums, eating, sleeping, behaviour – are all just a few of the areas Michelle can help parents with. This year Michelle is offering again the parent 1, 2, 3 Magic 4 week course in person at Long Ditton St Mary's Juniors. This course is incredibly useful to help children with their behaviour – not only now when they are young but also as they become older. We use 1, 2, 3 Magic in school to help children understand their behaviour and how to follow the behaviour rules. I cannot recommend this course highly enough. Attached to the end of the newsletter is the flyer advertising the course but you can also use Michelle's contact details to contact her about any concerns or help you might need.

Volunteers for the new Website

We are currently developing our website and would like some children to be included in pictures and videos to be added to our new site. If you would like your child to be included, please let me know by Friday 24th September so that we can arrange all the appropriate paperwork.

Parents Information Briefings

As part of our commitment to try to 'return to normal' we will be holding year group information briefings during the week beginning 27th September. These briefings will be for half an hour after drop off and will take place in the school hall. During this time the class teachers will explain about the coming year and share important information with you. Please do not worry if you cannot attend the briefings, the information will also be shared electronically with all parents and carers.

- **Year 1:** 9.05-9.30 Monday 27th September
- **Reception:** 9.05-9.30 Tuesday 28th September
- **Year 2:** 9.05-9.30 Wednesday 29th September
- **Nursery:** 9.05-9.30 Thursday 30th September

Parents' Evenings

These will be held on October 13th and 14th, will be face to face in school and will be an opportunity to talk about how your child has settled and to give targets to work on. Each parent / teacher meeting will be for 10 minutes and this year we will use the hall for all meetings to enable us to ensure time keeping is effective. More information about how to sign up will follow soon!

Open Mornings

After half term we are planning to hold open mornings for parents to give you an opportunity to come into school and see some of what your child experiences every day. We are still working on the exact structure and timings and we are hopeful that we will be able to invite you in to school again very soon indeed!

Car Park is Out of Bounds

Despite my note in the newsletter last week, a small number of parents and carers have continued to park or 'sneak a peek' in the school car park. **The car park is for staff use only** – parents and carers should never use the car park to drop off or pick up their children at any time. The worst words are 'I just...' with an excuse why this rule is being broken. Please set the example you want your children to follow. If you are breaking the rules, you are sending the message to your children that it's ok for your children to break rules.

If you are using the car park to look at your child, please consider the message this is sending to them as they walk across the playground: 'Why are my parents looking at me? They must be worried! What are they worried about? Should I be worried? I am worried now because they are worried!' If there is a problem, we will contact you to let you know.

Safety Week - 27th September

Each year we dedicate one week at the start of the new school year to talk about Safety. During this week the children will spend time learning about Road Safety, E-Safety, Personal Safety (including the NSPCC PANTS lesson), Stranger Awareness and Fire Safety. (We have already completed the first Fire Drill – the children were fabulous and we evacuated the school in less than 2minutes!) The week is very important for us and forms part of our PSHE curriculum and health and wellbeing education. During the week, please take time to discuss the aspect of safety each day the children have been learning about. It is really useful to talk about how they keep themselves safe at home as well as at school.

Saying Goodbye at the Gate

Congratulations to everyone for being so super smart and polite while independently walking through the gate in the mornings. Watching how grown up they are being is brilliant. We know that there are a very few who are finding this a little tricky. If your child is finding the separation hard in the mornings, please message your class teacher to help think about ideas to help them through this. Sticker charts, weekly rewards and slightly different drop off arrangements or times can all be used to help them develop their independence and confidence.

Year 2 Joint Harvest Festival with Long Ditton St Mary's Juniors 4th October

On Monday 4th October Year 2 will be celebrating Harvest Time jointly with Long Ditton St Mary's Juniors at St Mary's Church. We are really looking forward to

this – to again be able to celebrate together! Year 1, Reception and Nursery will also be celebrating Harvest Time in a special assembly in school. More details will follow closer to the time 😊

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 would like to volunteer, please let me or the office know by WEDNESDAY 22nd September.

Year 1 and Year 2 FRED/Phonics

Next week Year 1 and Year 2 will take part again in 'FRED' our phonics program. For all of these children it will be the first time in school that they will have experienced this. The children are split across the key stage into groups and are taught in these groups by teachers and teaching assistants. FRED lasts for 30minutes and it will take place 3 times a week.

