



LONG DITTON

INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL

THE HEART OF LONG DITTON SINCE 1911

NEWSLETTER

27th March 2020

LATEST NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers

How are you? How has your week been? We have missed you very much indeed and have been thinking about you all, wondering how you are doing and how the teaching and learning is going! In school it has been eerily quiet. Gradually though, as we adjust to this strange new normal, we are beginning to think of new ways to help and get the jobs done. Hopefully this newsletter will fill you with inspiration and motivation as we share what you are all doing to ensure the children continue on their learning journeys. You are amazing!

Staying in Touch

Remember you can contact the class teachers through the specific email addresses. They are ready, waiting and looking forward to finding out what the children are up to and helping with ideas and suggestions. They will be able to respond between the hours of 8.30 – 3.30 every day.

The class email addresses are:

Nursery Class: sheltie@longditton.surrey.sch.uk

Corgi Class: corgi@longditton.surrey.sch.uk

Beagle Class: beagle@longditton.surrey.sch.uk

Dalmatian Class:

dalmatian@longditton.surrey.sch.uk

Husky Class: husky@longditton.surrey.sch.uk

Spaniel Class: spaniel@longditton.surrey.sch.uk

Labrador Class:

labrador@longditton.surrey.sch.uk

You can of course contact the office in the usual way. Please be patient with our responses though – we will only have a skeleton staff.

Food Bank Donations and Parcels

We will be collecting any spare food items for our vulnerable families on the **8th April** to be distributed ready for the Easter Weekend.

If you can spare any items that are in tins, packages or dried food or the odd Easter Egg the school will be open for you to drop them off on the 8th April in boxes outside the school. You could do this as part of your daily exercise 😊 Mrs Nolan is coordinating this with some helpers from school. If you do have anything to spare it would be gratefully received.

Inspiring Ideas



STEM newspaper towers

Due to the school closures, lots of you didn't get a chance to complete the STEM challenges and some of you who did, wanted to have another go.

Why not try this challenge at home?

What is the tallest tower you can build out of newspaper?

It must be freestanding. You can use masking tape.

Think: What is the shape of the base of your tower? What is the overall shape of your construction?

Measure: Measure the height of your tower and send us the measurements and a picture. Try to think of another way to measure the height of your tower.

E-mail: beagle@longditton.surrey.sch.uk

Outdoors: Make a shaman's stick

Shaman are mystical characters that live in wild places. Create a shaman stick that can allow you to move between different worlds.



Go for a walk and find a suitable stick, about the length of your forearm. Decorate your stick with patterns painted in natural colours, feathers (for the spirit flight) and objects that make a sound (to clear the air).

Tell a story of one of your

imaginary adventures. You can either record it and send it to us, write it down or tell the story as your adult writes it down. We can't wait to hear your stories!

Top Teaching Tips

Even in school this week we have found that having less children to teach is actually harder in some ways. They definitely finish quicker if they are on their own! We have been discussing what might be useful to think about at home each week. This week is top tip number 1 and something that is not only a great teaching tip for all teachers but also something we should try to remember in life.

Top Teaching Tip Week 1:

Never Compare yourself

There have been magnitudes of wonderful learning examples all over the internet. My cousins have posted really wonderful photos of their children demonstrating fabulously ingenious ways of learning. All the 'professionals' are creating virtual lessons with top tips and ideas that you can and should use to help learning at home. But remember – this is week 1 and if we are to sustain children's interest in learning it is the **learning we must promote**. So don't worry if your friends all seem to be doing more exciting things with their children or if you can't get your children to even open a book! This is not a competition. Take it slowly. Keep it simple. Listen to what they like and take pleasure in. Consider this time as precious because you will not get it back. Remember that everyone is different and does things in a different way to suit them. I am not saying don't attempt the more 'wow' ideas or lessons but always, always come back to the learning. What can your child do now (even after a 3 minute counting session) that they couldn't do before?

Behaviour Advice

Mrs Emmett has a dedicated email address especially for you if you would like some advice or support with behaviour at home. Please feel free to contact her using this email address and she will get back to you with ideas and support that might help. You can contact her on:

behavioursupport@longditton.surrey.sch.uk

Skipping Challenge

In school last week I restarted the skipping challenge. This is for how many skips can you do in a minute without stopping. There are some rules that have to be followed. The minute must be timed by an adult, not a child, and the skipping must be continuous. If the rope gets stuck or caught that is the end of the counting for that minute.

Currently the leaders stand like this:

1. Mrs Paines 96 (apologies Nancy I did more this week)
2. Nancy 84
3. Tuuli 58

Who can be first to 100 skips in a minute? Let me know 😊

Learning Updates

The teachers have put more learning lessons and ideas onto the website for you to access. Go to each year group page and look for Home Learning Ideas.

Wake and Shake with Miss Griffiths and Daisy

Miss Griffiths has created a Wake and Shake routine for you to learn at home! She is assisted by the very talented Daisy too! If you would like to learn the routine or just have a go you can find the link on the page for each year group. Thank you Miss Griffiths!

