



LONGWELL GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL - Newsletter

No: 14

16th December, 2011

‘Creating an inspirational learning community for all’

www.longwellgreenprimaryschool.co.uk

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SCHOOL INFORMATION

Entry arrangements for January 2012

Thanks to all parents and carers who took part in our trial for the new arrangements for coming into school on Tuesday. The weather was appalling but we still learnt a great deal about how the arrangements could work.

Here is confirmation of what will happen when the children return on Wednesday 4th January:

- The school gates will open at 8.45
- For children in years 1 to 6, all children will come into school through the first door just inside the gate; parents and carers will say goodbye at this point
- The children will make their way to their classrooms; the bell will go at 8.55 and all children should be in class by then for registration
- Any important notes for teachers can be emailed, posted via the school post box, communicated via the office or by phone; these will get to teachers first thing in the morning
- Parents are very welcome to arrange to meet teachers after school; all teachers, including those in key stage 2, will be in the playground after school for parents to talk to
- If children are not in school at registration time without a given reason, school will contact home by 10.00.

For children in Reception, the current arrangements will still apply, with parents walking through the playground to their child's class.

There will be one change to Breakfast Club; children and parents will enter via the hall door rather than the main entrance, parents still being able to come into Breakfast Club to settle their child if they choose to.

We know that these arrangements are not perfect for everyone but for safeguarding purposes these are the arrangements that will be in place.

We have been asked many questions since the arrangements were announced last week and here are some of them, with our responses:

- *What door will the children go in?*

The children will go in through the first door inside the gates, so they will not have to walk through the playground.

- *How can we be assured the children get to their classrooms safely?*

All children know the route to their classroom; there will be adults around school who will ensure children keep moving sensibly along the corridor and that groups of children do not block the way.

- *Why can't children still play in the playground before school?*

At the moment we have concerns about the school gate being open with low level of supervision for children. When we come back in the new year we will consider any infrastructure changes that may make it possible for some children in KS2 to be able to play in the playground between 8.45 and 8.55.

- *Why aren't the arrangements for collecting children changing?*

When we carried out the safeguarding audit it became clear that the beginning of the day was the most important time to review urgently, which we have done. We will be making one major change to the arrangements for after school; the doors leading onto the playground will all be marked 'Entry for pupils, staff and authorised adults only'; this means that parents will not routinely be able to enter through these doors; access will only be possible through the front entrance. All teachers will be in the playground to talk to parents. We will continue to look at the arrangements for after school to see if there are other improvements we need to make.

SCHOOL INFORMATION (continued)



School Events

Wednesday, 4th January - Term 3 starts for children (please note: our Attendance Policy states that holidays at the beginning of term 3 will not be authorised)

Friday, 6th January - Year 6 visit to Lifeskills

Staff Absence

Wednesday, 4th January - Miss McElroy will be away from class, Mr Handley will be in M5

Academic Year and Term Dates

At the end of the newsletter you will find dates for the remainder of this academic year. It may be that some of these will change nearer the time, we will publish these changes as they arise.

You will also find dates for the academic year 2012/2013, including the Inset days which have already been set - there is still one additional inset date to confirm and we will notify you of this as soon as possible.

School Meals - Terms 3 and 4

Please find towards the end of the newsletter details of the amounts for school meals if you wish to pay for one or two terms in advance.

Dinner money should be sent into school on a Monday morning, regardless of the day(s) your child will be having lunch, in an envelope marked with their name and class.

Safeguarding

It has been reported that there are some images from the KS1 Nativity productions on social networking sites. We would ask that any photographs posted on these sites are removed.

SCHOOL NEWS



KS1 Nativity Production

It was lovely to see so many parents, carers, friends and family at our recent Nativity productions. The children put on a fantastic performance of which they can all be very proud.

The retiring collections raised just over £230 which will be split between CLIC and Shelter. Thank you to everyone who helped organise and prepare the Nativity and to you for your support. (see photograph on Page 5)

SCHOOL NEWS (continued)



KS2 Christmas Celebration

Key Stage 2 performed their Christmas Carol Service to a packed church on Tuesday. It was lovely to see so many friends and relatives in the congregation. The children had worked hard to prepare their songs and readings and these were performed to a very high standard. On Wednesday they performed a selection of these songs, poems and instrumental items for members of the local community. The visitors very much enjoyed the concert and appreciated the food and drink supplied afterwards.

Thanks to Year 4 for making the biscuits, and the Friends for providing the teas and coffees. Thank you too to Mrs Cardy for all her hard work in preparing the children for a very successful Christmas celebration. The retiring collection of £115 has been donated to the Just Different charity.

Parking around school

In our newsletter dated 25th November we published an item about parking safely near school to drop off and pick children. We stated that we would be writing directly to parents where we notice they have parked in a way that poses a risk eg on zig zags, double yellow lines or the bus stop. We have now started to do this and hope that this action will have a positive impact on the daily parking situation around school. Perhaps parking safely (in a local car park and walking in) could be a new years' resolution?

.... And finally

We would like to wish all our children and families a



Happy Christmas!

