

Weekly Newsletter

9th January 2026



Message from the Head

SPRING TERM

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back

A warm welcome back during this cold start to 2026 and to a new, exciting term at Long Marston. I hope you all enjoyed a lovely break, spent with friends and family. Thank you to those of you who sent cards and gifts over the Christmas period. These are never expected, but are very much appreciated. A warm welcome to our new starters who have joined our school too.

Uniform

Please can we ask for your support with ensuring children are wearing the correct uniform on the correct days. Please see our [uniform policy](#) for details. If children have their hair tied up, please ensure they are wearing hair ties in school colours and stud earrings for safety. In addition, with the colder weather, please ensure that your child has suitable warm clothing and ensure that hats, gloves and scarves are named.

Hinduism workshop

This week, Class 3, 4 and 5 took part in workshops to learn about Hinduism, led by a visitor from the Hare Krishna Temple in Watford. Children learnt about Hindu greetings, beliefs, karma and the story of Rama and Sita. This launches the RE learning for KS2 for this half term, with all classes learning about different aspects of Hinduism.



Caldecotte

Please can everyone who intends sending their child to Caldecotte please pay the next installment by the 2nd February. If you are unable to pay the full amount, we would not want anyone to be excluded due to cost so please speak to myself or someone from the office as soon as possible. It's always a wonderful, adventurous week where we see the children grow and flourish in new activities and experiences.

Kind Regards

Mrs Laura Whateley

Values Award

Rewarding all those who demonstrate our values of kindness, respect and resilience.

Class 1

Leo for demonstrating super resilience and progress with his handwriting and letter formation.

Class 2

Beatrice for demonstrating resilience in her first week.

Class 3

Frankie for demonstrating all of 3 of our Christian values.

Class 4

Hattie for settling so brilliantly into our class - a lovely addition to Long Marston School.

Class 5

Jack C for great focus and resilience this week.

House Points

Larks 122

Martins 115

Swifts 57

Congratulations to the **Larks!**

Attendance this week

Class 1 95.2%

Class 2 88.6%

Class 3 97.8% Well Done!

Class 4 91.3%

Class 5 94.6%

Whole School Attendance this year: 95.2%

Target for the Year: 96%

Coming Up

Tuesday 13th January

- Summer Sports - lunchtime

Wednesday 14th January

- Gardening Club - lunchtime

Thursday 15th January

- Girls Football - lunchtime
- Gardening Club - Lunchtime
- Cheerleading
- Game on Football Club (KS2)
- French (KS1&KS2)
- Drums / Guitar Lessons

Friday 16th January

- Piano Lessons
- Spanish Lessons



School council and House Captain visit to the Houses of Parliament

On Monday, 12th January children from Long Marston will be going to visit the Houses of Parliament. The weather looks wet so please ensure children are wrapped up warm with a waterproof coat. If the rain turns to snow, we may have to cancel so please check your emails in the morning.

Reminder of clubs for this term

The numbers signed up for Mad Science and Cheerleading are quite low, if the number of participants doesn't increase these clubs may have to be cancelled.

Further information about all of our clubs is on our website.

MONDAY	TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY				
Chess (Spring 26) (KS2)	Summer Sports (KS2)	Mini Olympics (KS1)	Mad Science (KS1 & KS2)	Girls Football (KS2)	Gardening Club (KS1/2)	Cheerleading (KS1 & KS2)	French (KS1 & KS2)	Football (KS2)
LUNCHTIME	LUNCHTIME	15:15-16:15	15:15-16:15	LUNCHTIME	LUNCHTIME	15:15-16:15	15:15-16:15	15:15-16:15
(book direct)	Game On (just turn up)	Game On (book direct)	Mad Science (book direct)	Game On (just turn up)	Mrs Buckley (Arbor contribution)	Complete Sport (book direct)	Mdme Rhodes Lingotots (book direct)	Game On (book direct)
12th Jan	13th Jan	13th Jan	21st Jan	15th Jan	22nd Jan	15th Jan	15th Jan	15th Jan

Gardening Club

Gardening Club for the Spring term will start on **Wednesday 21st January** and continue on **Wednesdays** at lunchtime (weather permitting). Please ensure that your child has wellies for gardening as it's very wet and muddy. To assist with planning, it would be helpful if parents can sign children up for the club on Arbor. There are a maximum of 10 places available.

Dates for Spring Half Term

Date and time	Event
Mon 12th Jan	School council and house captains to Houses of Par-
Mon 2nd Feb	Wellbeing week—spirituality focus
Tues 10th Feb	SEND and PPG coffee morning
Weds 11th	Ash Wednesday service in Church
	Perform workshop Classes 1 and 2
Fri 13th Feb	Last day of half term

Reception Applications for 2026

A reminder that the deadline to apply for Reception places for September 2026 is Thursday, 15th January 2026.

Village Hall Car park

A reminder to please not park in the Village Hall car park other than to pick up and drop off. The spaces are required for village hall users who have booked the hall. Many thanks for your help with this.

Forest school and PE—Class 3

There is NO forest school this half term. Class 3 will be on Thursdays after half term. Therefore, for this half term Class 3 will have PE on Thursday and Friday. Please come to school dressed in your PE kit on those days.