



# LONG DITTON

INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL  
THE HEART OF LONG DITTON SINCE 1911

## NEWSLETTER

18<sup>th</sup> December 2020



### LATEST NEWS



#### **Dear Parents and Carers**

As we come to the end of 2020 I am not going to be maudlin and say how hard it has been. Especially because the school is filled with such good spirits today and the staff and children looked wonderfully festive ☺

I am going to remind you all of what we have achieved together this term.

Together we opened our school to all pupils.

Together we have managed to keep the children safe, happy and ensured they have all made progress.

Together we improved our home learning and helped children continue to learn at home and at school.

Together we have 97.4% attendance.

Together we have raised £717 for selected charities and £4000 for the school.

And together we have supported, helped, said thank you, been grateful, laughed, adapted and made the most out of every situation.

I have been amazed and astounded by the dedication, generosity, kindness and understanding shown by everyone. I will be celebrating how lucky we are and yes raising a glass to our school and our community to say thank you and 'God bless us everyone!'

#### **Mrs Dawes' Campfire Learning**

A massive thank you to Mrs Dawes for arranging the Campfire. In the words of Amaan 'I wish I could turn back time and go and do that all over again!' All of their behaviour was excellent and they all managed to toast, make, listen and wonder around the campfire. Thank you Mrs Dawes ☺

#### **Attendance**

Our whole school attendance for this term is 97.4% which is an increase of 1.2% on last year. And this year 97 children have been in school every single day, compared to 70 for this term last year. Considering everything – I think a well done to you is order. WELL DONE!

#### **Thank you to Father Christmas**

A special thank you to Father Christmas who made time in his busy schedule to come to give the classes presents this week. The reindeer did make a bit of a mess at the front but luckily Mrs Nolan, a close friend of Santa's, helped to tidy their mess.

#### **Great Ormond Street Hospital Festive Fancy Dress**

We raised £91 today for Great Ormond Street Hospital. Thank you everyone ☺

#### **Save the Children**

Together we raised £159.90 for Save the Children by wearing our Christmas jumpers! Super job everyone ☺

#### **Christmas Video Productions**

We hope you enjoyed being able to watch the productions the children have put together this year. Though very different, we thought they worked very hard to learn the songs and actions and told the story of Christmas beautifully. You will be able to watch your child's class on Tapestry.

#### **Theo's Sponsored Guess How Many Competition**

Thank you for taking part in this super competition. The number of decorations in the jar was 23000

and Aurora was the winner who guessed 22000. The person in second place was Thomas with 20000. Please be assured that as always everything was fair and above board and you raised £27.50 which will go towards the school.

### Thank you so much!

Mrs Eaton and I would both like to say thank you very much for your presents, cards and wishes. We both are feeling very spoilt and special and each one of your thoughts is very gratefully received. Thank you.



### Thank you to the Friends

Our wonderful parent association has managed to raise £4000 with your help so far this school year. This is an incredible feat – thank you to every single Friend member and all the organisers for what

you have done. You are outstanding!

### That Grumpy Old Grinch

I don't want to sound like a moany Grinch so close to Christmas but please make sure that your children, including siblings, do not 'scoot' on their scooters or ride on their bikes on the school premises. This is dangerous, not only to them but also to other unsuspecting school users.

And please do not park in the school car park at any time – even for after school club. The car park is only for school staff use and not for pick up or drop offs. Thank you for not making me sound like a 'moaning minnie' and following the rules.

### Assemblies next term

We usually begin our class assemblies next term. To ensure everyone's safety we are going to postpone them until the summer term. This will give us more opportunity to be able to make sure we can invite parents and carers into school, inside or outside, so that you actually get to see the children in their class assemblies. Thank you for your understanding in this and we hope you will agree it is the best thing to do.

### Festive Fancy Dress Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December

Ho ho ho what a festive school we looked today. There were Grinches, santas and decorations a plenty. The money raised today will go to Great Ormond Street Hospital.

