

Long Whatton C of E Primary School

Newsletter 10.01.2024

Live, Learn, Grow and Be Thankful



Happy New Year! I do hope you have all had a lovely Christmas and managed to spend time relaxing with family and friends. We are all excited about the New Year ahead and are looking forward to the Spring term.

It was lovely to see so many of you joining us for our festive events before Christmas. I know how much the children enjoy seeing you in school and sharing their performances with you.

We are welcoming back Mrs Norris into the Owls for two afternoons over the next two terms. I know she cannot wait to return and see the children again.

I hope to see many of you over the Spring term at our Honours Assemblies and Reading Buddies.



- 11.01.24 - Robins Geology visitor in School
- 11.01.24 - Young Voices concert
- 15.01.24 - RNLI visiting the Squirrels
- 13.02.24-16.02.24 Key Stage 2 residential visit
- 19.02.24-23.02.24 Half term
- 26.02.24 - Inset Day
- 07.03.24 - World Book Day
- 08.03.24 - (2.30pm) Positive Social will lead a session for parents on helping your child to use social media positively
- 11.03.24 - (2.15pm) - Provisional date for Easter Service (awaiting confirmation from Church)
- 13.03.24 - Reception and Year 6 Height and Weight measurements
- 13.03.24 - (2.30pm) All parents welcome to the children's Spring term Art gallery in the hall.

HONOURS ASSEMBLY

You are very welcome to join us for reading buddies and Honours assembly this term. Reading buddies is a fantastic opportunity to come into school to read with your child in their House point class.

- 18.01.24 - Reading Buddies: 2.30pm-2.45pm
Honours Assembly: 2.45pm-3.10pm
- 29.02.24 - Reading Buddies: 2.30pm-2.45pm
Honours Assembly: 2.45pm-3.10pm
- 14.03.24 - Reading Buddies: 2.30pm-2.45pm
Honours Assembly: 2.45pm-3.10pm

Swimming

Key Stage 1 Swimming dates:

- | | |
|----------|------------|
| 16.01.24 | 27.02.2024 |
| 23.01.24 | 05.03.2024 |
| 30.01.24 | 12.03.2024 |
| 06.02.24 | |
| 13.02.24 | |

Why is reading at home so important?

Children with access to 25 books at home complete an average of 2 more years of school than children from homes without any books.

Reading is a critical skill for succeeding in most school subjects.

A child spends 900 hours a year in school and 7800 hours at home.

Research shows that just 20 minutes a day spent reading with a child helps them develop critical reading skills.

Kids 4-5 years old gain 6 months of reading ability by being read to 3 to 5 times per week.

Learn more:

smartreading.org/parent-resources



Please keep reading with your child 4 times per week and recording this in their reading journals.

Outdoor Learning

The children enjoyed taking their learning outdoors in the final week up to Christmas. They spent time in the Forest School and tried out our new pond at the Eco Garden with some pond dipping!



ELF ON THE SHELF

A huge thank you to our PTA for organising the Elf on the Shelf naming competition. I know the children had so much fun with him and Nate and Jessica Sharples were lucky enough to take him home!

Thank you again to our PTA who organised the Christmas gift sale and refreshments at both the Carol concert and Nativity.



We would also like to say a big thank you to John Fitzgerald for bringing the magic to the Key Stage 1 Christmas Party. I won't say what he did. I'll let the picture speak for itself so that I don't ruin the magic for the children.

We are really looking forward to working with you this Spring term. Remember that our staff are on the doors before and after school, so if you have any questions please just ask.

Best wishes, Mrs Gray and the Long Whatton Team.