The groupings are according to phonic knowledge, word knowledge, reading and comprehension. Some children will be working in small groups, some in larger groups, some will be with their teachers or TA they know, others will be with different teachers/TA's and some will be in their classrooms, others will be in different rooms. Some groups will be taking home FRED books, some groups will not but will take home spelling/grammar sheets or word/sound sheets.

This structure is very specific to the next steps in progress for each group/child so try not to compare what other children are doing/taking home. Each FRED group will have their own targets/objectives that they are working towards and they will be different to other groups.

As this will be a new experience for all of the children, we are going to be going back to basics for FRED and taking our time over the next few weeks leading up to half term, to ensure they understand the expectations and routines before I assess them all again after half term.

The Summer Tropical Beach Party Fair!

The fair is on Saturday – at last! We are very excited to see you and relieved that this is another ‘normal’ activity for us. Mrs Harris came in to Celebration Assembly today to sing ‘Baby Shark’ with the children to get excited about visiting the fair. I do have one gentle reminder to everyone:

The fair takes place in the school and on the school grounds and it is important to show respect to your school. The equipment in school belongs to everyone and should be treated carefully. Any toys that belong to the school should not be used, taken or played with if they clearly belong to a class, unless they are specifically being used for a game at the fair.

Although the outside of the school will be open, and I know you want to come into school to see, the fair is not an opportunity for parents and carers to ‘wander into the classrooms’ – even if your child is keen to show you. Please keep to the parts of the school that are for the fair only. Thank you ☺

Thought for the week:

‘Respect is a mirror. The more you show it to other people the more they reflect it back.’

Hope to see you at the Fair on Saturday!

Mrs Paines



Birthdays Books

Thank you to Freya C
and Joseph W for each
choosing a birthday

book to give to their class.

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 visit their website.

Nursery

We have had a fabulous week!

The children have settled into routines very well and are continuing to learn the rules and expectations. All of the children have been playing well and sharing well with others.

We have enjoyed singing the Nursery Rhymes, Incy Wincy Spider, Baa Baa Black Sheep and Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star. We have also enjoyed singing the song Five Little Speckled Frogs.

We celebrate birthdays in the Nursery class by singing the Happy Birthday song. If you would like to purchase a special birthday book to donate to the Nursery, please ask the school office. They will put a special birthday certificate in to acknowledge your child’s birthday. This will then be shared in the Nursery class during the year.

As part of our Getting to Know Each Other theme this week we have been talking to the children about Family. It would be really helpful, if you are happy to share a printed photo of your family so that the children can use the photo as a reference point when talking about their own family. We are also discussing Diversity and finding out what countries our families have links to. If you are happy to share a photo of your family links to another country, please send it in. We will put it on display in the school entrance area and in our Nursery to value how different we all are.

At home you could encourage your child to talk about your own family and different relations.

We hope you have a lovely weekend!

Reception (Year R)

What a busy and exciting week we have had in Reception! We have been blown away by how confident and settled the children have been, particularly when leaving their parents at the gate in the morning. The children have had lots of fun settling into their new classes and have done an amazing job learning the new rules and routines of the reception day. They have been busy making new friends and getting to know the staff in the Reception team.

We have also been learning about self-regulation and introduced the 'zones of regulation'. We discussed different emotions and how it is normal to feel different emotions. We learnt that it is really important to understand how we are feeling so that we can help ourselves when we aren't feeling so great. From next week the children will be encouraged to put their picture/name on one of the different colour zones. The children have been really good at remembering what the different zones are, see if they can explain them to you.

Next week we will continue to consolidate the rules and routines and will be thinking about what makes a good learner. We will be using this to make sure that we are being the best learners that we can be. Along with this we will continue to learn about the zones of regulation and how to help ourselves when we aren't feeling so great.

Reminders

- Please make sure that you have name labelled your all child's school uniform and fruit snack, it makes it a lot easier to find misplaced jumpers!
- Please can you send in anything we could use for our junk modelling e.g. small cardboard or plastic boxes, cardboard tubes, plastic boxes. **Please ensure everything is clean and don't send in anything that has contained nuts, seeds, sesame or egg due to allergies. Thank you.**
- Please wait until the teachers dismiss the children before calling them over, it is really important that the teacher has seen the parent before the children leave the line.

Year 1

We are enormously proud of Year 1! Every child continues to show resilience and maturity as they continue to adapt to the changes and expectations of Year 1.

This week in Geography, we sought greater understanding of our place in the world and started off with recognising the difference between a city, a town and a village. We talked about Long Ditton being a village and thought about the types of houses, shops and the number of people there are in the area. Next week we will look at maps and how they are set out. In Science we began to sort objects in accordance with the material they are made from, then we explored the properties of the material and purpose behind the choice of material.

