

Weekly Newsletter

10th January 2025



Message from the Head

SPRING TERM

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year

Welcome back to the new term and I hope you all enjoyed the festive break. Thanks again to everyone who brought staff gifts and cards. It really isn't expected and the staff are so thankful that you take the time to say 'thank you'.

Monday's INSET day was spent undertaking first aid training for most staff and updating safeguarding training; a statutory training which has to be completed every 3 years for anyone who works in a school.

SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools)

As a church school, we are inspected by two authorities; OFSTED and SIAMS. Our SIAMS inspection is due in the next 12 months or so. As part of the Diocese of St Albans, we took part in a SIAMS preparation visit just before Christmas. This visit confirmed that our Christian ethos is strong, underpinned by our biblical reference to Psalm 1:3. Our religious curriculum is embedded with recent developments in how we teach about faiths other than Christianity. This is as a result of a project Mrs Soar has led with the Diocese, developing a curriculum which has now been rolled out to other schools. We look forward to welcoming SIAMS to our school when they come, to share the work that we have been doing and our vision; 'Together we grow and flourish with hope'.

Midday Support Assistant(s) (MSA) required

We have a vacancy for an MSA, 4 lunchtimes a week. This role could be split between 2 people. This role will involve helping in the dinner hall, supervising children on the playground, administering first aid and facilitating children's play. Often these roles lead into more, class-based, roles. If you think you may be interested, please email the school office on admin@longmarston.herts.sch.uk for more information.

Staffing update

A warm welcome to Sarah Beach who will be joining us as a teaching assistant in class 2 two afternoons and as an MSA. Also welcome to James Wallace who is joining the after school club team. In class 2, we are welcoming Mrs Reetz who is a student teacher on her second placement with us for this term.

Kind regards, *Mrs Laura Whateley*

Reminder - PE DAYS for Spring term

Please find PE timetable for the whole school for the Spring term.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Spring 1	Class 5 Class 2	Class 5 Class 4	Class 3 Class 4	Class 3 Class 2	Class 1
Spring 2	Class 2 Class 1	Class 5 Class 4	Class 4 Class 5	Class 3 Class 2	Class 1

Clubs reminders

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY						
Gymnastics (KS1/2) To be confirmed 15:15-16:15 London Ballet Company (book direct) 13th Jan	Summer Sports (KS2) LUNCHTIME Game On (just turn up) 14th Jan	Football (KS1) 15:15-16:15 Game On (book direct) 14th Jan	Makaton 12:30-12:50 Mrs Whateley (just turn up) 15th Jan	Multi-Sports (KS1 & KS2) 15:15-16:15 International Tennis Coaching (book direct) 15th Jan	Mad Science (KS1 & KS2) 15:15-16:15 Mad Science (book direct) 15th Jan	Girls Football (KS2) LUNCHTIME Game On (just turn up) 16th Jan	Netball (KS1 & KS2) 15:15-16:15 International Tennis Coaching (book direct) 9th Jan	French (KS1) 15:15-16:15 Mdm Rhodes Lingotots (book direct) 16th Jan	Football (KS2) 15:15-16:15 Game On (book direct) 16th Jan	French (KS2) 15:15-16:15 Mdm Rhodes Lingotots (book direct) 17th Jan



Values Award

Kindness, Respect, Resilience

Class 1

Henry for demonstrating resilience with his landscape collage. He persevered when it was tricky and created a beautiful piece of artwork.

Class 2

Jaxon for his resilience and perseverance with his handwriting and phonics.

Class 3

Peggy for the kindness she shows to other children, always.

Class 4

Cody for great enthusiasm in learning new dance steps and confidence in performing for the class.

Class 5

Imogen for always being kind to others. Imogen is excellent at supporting her peers with kindness and patience.

House points

Larks 85
Martins 104
Swifts 116

Congratulations to the Swifts!

Attendance this week

Class 1 90.6%
Class 2 89.9%
Class 3 97.9%
Class 4 88.9%
Class 5 97.0% Well Done!



'Together we grow and flourish with hope'



Coming Up

Monday 13th January

- Gymnastics (TBC)

Tuesday 14th January

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

Wednesday 15th January

- Multisport Club (KS1 & KS2)
- Mad Science

Thursday 16th January

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

Friday 17th January

- French (KS2)
- Drum Lessons

Additional Information

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



AWARD WINNING AUTHOR KIERAN LARWOOD IS COMING TO OUR SCHOOL!

In a few weeks, we will be hosting the Blue Peter Award-winning author, KIERAN LARWOOD.



Kieran will be coming to talk to the children about his life, work and his new Dungeon Runners series. Class 5 are currently studying another of Kieran's books in their English lessons, and we think many of our KS2 children will enjoy the Dungeon Runners series. Kieran will be signing books for the children at the event. IMPORTANT – Parents, you can order his books from Our Bookshop, the host of this author visit...

<https://www.ourbookshoptring.co.uk/product/dungeon-runners-sky-battles/>

The signed books will be given to your child on the day.

This will be very exciting for all the children.

French Club

We look forward to welcoming Madame Rhodes back for French Club in the New Year. Club will start on Thursday 16th (KS1) and Friday 17th (KS2). If you are interested in signing up please see the details [here](#).

Netball Club

This term we are excited to announce that we have a new Netball coach, Gail Dodsworth, to coach our netball club. She is highly experienced and brings the children a great knowledge of netball. The club runs on a Thursday 3.15-4.15pm.

Reception starters September 2025

Just a reminder that for anyone with a child due to start reception in September 2025, the deadline for applications is 15th January 2025.

Dates for this half term

Date and time	Event
21st January	Natural History Museum Photography competition launched - more details to follow
23rd January	Islam workshops KS2
Mon 3rd Feb	Wellbeing week
Tues 4th Feb	KS2 author visit
Weds 5th Feb	Paralympic athlete visit
Thurs 6th Feb	Year 6 school nurse questionnaire
Tues 11th Feb	Headteacher afternoon tea
Weds 12th Feb	Class 4 and 5 recycling assembly and workshop
Fri 14th Feb	Last day of half term
17th-21st Feb	Half term
Mon 24th Feb	Children return to school
Thurs 27th Feb	Forest school starts for Class 3
Weds 5th March	9.15 Ash Wednesday church service
Fri 7th March	Class 3 trip - Milton Keynes museum
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
Weds 26th Mar	9.15 Mothering Sunday service in church
Thurs 27th Mar	Class 2 cake sale
Tues 1st April	Head teacher afternoon tea
Fri 4th April	Talent Show Last day of term 1.30 pick up



Arbor Payments

Please could we ask you to ensure that any monies owed on Arbor for meals etc. are paid promptly. If you have any concerns about making your payment please come and speak to the office.

Class 1 - Snack donations

As part of our early years curriculum, we are enabling children to make their own snacks mid morning. To do this, we require a small donation each half term. Please make your payment via the school shop on Arbor.

Coats, Hats & Gloves

At this time of year, when the weather is cold, please ensure that your child comes to school wearing appropriate clothing. Can you ensure that all hats, gloves, coats are named.



Welcome Back
Happy New Year

