

# Weekly Newsletter

28th February 2025



## Message from the Head

### SPRING TERM

Dear Parents and Carers,

#### Learning this week

A warm welcome back to the second Spring half term. How lovely to have slightly lighter mornings and evenings. The children have settled brilliantly into the new half term and have enjoyed starting their new topics.

#### Swimming

After the Easter holiday, we will be resuming our swimming lessons for KS2 children. There is a change this year to how we are running this. The national curriculum requires us to take children until they can swim 25m, demonstrate a range of strokes and rescue themselves if they fell into water. We have several children in KS2 who can already swim the requirement for KS2 swimming and therefore we will be offering these children an alternative PE lesson on swimming days, only taking children who still need to learn to swim.

This includes all of Year 3 and some Year 4, 5 and 6 children. Children were assessed at the end of last year's swimming lessons and we are basing our choice on these assessments. We are taking all of our Year 3 children and any children who are new to our school as we have not assessed their swimming yet and want to make sure they have had the opportunity to swim at Long Marston.

We will be writing to you only if your child is being invited to swim, the rest of KS2 will come to school in PE kits on swimming days. We are hoping that this will enable us to target our teaching to those who still need to learn to swim and save money for families of children who can already swim whilst also providing a PE opportunity for those children to continue to develop new skills in other sports. More information will follow later on this half term but please do speak to me if you have any questions about these arrangements.

Kind regards, *Mrs Laura Whateley*

### PE Timetable - Spring 2

	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri
Spring 2	Class 1 Class 2	Class 5 Class 4	Class 4 Class 5	Class 3 / Forest School Class 2	Class 1

### Natural History Museum Photography Competition

A reminder that the closing date for the Natural History Museum photography competition is 1st March. Attached to the newsletter is the application form you need to submit with your child's photograph.

### Parents Consultations

The parents consultation is an important meeting to discuss how your child is getting on and targets that you can support them with going forward. The dates for the consultations are Monday 10th (in-person) and Wednesday 12th March (video link). Bookings will open on Monday 3rd March at 18:30 and close on Friday 7th March at 18:30, please book via the link below. If you cannot meet, please speak to your child's class teacher.

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK PARENT CONSULTATION](#)



### Values Award

*Kindness, Respect, Resilience*

#### Class 1

**Finley** - for being respectful to staff and peers, listening to instructions, trying his hardest and helping in class.

#### Class 2

**Isla** for her kindness towards everyone in Class 2.

#### Class 3

**Amy** for showing great resilience in Maths.

#### Class 4

**Charlie L** for making a noticeable effort since half term. Well done!

#### Class 5

**Iya** for her excellent writing this week. She has shown great resilience when editing her work.

### House points

**Larks** 162

**Martins** 165

**Swifts** 158

**Congratulations to the Martins**

### Attendance this week

**Class 1** 94.7%

**Class 2** 99.1% **Well Done!**

**Class 3** 95.4%

**Class 4** 95.4%

**Class 5** 94.6%

**Attendance this year: 94.2%**

**Target for this year: 96%**



*'Together we grow and flourish with hope'*



### Coming Up

#### Monday 3rd March

- In discussions with a gym instructor

#### Tuesday 4th March

- Summer sports (KS1 & KS2)
- Tennis (KS1 & KS2)
- Game on Football Club (KS1)

#### Wednesday 5th March

- Mad Science to start again in Summer Term

#### Thursday 6th March

- Girls Football - lunchtime
- Game on Football Club (KS2)
- Netball (KS2)
- French (KS1)
- Piano and guitar lessons

#### Friday 7th March

- French (KS2)
- Drum Lessons

#### Additional Information

For this week's letters click on the image below ...



### Schools Cup

Last term in their PE sessions the children took part in a cross country event for the Schools cup. Children competed as individuals and as part of a team. Overall house winners were 1st Larks, 2nd Swifts and 3rd Martins. Well done to everyone.

The individuals for each class were as follows:

Class 2 Winners -	Theodore Coles and Evelyn Hughes-Power
Class 3 Winners -	Luca Schembri and Isabelle Lear
Class 4 Winners -	Finley Holmes and Ivy Morden
Class 5 Winners -	Musa Farooq and Olive Hinkly

### Class 1 - Zoolab Visit

We have an exciting visit of exotic animals coming into school on Thursday 1st May to support the children with their learning. Please see the details in the weekly letters.

### PTA update

With World Book Day coming up why not treat yourself to a bar of Wonderlicious and you may be lucky to receive one with a golden ticket! Golden tickets mean great prizes for you and your classmates.

Here is the link for you to pre-order your bar so they are ready for collection on 6 March.

<https://pay.sumup.com/b2c/Q9FDFAZV>



### World Book Day

World Book Day is coming up on 6th March! Today your child will be bringing home their £1 book voucher, which they can use to buy one of the special £1 World Book Day books, available in supermarkets and book shops. Alternatively the voucher can be used as part payment towards any book.

This year, the whole school will be focusing on the book 'The Day the Crayons Quit'. Children are invited to come to school on **Thursday 6th March** dressed head to toe in their favourite colour.

### Dates for the diary

Date and time	Event
Weds 5th March 9.15	Ash Wednesday church service
Thurs 6th March	World Book Day - inspired by 'The day the crayons quit', children to wear their favourite colour
Mon 10th Mar 3.30-6.00	Parents' Eve in school
Weds 12th Mar 5.00-7.00	Parents' Eve online
Fri 21st Mar	World Down's Syndrome Day - wear different coloured socks
Sat 22nd Mar	Cross Country event at Bridgewater school, Berko.
Weds 26th Mar 9.15	Mothering Sunday service in church - parents welcome KS2 author visit
Thurs 27th Mar	Class 2 cake sale
<b>Mon 31st Mar</b>	<b>Class 3 Trip to St Albans Verulamium Museum</b>
Tues 1st April	Headteacher afternoon tea
Fri 4th April	Talent Show Last day of term 1.30pm pick up

### Nursery Applications for September 2025

(Click on image to apply)



- Application deadline: Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2025
- Offer date: Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2025
- Accept your place by: Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2025



### French After School Club

Just a reminder that French club starts next week. KS1 on a Thursday 3.15-4.15pm and Friday KS2 3.15-4.15pm. If you would like to sign up please [click here](#).



### Forest school Volunteers

We are still significantly short of forest school volunteers. If we don't receive any further offers of assistance from parents we will have to review our forest school offering. This doesn't require knowledge of the outdoors.

If you are able to help for one session on a Thursday please contact the school office.



**World Book Day**  
**Thursday 6th March**