In Maths this week, we explored sorting objects and representing numbers in different ways. Whilst in Literacy we introduced adjectives to describe a character and a setting and began to think about the formation of a sentence. Next week in Maths we will move on to comparing objects using the greater than, less than and equals to symbols ($>$ $<$ $=$) and we will focus on practising our sentence writing in literacy.

The children have been given both a library and reading book to read and share this week. Please, write a comment in their reading records to inform us of how they get on.

Home Learning

Maths: Practise adding one more or one less to a number to 10 with your child using objects around your house for support. For example, I have 5 spoons if I add one more how many spoons will I have. If your child would like a challenge, ask them to add or take away 2 or more numbers. Can you practise writing 2, 5 and 8 forming the numbers the right way round?

Literacy: Can you write some adjectives to describe your bedroom?

Topic: Go on a walk around your area. Do you live in a village, town or city? Think about the different types of shops, houses and the number of people who may live there.

Key Vocab

Maths: one more, one less, adding, taking away, numbers, representations, sorting, two, five and eight

Literacy: Tricky words: come, here, was, the, of, you, are, said

Topic: village, town, city, population, terrace, flats, semi-detached, bungalows, detached

Reminders

- Please bring your child's coat to school every day even on sunny days.
- If you have any junk modelling at home, please send it into school to be used during independent learning time. *Please do not send anything that has contained nuts, seeds, sesame due to allergies. Thank you.*
- Please make sure you are practising the tricky words we have listed above. We check every week to see who knows and recognises the words.

Year 2

We hope you have all had a lovely week. A big thank you for all the fantastic posters you have created which are full of fascinating facts about our royal family. They look super on our Regal Royals display board! On Monday morning, we came into our classroom and found a letter from the creature from the book *Something Else*. The creature told us it had enjoyed reading all our letters and it would visit us again soon. In literacy, we retold the story of Goldilocks and The Three Bears. We made story maps to remember the story and then re-wrote it.

In Maths we have been continuing to learn about place value, deciding how much each ten and unit is worth in a number. We have created 2-digit numbers and ordered them from the smallest to largest number. We have also been learning about Harvest and what happens when there is a bad harvest in the UK. We then compared a good and bad harvest in Africa, we discussed differences and similarities.

Next week, we are making castles as part of our Regal Royals topic. If you have any junk modelling at home, please can you send it into school, thank you!

Next week in Literacy we will be learning about adjectives and writing a character description.

In maths, we will continue the unit on numbers. We will be learning how to subtract/add 10 from a number and comparing numbers.

Homework

Please complete the literacy homework that has been put in your child's homework folder. Please return homework by **Wednesday**.

Reading

Children have been given a reading record and one reading book to take home today. Please read with your child and write a comment on how they are reading at home. Please return the reading book and reading record every Friday to be changed. We are currently assessing the children's reading and your child may move levels in the coming weeks.

Library Books

Every Friday, your child can take home a library book to read at home. Please ensure that the book is returned on Friday ready for them to choose another one.

Vocabulary

Maths – greater than, less than, equal to, partition, addition

Literacy – sentence starter, connective, adjective, noun phrase, exclamation mark

The Friends



Tropical Beach Party

Hooray, at last it's Tropical Beach Party eve! That's right – dig out your sunnies and don your best Hawaiian print because Saturday is the big day and, in the choice words of some floppy haired musicians, 'here comes the sun' (optional do, do, do, do - if you know, you know ;-)). The cocktails are ready to be mixed, the coconuts are waiting to be shied, the face paints are

ready to be applied and you guys? We hope you are ready for some serious FUN! The party kicks off at 12 o'clock and will be rocking until 3. We look forward to seeing you and your little ones (and bigger ones – all welcome) for a brilliant afternoon of games, music, food and general fantasticness). A huge thank you to everyone that has already signed up to help – we cannot make these events happen without you. You are all superstars! And on that note, there are still a few slots on stalls and activities that we need some wonderful volunteers to fill so please sign up below if you can.

<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.

Another massive thank you as well to all those who donated chocolates, bottles and cakes this week. If you didn't get around to donating today, don't panic! You can still drop off to school between 10 and 11am Saturday morning.

Lockable Cash Boxes



The friends of both LDIS and LDSM are looking for lockable cash boxes that can be used at our fundraising events. Do you have one you are no longer using? Maybe up in the loft or gathering dust at the back of a cupboard? If so, please donate it to us, as this will allow us to

upgrade our plastic money tubs and keep any money raised at our events safe. They must be lockable and come with the key/s.

