



Longstone CE (VA) School

The Cross

DE45 1TZ

Telephone: 01629 640377

Email: enquiries@longstone.derbyshire.sch.uk

Website: www.longstone.derbyshire.sch.uk

Executive Headteacher: Mr Simon Beahan

Newsletter – July 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

We have reached the end of the school year and we **close today – Friday 21 July for the summer break**. We reopen on **Monday 5 September 2022** (we are closed on Monday 4 September for a staff training day). I hope you all have a safe, healthy and fabulous summer break!



Extension to the collaboration with Curbar

The school is set to continue its collaboration with Curbar Primary School until August 2025. The benefits of two great teams working together is increasingly being felt and we are looking forward to continuing and developing these productive links next year.

Thanks!



I would like to thank everyone for their amazing support this year. Firstly, all the teaching and support staff who work so hard to provide the children with a good education and so many amazing opportunities. Also, to the school governors who skillfully support the school and give up their time freely and willingly. A big thanks also to FOLS who are so committed to supporting our school for the benefit of our children. And thanks to the parents/adults who support both the children and school in ensuring our pupils reach their potential. Finally, thanks to the children who never cease to impress me with their kindness, enthusiasm and determination to make the school the very special place it is. I look forward to these partnerships continuing in September and beyond.

Staffing update

Mrs Gregory and Mrs Shimwell are both leaving us today (although I'm sure we'll see them back in school at some point!). On behalf of everyone, I'd like to thank them for their hard work and commitment to our children during the past year and more. We send them our best wishes for the future.



We welcome Mrs Adriana Buttle to the team in September. She will be teaching Donaldson class for two days a week (Thursday and Friday) allowing Mrs Rawding to have her management and SEND time. Mrs Buttle has already been in school to cover classes and is known to many of the children – she is incredibly excited about starting properly in September. I know you will join me in giving her a warm welcome.

Class transition day

Children spent Wednesday 5 July in their new classes (including our new 'Little Grufflaos'). It was lovely to see the pupils bounding into school with excitement (more excitement than normal!) to see what life will be like in September!



Sports Day

We enjoyed a tremendous sports day on Thursday 13 July. The children had a great time and thanks to all who were able to come and support the children. Thanks to Mrs Reeves for a superbly organised event. It was lovely to enjoy the family picnic afterwards too.



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'Aladdin Trouble'

'Amazing', said The Daily Bugle; 'A panto extravaganza!!', claimed The Evening News; 'What a bunch of talented performers!', stated The Tribune. The reviews are in and it was a unanimous appreciation of the KS2 children who performed superbly at the recent shows. Thanks to those adults who could attend and show their appreciation too.

The Hive



Thanks to all the staff who have helped run The Hive this year. Mrs Clemson is stepping back from the role. We are committed to keeping the Hive going next year and we are in the process of finalising a new After School Club leader for September and will share this news with you shortly. Please contact the office as normal if you like to book Hive sessions. Please be aware that there is a late fee if you collect your child after the agreed time.

School meal prices

Derbyshire Catering Service has reluctantly made the difficult decision to increase the charge for paid school meals. The increase is 95p per day. From 1st September 2023 the cost of a paid school meal will go up from £2.30 to £3.25. This will be updated automatically on ParentPay accounts. Please note that this price increase is not a school decision. School dinners are free to those children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 (Universal Free School Meals) and to those in receipt of free school meals (due to family income or benefit levels – see below) in Key Stage 2.

Income Based Free School Meals

For every child who qualifies for free meals due to family income or benefit levels, our school receives the maximum funding to support your child through something called the Pupil Premium. It is only available to schools **if you apply and are eligible** for income based free school meals. With Pupil Premium funding, schools can organise extra help and support for children. Applying for free meals is very quick and easy so if you think you may qualify for free school meals, please still take the time to apply. Even though your child might be able to have a free meal anyway, **our school needs the funding that comes from Income Based Free School Meals**. To find out if you are eligible, please go to the Council's website at www.derbyshire.gov.uk and search for 'free school meals'.



The FOLS Sizzle

Due to poor weather, FOLS had to postpone the end of year sizzle. Keep your eyes out for new date in the autumn term. A big thanks to all those FOLS volunteers who have helped organise recent events which raises valuable funds which can be put back into the school for the benefit of our children.

Well Dressing

I'm sure you will have noticed our amazing well dressing at the bottom of the drive. Our children and staff invested a lot of time and effort to complete this year's dressing on the theme of Longstone, including our vision of Nurture, Ignite and Shine. Well done all.

Thanks

Thanks to Derbyshire County Council and Councillor Alasdair Sutton who have provided a grant of £1000 to FOLS towards the cost of external coverings for the Donaldson and Dahl outdoor areas. Much appreciated!

School Uniform

Our lovely school uniform can be ordered directly from www.logoleisurewear.com. This can be ordered directly to your home or it can be ordered and collected from school.



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Assessment

Well done to all of our children who undertook a statutory assessment of some sort (KS1/KS2 SATs, Y1 phonics check, Y4 Multiplication Tables Check) during the summer term. All children showed considerable determination and focus to do their very best. Congratulations to all. Please see our Y6 results below and how they compare to provisional national data.