### Raffle Ticket Reading

Congratulations Harrison and Zachary – they were the lucky reading raffle winners this week.

### Birthday Books

Thank you to Ella and Felix G for choosing birthday books to give to their classes.

### INSET day

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January will be an INSET day – as planned. The teachers will be reviewing long term planning, curriculum strengths and areas for improvement and developing subject leadership skills. Also First Aid training for those new to school.

### Thought for the week:

'What is Christmas? It is tenderness for the past, courage for the present and hope for the future.'  
AM Pahro

Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year, stay safe, enjoy spending time together, play games, sing, dance and be merry.

### Mrs Paines

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### Nursery

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We have had a lovely final week at nursery with a camp fire and marshmallows, a visit from Santa and a Christmas party with musical chairs, singing and dancing!

It has been so lovely to get to know all of your children this term. They have worked so hard to learn so many new things.

All of the children have impressed us with their great attitude and motivation, settling into nursery life!

These are some of the things that they have been learning:

Responsibility: hanging up their coats, helping to tidy up toys, taking part in the class book vote.

**Resilience:** when trying new activities and games, taking shoes and socks off for PE!

**Resourceful:** in our craft and building areas, as well as sharing their ideas and problem solving together!

They have worked hard to take turns and share using timers and their words! They have enjoyed working collaboratively and as teams playing games indoors and outdoors.

They have all been very caring and kind to their new friends and continue to build their understanding of friendships and how they work.

Most of all they have really impressed us with their independence!

We hope you enjoy the Christmas sing along that we have put on Tapestry, we were lucky enough to do two takes for you to enjoy and we have included a copy of the words for you to sing along if you wish!

We would like to say a big thank you to you for your support and understanding this term and for your generous gifts and Christmas Wishes. Thank you from us all.

We hope that you have a restful and enjoyable Christmas and we really look forward to welcoming you all back in 2021!

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## Reception (Year R)

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Well done everyone, we have made it to the end of our first term in Reception! The children have all worked so hard this term and it has been so wonderful to see the progress they have made already; they should be very proud of themselves. This week we have enjoyed lots of festive activities. We filmed the Christmas production, the children all worked hard to remember their parts and to join in with the actions. The children have also made gingerbread men and decorated them; they listened carefully, followed instructions and talked about how to stay safe when cooking. We got to enjoy lots of end of term treats too such as, Christmas class parties, the campfire and even a special visitor who brought both classes a class present to enjoy in school! We also finished learning all the sounds in speed sounds set one

and consolidated our subtraction learning. We cannot quite believe how much we have packed into a week!

In the Spring Term, we will be exploring traditional tales. There will be a focus story each week around which we will base our learning. Maybe you could have a look at some traditional tales you already know over the Christmas break.

We hope you enjoy our Christmas performances that can now be viewed on Tapestry under the 'memo' tab. The whole Reception team also wanted to say a huge thank you to you all for the lovely presents and cards you have given us. We hope you all have a fantastic and restful Christmas holiday and look forward to seeing you all in the new year.

### Learning ideas:

- Please continue to practise our speed sounds set 1.
- There is a sheet in your child's FRED folder. Please encourage them to draw a picture and write a sentence about what they did over the holidays.

**Key vocabulary:** Santa, Christmas, excited, stocking, sleigh, reindeer, North Pole, presents, decorations

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## Year 1

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Happy Christmas! We have been so proud of Year 1 this term. They have really risen to the challenge of moving to Year 1 as well as coping with blended learning. Thank you to all the parents and carers who have been so supportive over this challenging time.

This week, we have been enjoying our Christmas topic. In literacy, we have written a letter to Santa, remembering how we start and finish a letter as well as incorporating a question. In maths, we have been doing some festive missing number sentences to consolidate our understanding of number lines. On Wednesday, we enjoyed writing Christmas riddles and seeing if our friends could guess who/what we were describing.

Thursday was our woodland craft and campfire event and the children demonstrated some fantastic listening skills and fire safety skills when toasting their marshmallows and enjoy making a S'more.