School Calendar

Term 3

<i>Tuesday, 3rd January</i>	<i>INSET DAY - School closed to pupils</i>
Wednesday, 4th January	Term 3 starts
Friday, 6th January	Year 6 visit to Lifeskills
Tuesday, 10th January	Year 3 visit to Roman Baths
Tuesday, 12th January	Introductory meeting for September 2012 residential visits Year 5, 6.00 pm, Year 4, 6.45 pm
Monday, 16th January	Celebrating Talent assembly, 9.15 am
Friday, 10th February	Term 3 ends

Term 4

Monday, 20th February	Term 4 starts
Tuesday, 28th February	Clothes for a Cause collection
Wednesday, 7th March	Year 5 visit to Victorian School
Thursday, 8th March	Year 5 visit to Victorian School
Wednesday, 21st March	KS2 Open Afternoon - 2.45 - 3.30 pm
Thursday, 22nd March	KS1/Foundation Stage Open Afternoon - 2.45 -3.30 pm
Thursday, 22nd March	Full Governing Body Meeting - 6.00 pm
Wednesday, 28th March	Parents' Meetings (early evening)
Thursday, 29th March	Parents' Meetings (late evening)
Friday, 30th March	Term 4 ends

Term 5

Tuesday, 26th April	Term 5 starts
w/c 14th May	National Assessments for Year 6
Thursday, 24th May	Full Governing Body meeting 6.00 pm
Friday, 1st June	Term 5 ends

Term 6

<i>Monday, 11th June</i>	<i>INSET DAY - School closed to pupils</i>
Saturday, 30th June	FOLG - Summer Fayre 12.00 - 3.00 pm
Friday, 6th July	Annual Reports due home
Monday, 9th July	KS2 Competitive Sports 2.00 pm (provisional date)
Wednesday, 11th July	Class changeover day
Thursday, 12th July	Sport for All (FS/KS1 9.45 am, KS2 10.45 am - provisional date)
Thursday, 12th July	Full Governing Body meeting 6.00 pm
Tuesday, 17th July	Charity Fair
Thursday, 19th July	Term 6 ends

Academic Year 2012 - 2013

Term 1

Monday, 3rd September, 2012 - INSET DAY - school closed to pupils

Tuesday, 4th September, 2012 - Wednesday, 24th October, 2012

Term 2

Monday, 5th November, 2012 - INSET DAY - school closed to pupils (provisional date)

Tuesday, 6th November, 2012 - Friday, 21st December, 2012

Term 3

Monday, 7th January, 2013 - INSET DAY - school closed to pupils

Tuesday, 8th January, 2013 - Friday, 8th February, 2013

Term 4

Monday, 18th February, 2013 - Friday, 22nd March, 2013

Term 5

Monday, 8th April, 2013 - Friday, 24th May, 2013

Term 6

Monday, 3rd June, 2013 - INSET DAY - school closed to pupils

Tuesday, 4th June, 2013 - Wednesday, 24th July, 2013

SCHOOL DINNERS FOR TERMS THREE & FOUR 2011/12

The cost of a hot two-course lunch is £1.70 per day. The kitchen will continue to use the current menu, if you require another copy please enquire at the school office.

1 dinner	-	£1.70
2 dinners	-	£3.40
3 dinners	-	£5.10
4 dinners	-	£6.80
5 dinners	-	£8.50

IF YOU WISH TO PAY FOR TERM 3 AND/OR TERM 4 IN ADVANCE, THE AMOUNTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:-

TERM THREE – Tuesday 3rd January 2012 – Friday 10th February 2012 = 29 days @ £1.70 per day = £49.30 (less 1 in-service day - £1.70 (Tuesday 3rd January 2012)) – **TOTAL £47.60 to pay**

TERM FOUR – Monday 20th February 2012 – Friday 30th March 2012 = 30 days @ £1.70 per day = £51.00. **TOTAL £51.00 to pay**

TOTAL FOR TERMS THREE & FOUR – 58 days @ £1.70 = **TOTAL £98.60**

Guidelines for children staying for school dinners:

If your child/children are staying to school dinner, please send payment to school on **MONDAY MORNINGS** with the eldest child. The money should be sent in an envelope clearly marked with the **Name of Child/Children, Class and Days Staying**. This will avoid any confusion about when dinners are required. Cash or cheques are to be made payable to **SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCIL** and not school. Self-seal envelopes are available from the office. *Any refunds due to absence will be returned to you at the end of Term 4.*

Parent Governors

Longwell Green Primary School has 5 Parent Governors:

Nigel Gazzard, Chair of Finance, Child in Year 4 – Term of office ends 14.6.2014

Mr Gazzard is Chair of Finance and Facilities Committee; an extremely important role on the governing body. He comes into school to meet with Mrs Dix, School Administrator, regularly and closely monitors the school budget.

Colin Gimblett, Child in Year 2 – Term of office ends 21.1.2014

Mr Gimblett is Health & Safety governor and has attended relevant courses

Sam Whyman, Child in Year 5 – Term of office ends 14.6.2014

Kathryn Davis, Child in Year 5 – Term of office ends 14.6.2014

Carie Stainsby (newly appointed Teaching Assistant), Child in Year 2 & 4. Term of office ends 1.4.2013

Mrs Stainsby has recently been appointed as a Teaching Assistant at the school. As a parent governor, she is eligible to see out her term of office in that position.

Parent Governors are:

Well placed to understand parents' views and to remind the governing body how matters discussed affect parents

Individuals – how they vote on any decision is up to them

In a good position to help the governing body to communicate effectively with parents

Equal in status to all other governors

Parent Governors are not:

Expected to gather the views of other parents and take them to the governing body

Simply expected to represent the interests of parents

A link between parents and the governing body

Expected to vote as instructed by other parents

Our Parent Governors attend full governing body meetings and each has membership of 2 committees. They have also all participated in induction training as a governor and engaged with South Gloucestershire Council Governor Training Programme. Parent Governors are involved in the governor visit programme in School, visiting classrooms and observing the school in action. Parent Governors are invaluable to the work of the governing body and we greatly value the time and commitment that they give to that role.

Elaine Skidmore
Chair of Governors



KS1 Nativity
Production