



LONG DITTON

INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL

THE HEART OF LONG DITTON SINCE 1911

NEWSLETTER

4th September 2020

LATEST NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to school! It was brilliant to actually have some sort of normality and the children back in their classes. They have grown so much. Their behaviour and eagerness to get stuck into the learning activities was super yesterday and today. I believe that they will continue to make great progress over the coming year!

Please take time to read this first newsletter – and the ones over the next few weeks as they will have some important updates contained in them.

Gate Times

Well done everyone for approaching the staggered start time with positivity. There are just a few tweaks which I know will be ongoing as we get used to working in a different way.

1. Please only come to the gate at your allotted time. We have given each class a 10 minute slot but that doesn't mean it is ok arrive at the last minute. The idea is that we keep contact to a minimum by getting the children in quickly and sensibly. This is hampered by early and late arrivals mixing.
2. Please try not to talk on or near the school grounds and definitely don't block the gates when you are talking. I know it's lovely to chat but again please remember we are trying to keep contact to a minimum. Making others walk around or through you as you chat is also not helpful.
3. Scooters and bikes are left at your own risk. We cannot guarantee that other people/children won't have touched them so hand sanitising will be crucial. We also cannot

guarantee the safety of these while left on the premises.

4. Try to drop your child off and then go. I know some may be feeling anxious but lingering and loitering around unsettles them even more. Remember the shopping analogy – if you were going shopping, a normal and essential part of life, you wouldn't be lingering around to see if they were ok because you know it would upset them. Reassure them, one kiss, one hug and go.

At the end of the day please be patient with the teachers as they dismiss your child safely. Try not to encourage them to run to you with letting the teacher know where they are going. We will work out what works best for everyone over time but at the moment the teachers need to be the ones releasing the children carefully to their adults.

No Entry to the school office without prior appointment

This goes against everything that we want to be but at the moment please do not come to the office unless you have a prior appointment or it is an emergency. We are trying to limit contact not just with people but also with door handles, buzzers etc. If you need to speak to a teacher, please email the office to request a telephone call or meeting. If you are dropping off a forgotten jumper or water bottle please email them to let them know and leave it in the bike shelter to be collected. I am hopeful that we can change this very soon but at the moment lets carefully follow the guidance for everyone's safety.

School Developments for 2020/2021

At the start of each new academic year the whole staff get together to think about what we want to focus on for the coming year. As this year has been completely unexpected we have decided to keep it very simple and focused. The three areas we will be concentrating on are going to be **Health, Reading and Creativity**. There are targets within each category that the staff want to achieve and I would also like you to have the opportunity contribute. If you have any ideas or suggestions that would support our three areas of focus, please send your ideas into school by Wednesday 9th September – either email to the office or on paper posted in the ‘Office Post’ box. We can’t promise to be able to include all of your ideas but if we can, we will.

Scooting and Bikes

Please remind all your children that they have to push their scooters and bikes once in the school grounds.

Keeping in Touch

The class emails are no longer being monitored by the teachers as they are teaching. We are going to use the emails however over the coming weeks as a follow up to the class information packs and as a way for you to ask any questions. Please do not use these emails to send important information to us but continue to use the office email address which is monitored daily.

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

Home Learning Survey Results

Thank you again to those who completed the home learning survey. It was beneficial for us to learn what worked well and what we need to improve on should the need arise.

Some of the results show:

100% of the people that took part have access to the internet, the vast majority of families can print from home and the majority of children have their own device to use.

The learning packs, class emails, planning, website info, internet links and weekly timetables were used by the vast majority of parents and carers.

86.3% of parents and carers used, needed and were thankful for guidance from the teachers.

In planning for the future we know we have to:

- Provide more live lessons and videos;
- Ensure planning is sent out on Fridays to allow preparation time;
- Keep the planning simply formatted and easy to follow;
- Provide feedback more regularly on work completed and more phone calls to check in with children;
- Ensure more differentiation (support and challenge).

We also want to keep ahead of the game by providing more homework opportunities in a similar way to lockdown (i.e. by using Tapestry to upload videos of achievements, etc.) so that in the unlikely event of another lockdown we will all be more familiar with this way of working. We do have some technical and procedural challenges to get this up and running – so please watch this space.