We have been doing whole class sounds this week so there will be no FRED homework over Christmas. In the New Year, the children will be moving into new FRED groups and we will send out more information about FRED in class and home learning when the new groups are established.

The children have worked really hard to create, plan, film and record their nativity production using stop film animation. This has encompassed all of us (including adults) learning new skills and discovering talents we never knew we had. The nativity is now available as a memo on Tapestry to view. We hope you enjoy it, please leave a review, we will discuss these with the children in the New Year.

The Year 1 team would like to wish you all a happy and restful Christmas and we are looking forward to seeing you all in the new year. Thank you very much for all your kind messages and gifts, they are much appreciated.

### Vocabulary:

Literacy: question mark, Dear, from, riddle, Christmas

Maths: subtraction, addition, difference, plus, take away

Topic: risk, fire circle, gloaming, spark, extinguish

### Show and Tell group – Lion

### Home Learning

- Please can you read with your child as much as possible and record it in their reading diary.
- Get your child to write their own Christmas cards using their sounds with capital letters and finger spaces.
- Ask them to make a list of all the things you will need for Christmas, e.g. Crackers, decorations etc.

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## Year 2

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What a busy last week of term Year 2 have had! In literacy, we wrote a Christmas letter to Santa. We also decorated our Christmas cakes ready to take home to eat. On Wednesday, we had a special visit from Father Christmas! The children loved meeting him and were extremely thankful for the class gifts they received. We had our Christmas parties to celebrate the end of term. We finished the week with a talent show. We were very impressed with all the groups that took part.

We hope you enjoyed watching the Year 2 Christmas stories and songs on Tapestry. All the children worked really hard.

### Fred

Fred will continue to be taught in each class. Some groups have finished Fred and therefore only some groups will continue to take home books next term. We have not sent home any Fred books or spellings over the Christmas holidays. If you have any questions, please email the office.

### A big thank you

Thank you so much for your generous gifts and cards. We feel truly spoilt! We have really enjoyed teaching Year 2 this term. All the children have been super and adapted really well to all the changes. Thank you for your continued support throughout the term. Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year. We look forward to seeing you all in early 2021.

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## School Office

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### Apply for Primary School Place – Reception and Year 3

Applications opened on 2<sup>nd</sup> November and will close on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

You can apply for a Reception or Year 3 (Junior) school place online at:



The Friends are also selling Xmas wrapping paper, £1 per roll. We have 3 designs available. Foil wrap in Lilac with silver unicorns. Foil wrap in white with silver polar bears. Recycled Blue Christmas scene. Enquire via [longdittonfriends@outlook.com](mailto:longdittonfriends@outlook.com)

We'd just like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a Covid free New Year

The Friends

## ACHIEVEMENTS



### Value Stars Friendship

Isabella for playing nicely with everyone in Beagle class.  
Milo for always looking out for your friends and cheering them up when they feel sad.  
Daniel for always being a good friend, looking out for others and lending a hand.  
Gabriele for being a great friend.  
Sylvie for being a great friend and setting a great example of how we treat our friends.  
Archie for always being a super friend to everyone in Spaniel.

### Golden Certificates



Corgi class for settling so well into Reception and completing your first term at school.  
Everyone in Beagle class for working so hard this term.  
Husky class for excellent listening and care around the campfire.  
Edward for fantastic writing about the Jolly Postman.  
Dalal for beautiful singing.  
Labrador class for a great Christmas production.  
Spaniel class for a fantastic Christmas production.

### Credit Cards (4x Certificates)



Luke



Jemima – 5  
Felix A – 5  
Ella – 5  
Nia – 5  
Isabella M – 5  
Arthur – 5  
Harry – 6  
Daniel (Husky) – 6  
Lauren – 7  
Nila – 7  
Oscar - 7

### Other Achievements

Edward M (Spaniel) awarded player of the week in rugby.  
Martha awarded Avondale Gymnastics level 4

## DIARY DATES

### December 2020

<i>Friday</i> <i>25<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Happy Christmas!</i>
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### January 2021

Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Inset day – school closed to children
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Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Spring term for children
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# EVENTS / ACTIVITIES (outside of school) / School Adverts

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

## Direct Message/Email to Parents sent from Schools

### Free Online Parenting Guides for Families in Surrey

Bringing up children is a lot of fun but can also have its challenges and understanding your child's emotional development can help to support your relationship and your child's behaviour.