Diary Dates

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>

AmazonSmile

YOU CAN SUPPORT THE FRIENDS OF LONG DITTON INFANT & NURSERY SCHOOL BY SHOPPING ON AMAZON SMILE

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YOU SHOP - AMAZON GIVES!

Amazon Smile is a simple way to shop on Amazon and support The Friends of Long Ditton Infant & Nursery school at no additional cost. Every time you make an eligible purchase through Amazon Smile, Amazon donates 0.5% to us!
Here's how it works:

STEP ONE | Are you an Amazon Smile member? If not, sign up in your web browser. Visit smile.amazon.co.uk and log into your Amazon account

STEP TWO | Under Your Account, select Change Your Charity

STEP THREE | Search for The Friends of Long Ditton Infant & Nursery School, then click Select

STEP FOUR | Turn on Amazon Smile in your Amazon Shopping app (find it under Settings), or visit smile.amazon.co.uk and have fun shopping!

By making eligible purchases through Amazon Smile, a donation will be made to The Friends of Long Ditton Infant & Nursery School helping us to purchase essential equipment!

FRIENDS OF LONG DITTON INFANT & NURSERY SCHOOL
...for our children

ACHIEVEMENTS



Value Stars Respect

Aurora for always being respectful of others. You are kind, polite and caring.
Emily for being a great role model and friend to others in Dalmatian class. You are kind, hard working, a good listener and always ready to learn.
Alex Pr for always showing respect and listening to others.
Alice for always being respectful to adults and her friends.

Golden Certificates



Bruce for a great effort with your maths – counting on and back.
Indie for thoughtful contributions in RE. You made us think about how we represent or think of God.
Finlay for his amazing work in literacy with the description of a setting.
Siya for her super effort in maths this week.
Luca for being an excellent role model to the young children.
Edward O for writing a fantastic story in literacy. Well done!
Joseph H for working really hard in maths and partitioning 2-digit numbers.
Clement for working hard in RE this week.
Olive for a super first week at Long Ditton Infant School.

Credit Cards (4x Golden Certificates)



Jose
Henry W
Milena



Cadel - 4
Blake - 5
Joseph W - 7
Sienna – 4
Freya C - 6

Outside Achievements

Theo M won a competition to create a new naughty vegetable character for Garson's farm. He called his Rudolph Radish!
Erik for completing 11 Junior Park Runs – he received the blue marathon wristband.

DIARY DATES / EVENTS

September 2021

Saturday 18 th	Friends' Summer Fair
Thursday 23 rd	Friends' AGM
Monday 27 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety Week • 9.05am Year 1 Parents Information meeting
Tuesday 28 th	9.05am Reception Parents Information meeting
Wednesday 29 th	9.05am Year 2 Parents Information meeting
Thursday 30 th	9.05am Nursery Parents Information meeting

October 2021

Monday 4 th	Year 2 Harvest Festival with St Mary's Juniors at St Mary's church
Tuesday 5 th	Individual Student photos by Imago
Wednesday 13 th	Parents' Evening appointments (information to follow soon)
Thursday 14 th	Parents' Evening appointment (information to follow soon)
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 / ACTIVITIES (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





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 and build good self esteem.

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, however families needing a refresher following challenges created by the Covid pandemic are also welcome. The next course is being held at St Mary's School, Long Ditton.


Week 1 - Mon 12th November 2021 at 9.15 – 11.15am
Week 2 - Mon 19th November 2021 at 9.15 – 11.15am
Week 3 - Mon 26th November 2021 at 9.15 – 11.15am
Week 4 - Mon 17th December 2021 at 9.15 – 11.15am

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

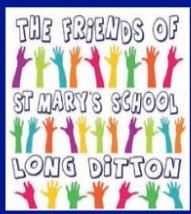
THE FRIENDS OF LONG DITTON INFANT & NURSERY SCHOOL PTA

...for our children

SCHOOL UNIFORM




THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S SCHOOL LONG DITTON



To make a donation to the **Friends of Long Ditton Infant and Nursery**, the bank account details are:
 Friends of Long Ditton County Infant School
Sort Code :40-44-11
Account number : 71122193
 Please use reference: **uniform**

To make a donation to **The Friends of St Mary's School Long Ditton** please do via PTA events on our donations for uniform swapped/donated page.



Alternatively please give a donation via the honest box located at the face painting stall.