

Dear Families,

Ofsted - I was delighted to be able to share the outcome of our recent Ofsted inspection, last week and I would, once again, like to say how proud I am of our team of staff, of the pupils and also our wider community which includes our families. Longlands is a really special school to work at and it is wonderful that this has been recognised by Ofsted. I would also like to thank our governors who volunteer their time to help lead the school and have been a very important part of the continuing success of the school. Our plans of improvement continue and, as we did last year, we will be asking for your feedback on where things are going well and what we can change/improve next.

Communication - Thank you for those who gave feedback in the summer term, letting us know that one of the areas to look at is **communication**. Throughout last year, communication was generally good however some events in the summer term had to change which meant our communications with you were not as good as they should have been. Apologies for this. We have put together an overview of the year and will be sharing dates with you as early as possible so that you are able to support our school events.

New signage - Another area that I have focused on over the last year is putting Longlands on the map. Many visitors to school say that they did not know that Longlands was here so we have been working to share information about our school, advertise events and also improve the signage. You may have seen our new sign outside Palethorpes and we would like to say an enormous thank you to Palethorpes for allowing us to install the sign there and were good enough to complete the installation for us.



Harvest Festival - Our annual Harvest festival will be held on Wednesday 18th October at Market Drayton Methodist Church and we invite you to join us at **1:30pm for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2** and **2:15pm for Years 3 – 6**. We would also like to make a contribution to the Market Drayton food bank so please could you bring any donations into school on the morning of 18th October.

Goats - A parent recently asked about the names of the new goats, so for anyone who hasn't been introduced, the names that were chosen were Jim and Bob and they are great company for Leo.

Farm Open Day - We will be having a Farm Open Day on **Sunday 8th October** 12:30pm – 3:30pm. Please share this far and wide as it would be wonderful to see lots of our wonderful community at this event. The fundraising helps us to be able to buy food and bedding and also pay for vets bills. We are also hoping to be able to update the animal enclosures this year. Entry is free and there will be stalls and activities.

Open days for September 2024 Reception intake - We have arranged tours for any families with a child who is due to start school in September 2024. Our Open Days are a great way to see inside our school and discover what we do for yourself. You will be able to visit school to look around and ask any questions. The first of these tours is on our Farm Open Day (please see above). You can just come along to this and I will take you around the school. Our other tour dates and times will be shared at the start of next week, with details of how to book one of the Open Days.

Lisa Millington
Headteacher



This week at Longlands



Happy birthday to:

Jesse	Saplings	Caiden	Rowan	Nancy	Beech	Harper	Beech
Matilda	Fir	JJ	Willow	Lettie	Rowan	Milena	Maple
Hudson	Saplings	Mia	Beech	Samuel	Elm		

UPCOMING EVENTS

September	
26 th	Year 5 and 6 swimming
27 th	Weekly Stay and Play (baby and toddler group)
28 th	Y3-6 Netball workshops – PE kit needed
29 th	9am -10am Macmillan coffee morning- all welcome
30 th	Ginger and Spice Festival – choir performing
October	
3 rd	Taylor Shaw (lunch supplier) Food Focus Sessions
3 rd	Year 5 and 6 swimming
5 th	KS2 swimming festival – more info to follow
8 th	12:30 – 3:30 - Farm Open Day and new Reception Intake (2024) Open Day
10 th	Year 5 and 6 swimming
11 th	Weekly Stay and Play (baby and toddler group)
11 th	Stoke City Assembly
17 th	Year 5 and 6 swimming
18 th	Weekly Stay and Play (baby and toddler group)
18 th	Harvest Festival 1:30pm for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and 2:15pm for Years 3 – 6.
19 th	Primary PE Varsity (The team will receive letters).
20 th	Tennis Event – (The team will receive letters).



STAR OF THE WEEK



Acorns	Addison
Saplings	Jesse
Fir	Andrei
Willow	JJ
Maple	Theo
Rowan	Jessica C
Elm	Corey
Beech	Harper
Oak	Sienna