Families living in Surrey can get access to FREE online guides that include top tips from childcare, education and NHS health experts. They are relevant to parents of all children, including those with special needs, autism, ADHD etc.

- Understanding your pregnancy, labour, birth and your baby
- Understanding your baby
- Understanding your child 0-19 years
- Understanding your teenager's brain
- Understanding your brain (for teenagers only!)

Register for free, unlimited access to the guides in text, audio and video formats and other languages including Urdu, Chinese and Polish. You'll need to add your postcode and use the code 'ACORN' when you are registering for the first time to obtain free access. The guides are designed as a course that you work through over a number of weeks and you can pick up where you left off each time you return to the guide.

Find out more and register on the Children and Family Health Surrey website at: [www.childrenshealthsurrey.nhs.uk/services/free-online-guides-families](http://www.childrenshealthsurrey.nhs.uk/services/free-online-guides-families)

We hope you enjoying using the guides.

Kind regards

Chris McDermott  
Professional Lead for School Nursing  
Children and Family Health Surrey

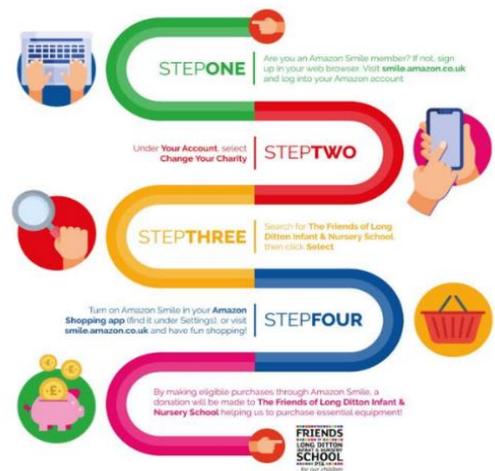
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Amazon Smile is a simple way to shop on Amazon and support The Friends of Long Ditton Infant & Nursery school at no additional cost. Every time you make an eligible purchase through Amazon Smile, Amazon donates 0.5% to us!

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](http://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](http://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**

# LEARN TOGETHER WITH YOUR CHILD

Want some support with parenting but don't know where to look?



**Surrey Adult Learning offers FREE workshops to help you create a better family life.**

Are you worried about your child's behaviour or development or see your child struggling in school? These courses can benefit you and your child.

- Manage anxiety for you and your child with **stressbusting** workshops
- Join a **cooking** class with your child and create tasty recipes together
- Develop your creative side with a **Storytelling with craft** workshop
- Learn how to support your child's reading with a **Phonics** workshop
- Build your **communication skills** and understand your child's behaviour
- Improve your **English** to help your child with their homework
- Take a **maths** course based on what your child is learning.

Sign up today for your **FREE** course online at [www.surreycc.gov.uk/familylearning](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/familylearning)

**Family Learning**  
email: [family.learning@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:family.learning@surreycc.gov.uk)

**Surrey Adult Learning**

**LEARNING TOGETHER IS FUN**



### Are you struggling to provide food for yourself or your family?

The Foodbank is here to support anybody who is currently finding it difficult to provide food for themselves or their families due to financial or other issues. **You do not have to be in receipt of benefits to get help from us.**

If you feel that you need support from us, then please call or message us on: **07908 777475** or email [referrals@eastelmbridge.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:referrals@eastelmbridge.foodbank.org.uk) and we can let you know what you need to do for us to be able to deliver an emergency food parcel.

Catherine Heavens  
East Elmbridge Foodbank Coordinator