

**Dear Families,**

It has been great to see so many parents in and around school over the last 2 weeks. It was lovely to see all of the **World Book Day** costumes last week. The costumes were really creative and we are thankful for the time that you gave to share books with the children, developing their love for literature. If you haven't already, make sure to download your book token—it's valid until March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Thank you to all of the families who were able to attend Parents' Evening over the last 2 days. Your presence means a lot to us and we appreciate your involvement in your child's education which makes such a difference. Parent afternoons are also a great way to see what your child is doing in class so please look out for the dates of parent afternoons which will be sent to you by the class teacher.

On Friday, one of our girls' football teams attended the **Let Girls Play: Our Biggest EVER Football** tournament! Inspired by England's Lionesses' incredible journey, from their Euros win to the World Cup final, we're championing #LetGirlsPlay. By 2024, the goal is for equal football opportunities for girls in schools and clubs. The team played brilliantly getting through to the final and showed off our brand-new team kit, generously funded by the Premier League. We are very proud that girls at Longlands have great opportunities and will continue to provide these chances for our girls, in addition to all of our other school teams.

This week, Willow class had a fantastic trip to **Wild Zoological Park** and Fir, Acorns and Nursery had a visit in school from **Animal in Hands**. We continue to be so grateful to **M7 Education** for their support in funding these trips and workshops for free!

You may have noticed the **new basketball hoops** on the Key Stage 2 playground. Thanks to funding from Sport England, we've installed these hoops for PE lessons and break times. They have already proved very popular and I really enjoyed practising my own basketball skills with the children during lunchtime last week.

Following the sad loss of our 2 goats, we are delighted to introduce **our new goat, Bridget**. Thank you to Mr and Mrs Jones who have helped school to find a companion for Leo, our billy goat. Bridget is a 10 week old kid who is still being bottle fed by staff and is bringing great joy to both the staff and children.

We are receiving regular donations of **free Sim cards** which are pre-loaded with data and free calls. These are available from the office so please come in and collect one.

We also have **free radiator keys** and we are told that by bleeding your radiators, this will help households **save up to £155** on energy bills each year. Again, these are available from the office so please call in to collect one.

Please see the attached poster about **healthy sleeping habits**. Sleep is so important to the mental and physical wellbeing of children. It supports physical health, immune function, and cognitive development. The amount of sleep that children get can negatively or positively effect their learning, memory, and the learning of new words. Lack of sleep can lead to mood swings and hyperactivity. Well-rested children show positive behaviour and emotional regulation. Long-term effects include links to allergies, anxiety, and academic challenges in as they get older.

Next week, is the last week of term before we break up for the **Easter holiday**. We break up on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March and return to school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April.

*Lisa Millington*  
**Headteacher**



### This week at Longlands



 **Happy birthday to:**

Everleigh Fir      Joseph Rowan      Hannah Rowan      Leland      Oak

### UPCOMING EVENTS

March	
18 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 Chester Zoo trip
19 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 swimming
21 <sup>st</sup>	Sport Festival (The team will receive a letter)
21 <sup>st</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 4 PGL residential
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Break up for Easter Holiday
w/b 25 <sup>th</sup> March and 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Easter Holiday
April	
8 <sup>th</sup>	Summer term starts
9 <sup>th</sup> and 10 <sup>th</sup>	Chance to Shine Cricket
10 <sup>th</sup>	Netball finals (The team will receive a letter)
11 <sup>th</sup>	Hedgehog rescue talk for all classes
16 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup>	Chance to Shine Cricket
19 <sup>th</sup>	Schools Mini-marathon
22 <sup>nd</sup>	5 year old dental survey
22 <sup>nd</sup> to 25 <sup>th</sup>	Fir and Willow Bikeability (bikes provided by school)
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Year 3 and 4 swimming
30 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 and 4 swimming

### STAR OF THE WEEK

Acorns	Eddie
Saplings	Alfie
Fir	Alice
Willow	The Whole Class!
Maple	Ivy
Rowan	Arianne
Elm	Zachary
Beech	Jake
Oak	DJ