Thought for the week:

'We all have an unexpected reserve of strength inside that emerges when life puts us to the test'
Isobel Allende

Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Paines

Nursery

Hello Everyone,

I hope you are keeping well and busy. I hope you are finding the home learning packs useful and you have managed to get into a flexible routine working from home.

Remember to take regular breaks from learning activities and keep the learning as fun as possible!

Well Done to Indie for sharing his home learning via the class email - he has been busy with his water pistol shooting numbers and he has been learning a song about the continents!

Here's the link to home learning for next week for Nursery:

<http://longditton.surrey.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Nursery-Home-Learning-1.pdf>

It would be lovely to hear how you are all getting on, remember to send me a message!

Mrs Lulham

Reception

Hi Beagle and Corgi Class, hope your week has gone well.

Here a few ideas from the Reception Team for additional learning opportunities in the coming week. Looking forward to seeing some of your work.

Here's the link to next week's learning ideas!

<http://longditton.surrey.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Reception-Home-Learningweek1FV-1.pdf>

Mrs Dawes and Miss Howden

Year 1

We have certainly missed teaching the children this week and would like to say a big hello to them all. Please remember that we would like to hear from you and will endeavour to respond to emails as soon as we can.

We hope you have found the home learning packs helpful this week and also had a chance to enjoy the beautiful sunshine where possible and where allowed! It is important to remember that one-to-one teaching does not take as long as classroom teaching and it is important to enjoy different activities over the course of a day. We recognise that this can be challenging for parents/carers so please also do what you can without feeling any undue stress to complete them.

At school, we have been following Joe Wicks and his PE sessions at 9am every day. The sessions last for 30 minutes and are great fun and good exercise for both adults and children. We would highly recommend them. If you fancy other ideas for the 'Morning March', try 'Jump Start Jonny' or 'Just Dance' on YouTube.

For more learning ideas to complete for next week please follow this link to our website page updates!

<http://longditton.surrey.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/HOME-LEARNING-YEAR-1-1.pdf>

Year 2

We hope you have been enjoying your home learning packs, and that you have found them useful. It's important to remember that home learning is a lot quicker than classroom learning as one to one teaching doesn't take as long. If you have a garden, make sure you are getting lots of fresh air. One thing we have been lucky with is the beautiful sunshine this week.

We have been following Joe Wicks PE sessions at 9am every day, Monday to Friday and it's such

good exercise and good fun (for children and adults)!

School seems very quiet without you all here and the teachers are missing you all.

Here's the link to Year 2 home learning ideas for next week:

<http://longditton.surrey.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/HOME-LEARNING-Year-2-1.pdf>

School Office

Hello everyone – we miss seeing you all but hope you have been having fun learning at home and have been able to enjoy this beautiful sunshine.

In my garden the birds have been tweeting away looking for good nesting sites. There are a pair of goldfinches that return every year and they have arrived once again and been tweeting to each other all week. I don't think they can agree on a suitable nesting site! Perhaps you could find out what a goldfinch looks like and how they build their nests. Maybe you could draw or paint a picture of goldfinch or make a nest using similar materials. If you want to send any pictures to the office email, we would love to see them!

Rachel

ACHIEVEMENTS

Learning at Home Celebrations:

Tuuli had the great idea to make a celebration cake to celebrate all the children's birthdays this week!



Charlie has been very busy learning all sorts of wonderful things from Easter garden planting to puppet making!



Quentin has been taking part in the Jo Wicks challenge and has been working hard on his maths and creative writing.



Tuuli has written a fabulous poem and a created a space poster!
Indie has been learning his numbers by firing a water pistol at them.



Erin has been learning lots of French!



Leo has been enjoying having his "quiet critter" with him to help him focus on his work. He has created some rainbow art to display in his window as part of the "Rainbow Trail, Long Ditton" and has made his own toy shop to help his numeracy skills.



Olly and Jake have been busy learning both physically and creatively.



Gabriel got his badge 4 in EGTC gymnastics. (before it closed)



- Harvey – 6
- Sienna – 5
- Grace - 5
- Fynn – 6

DIARY DATES

March 2020

Sunday 29 th	Clocks go forward by 1 hour
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April 2020

Wednesday 1 st	April Fool's Day
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Thursday 2 nd	World Autism Day
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6 th to 17 th April	Easter holidays
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Monday 6 th	International Book Day
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Friday 10 th	Good Friday
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Sunday 12 th	Easter Day
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Wednesday 22 nd	Earth Day – raising awareness of environmental issues worldwide
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Thursday 23 rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St George's Day • National Shakespeare Day • Ramadan begins
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Saturday 25 th	World Penguin Day
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May 2020

Friday 8 th	May Bank Holiday
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25 th to 29 th	Half term break
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June 2020

EVENTS / ACTIVITIES (outside of school) / School Adverts

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