

Long Whatton C of E Primary School

Newsletter No 53 12.12.19



What a busy Autumn term this has been! It has been a pleasure to watch the children settle into their new classes and making or renewing friendships. The children have worked incredibly hard this term and have embraced the longest term full of energy and enthusiasm. They are certainly ready for a well earned rest and they can't wait to see what Santa will bring!

Thank you for all of your support this term and from all of us at Long Whatton we wish you a merry Christmas!

A library update



The library is nearly ready to be officially launched in the new year as the PTA are busy organising the last books.

Thank you for the donations of books towards the library.

Santa Run

Thank you so much for those who came to the PTA Sponsored Santa Run on Saturday. The money raised will go towards a replacement Trim Trail for the children. Our other Trim trail was unfortunately condemned in the summer term.

Thank you also to the PTA who organised and set up the event.



Crumble



Crumble has been into school twice now and the children have thoroughly enjoyed reading to her. She has listened carefully to the Busy Bees and is making her way through the house groups over the coming weeks.



Your donations towards the PTA events this past year have allowed the school to purchase the remaining 15 Chromebooks. These have added to our original 15 and we now have a class set of 30. This has made a huge difference to our children as we can now give our children one each when we are teaching computing. They have also allowed our Flying Falcons to keep up their timetables skills in the TT Rock stars after school club.

Thank you for your donations it really does make a difference to our children!

PARENT FORUM

Thank you to parents and carers who have come to our two parent forums held this term.

The parent forum is there to facilitate positive and effective two way communication between parents and the school, providing a channel for communication, feedback and suggestions for improvement.

The minutes from the first meeting are on the website and the second set of minutes will be put on there soon. The meeting focused around our recent OFSTED and where we are going next.



This term we also welcomed 3 OFSTED inspectors into our school. Both staff and governors are very pleased that they confirmed our schools judgement that we are a good school. The judgement reflects the hard work of both staff and governors and I am incredibly proud of our team.

I just wanted to give you an update on the dinner tables that was identified as a target by OFSTED:

'Pupils who bring lunch from home are not able to use the same facilities as pupils who eat a school-provided lunch. Leaders should ensure that these pupils can eat at tables to have the same opportunities as those who have school lunches.'

Leaders at the school agreed with OFSTED as since my arrival at the school both Mrs Conway and I have been asking the School Food Support Service for more tables for our children to sit on. It has taken 12 months , several phone calls and the OFSTED report for the tables to finally arrive. On Friday they were delivered so that now all of our children can finally sit at a table and enjoy lunch together.



We are very proud of our School Council, SNAG group and musicians who made cakes and served tea to the people at the community coffee morning at the church this month.

The children played games, talked and played some beautiful, traditional Christmas music.

The group thoroughly enjoyed spending time with the children.

Long Whatton Football Team

Our newly formed football team have had fantastic success this term and made it all the way to the Danone Cup final!

This success has driven even more to take up football as the numbers are up in Mr Ball's football team and Mr Slaney's House inter sport football competitions during Friday lunchtimes.



Remembrance Day

Thank you to the community who came to join us for our two minute silence for Remembrance Day.

The children read some poems and placed their class wreaths by the village War memorial.

It is important for our children to remember those who have lost their lives through war.

Beaumanor Hall Residential

The Shooting Stars really enjoyed their trip to Beaumanor hall this term. They enjoyed a range of activities from rock climbing, pirate adventures and a sing song by the campfire. A big thank you goes to Miss Hellowell, Mrs York, Miss Ella and Mr Ball for making the trip possible.!



Key Stage 2 Christmas Ensemble

The children are working hard practising for the ensemble and are ready to perform in the church, next Wednesday 18th at 6.00pm.



On Thursday the 19th December there will be two Christmas parties. Flying Falcons and the Phoenix Tribes will be in the morning and the Busy Bees and Shooting Stars will be in the afternoon.

Children are welcome to wear their party clothes for the day or bring them in a bag to change. Please remember to wrap up warm for outdoor plays.

A party food list is available from the class teachers for food for your child to bring to the buffet for the party.

Well done to the Busy Bees and the Shooting Stars for an amazing nativity performance of the Prickly Hay!

Thank you to Mr and Mrs Bowley for the fabric.



Parent Workshops

There have been several parent workshops this term as we feel it's really important for parents to understand how we teach in school so you can work in partnership with the school to help your child.

We have had really good attendance to both our Reading Workshop by the reading specialist Tony Whatmuff and our Maths Workshop led by our maths lead Mrs Plummer.

Thank you for also attending the SATs and Phonics meetings and workshop in the Busy Bees.

There has been really positive feedback about the workshops and parents valued the ideas that they can now try at home.

I have sent out the slides from the reading workshop by email.

Christmas Dinner



Don't forget it's Christmas dinner on Wednesday 18th December. The children are welcome to put on their Christmas jumpers for the day. We will be wearing ours!

Christmas PTA gift sale is on Tuesday the 17th December.



The Shooting Stars have welcomed their class rabbits this term which has completed their topic of Paws, Claws and Whiskers. We will let you know their names when they have taken a vote!