One thing I think it is important to remember is that our children do need regular attention. We worked it out that in school they rarely go more than 15 minutes without an adult looking at their work, directing them what to do next or guiding them. In the comments it seemed that a few parents and carers expected the work we provided to ‘occupy’ their child for a large period of time. The age of our children means that 10-15 minutes of concentration is ample and during this they would need some direction of focus. I know it is difficult to focus on adult work while young children need

attention but nothing we can provide will or should enable the children to be left for large amounts of time.

The survey was overwhelmingly positive and all of your suggestions for what to be better at next time were excellent. Thank you!

Thought for the week:



HOW TO BE HAPPY

Decide every morning you are in a good mood!

Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Paines

Year 1

Welcome back to school after the summer break. We have had a great couple of days getting to know each other and learning all about year 1. We are really enjoying exploring Rainbow room and the outside area. We have been really impressed with how quickly the children have settled into their new routines. Well done Year 1!

Reminders

- Please ensure your child's water bottle and fruit are named and only water is brought in to school.
- If you have junk for junk modelling at home, please send it into school, this will be put aside for a week then used. Please do not send anything in which has contained nuts or seeds.
- We are currently listening to the children read and will be sending reading books out next week.
- We are starting PE over the next couple of weeks, please can you ensure your child comes to school in their PE kit on Mondays and Thursdays.

Year 2

Welcome back! It has been so lovely to see all the children and parents the last two days. We have been really impressed with how quickly the children have settled back into the school routines. This week, we have been looking at our class charter and expectations in Year 2. We have also been using pastels to draw self-portraits. We gave the children the added challenge of using just two colours. The artwork came out really well and we will be displaying the pictures in our classroom.

Just a few reminders:

- Please can children come to school dressed in their PE kit on their PE days:
Year 2 will be having PE on Tuesday and Friday.
- Please clearly label all book bags, water bottles and fruit pots with your child's name.
- Please bring in spare clothes for your child in their named PE bag - this will be kept on their peg in case of accidents.

ACHIEVEMENTS



Golden Certificates



Credit Cards (4x Golden Certificates)



Other Achievements



Husky Class – for returning to school with a positive attitude, ready to learn and have fun

Dalmatian Class – for being so grown up and sensible starting year 1

Spaniel Class – for a super start to year 2 and for fantastic behaviour

Labrador Class – for a great start to year 2 and brilliant behaviour

Joshua L – received a certificate and medal for completing the libraries' Summer Reading Challenge

Noa – 7

George – 6

Luke – 6

Miguel – 6

Jacob D – 7

Elliott – 7

Gabriele – 6

Idris - 7

DIARY DATES

September 2020

Tuesday 8th	New Corgi Parents' Meetings
Wednesday 9th	New Beagle Parents' Meetings
Thursday 10th	New Nursery Parents' Meetings
Monday 14th	Safety Week

October 2020

Tuesday 6 th	Individual student photos by Imago
Monday 19 th	Creative Week
Wednesday 21 st	Parent/Teacher consultation appointments
Thursday 22 nd	Parent/Teacher consultation appointments
Friday 23 rd	Finish for half term break
26 th to 30 th	School & Nursery Closed for half term break

November 2020

Monday 2 nd	Return to school & Nursery
Monday 9 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nasal Flu Immunisations for Yrs R, 1, 2 – more information will be sent out soon Healthy Week
Monday 2 nd	Primary school applications for Reception and Year 3 open online (closing date is 15 th January 2021)

EVENTS / ACTIVITES (outside of school) / School Adverts

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



LONG DITTON

INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL

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Part-Time SEN Teaching Assistant/Playground Supervisor Required

Start Date: ASAP

Monday to Friday (including playtime)
08:45am – 1:30pm

Salary Range: £17,663 - £18,607 (Pro Rata) - Scale placement based on experience.

Applications are invited from enthusiastic persons to join our team. We can offer you a school with a friendly and supportive staff and opportunities for professional development.

The successful applicant will have:

- Experience of working with children between the ages of 3 and 7.
- Experience of working with children of varying abilities and needs.
- Ability to work constructively as part of a team understanding classroom roles and responsibilities.
- GCSE English and Maths (grade A-C) or equivalent.
- NVQ Level 2 desirable.
- NVQ Level 3 desirable.

Long Ditton Infant and Nursery School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. It expects all staff to share this commitment and the successful applicant will be required to undertake a DBS check.

Closing Date: 16th September 2020

Please contact Kellie Nolan knolan@longditton.surrey.sch.uk for an application pack.