Subject	Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard: school	Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard: nationally (2022)	Average scaled score: school	Average scaled score: nationally
English reading	88%	73%	109	105
English grammar, punctuation and spelling	88%	72%	108	105
Mathematics	100%	73%	108	104
English writing (teacher assessment)	71%	71%	N/A	N/A

Subject	Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard: Longstone	Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard: nationally (2023)
Reading, writing and maths combined	71%	59%

Y6 Leavers

Goodbye, Au Revoir, Arrivederci... we wish our year 6s lots of happiness and success in the future as they embark on the next stage of their lives. They have done the school proud during their time at Longstone and they have given, and I am sure they will take away, many happy memories. I hope they will also take away the values that they have developed at Longstone and continue to build on their academic success. We will miss you!

‘Set your sights on high; Let no one steal your dreams; your only limit is the sky.’

Summer Reading Challenge – Ready, Set, Read!

The Summer Reading Challenge returns to Derbyshire Libraries in July 2023. This year's challenge is **all about games and sports**. The Reading Agency have teamed up with the Youth Sport Trust to inspire children to discover the power of sport and play through reading. Join the superstar team and their mascots as they weave their way through a fictional obstacle course!

If you're aged between 4 and 11 you can join at [your local library](#). The challenge is to read 6 or more library books over the summer. You'll get 6 stickers if you finish the challenge and once you've collected them all you'll get a medal and certificate!

There are a variety of fun activities in many of our libraries to inspire an interest in games and sports. Please see the [Facebook page](#) or contact your local library for details.





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An exciting term...

We have enjoyed a fantastic summer term with the children enjoying some more amazing opportunities. Highlights have included, amongst other things; the summer musical showcase; the Buxton Music Festival; visit to play with the Halle; the joint Longstone and Curbar residential to Liverpool and trip to the Houses of Parliament and the Foreign Commonwealth Office; the Y5/6 visit to Crucial Crew; Wild Week and many, many sporting events. Phew!

Well-being

The Changing Lives Service is Derby and Derbyshire's Children and Young People's Mental Health Support Team. You can refer your child for support if you have concerns about their emotional wellbeing. You can contact the service for more information and advice on: 0300 303 4663 or email drcs.adminchanginglives@nhs.net.



To find local information about support you can access yourself, this is available via the Derby and Derbyshire Emotional Health & Wellbeing Website: www.derbyandderbyshireemotionalhealthandwellbeing.uk

Out of Hours and Summer Safeguarding – Advice for Parents

Most of us look forward to the summer break with great excitement but for some young people it can be a time of anxiety especially for those who rely on regular face-to-face contacts with their friends or who enjoy the security and structure provided by the school day.

If you are concerned about any young person in respect of their emotional wellbeing or you feel that they are vulnerable to harm or abuse and you are uncertain whether they are receiving support you may wish to contact one of the agencies listed. Many of the agencies have established links and will ensure that your concern or query is directed to the appropriate agency.

- Call Derbyshire (Derbyshire County Council Social Services) 01629 593 193
- Child Line 0800 1111
- Online issues or exploitation contact Child Exploitation and Online Protection Agency (CEOP) <https://www.ceop.police.uk/Ceop-Report/>
- Suspicion that a young person is at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation- contact Safe and Sound 01332 362120
- Advice, support and options if you, or someone you love, goes missing or runs away- 24 Hour Anonymous Helpline Text or Call 116 000
- Radicalisation/Extremist behaviour see advice on: <http://www.derbyshire.police.uk/Safety-advice/Terrorism/Prevent-Team/Prevent-Team.aspx>
- Or contact: Police 101 (999 in an emergency)
- Crimestoppers UK 0800 555 111

Diary Dates

We will provide you with key dates for the autumn term on our return in September. Please find next year's key term dates over the page including when school will be closed for staff training.

Kind regards

Mr Simon Beahan

Executive Headteacher



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Longstone Primary School Terms and Holidays 2023/24

Half Term 1 (39 days)

Monday 4 September 2023	Whole School Training Day – School Closed to pupils
Tuesday 5 September 2023	Start of Autumn Term 1 – School Open to pupils
Thursday 26 October 2023	End of half term
Friday 27 October 2023	Whole School Training Day – School Closed to pupils

Half Term Holiday – Friday 27 October 2023 – Friday 3 November 2023

Half Term 2 (34 days)

Monday 6 November 2023	Start of Autumn Term 2 – School Open to pupils
Thursday 21 December 2023	End of term
Friday 22 December 2023	Whole School Training Day – School Closed to pupils

Christmas Holiday – Friday 22 December 2023 – Friday 5 January 2024

Half Term 3 (30 days)

Monday 8 January 2024	Start of Spring Term 1 – School Open to pupils
Friday 16 February 2024	End of half term

Half Term Holiday – Monday 19 February 2024 – Monday 26 February 2024

Half Term 4 (23 days)

Monday 26 February 2024	Whole School Training Day – School Closed to pupils
Tuesday 27 February 2024	Start of Spring Term 2 – School Open to pupils
Thursday 28 March 2024	End of term

Easter Holiday – Friday 28 March 2024 - Friday 12 April 2024

Half Term 5 (29 days)

Monday 15 April 2024	Start of Summer Term 1 – School Open to pupils
Monday 6 May 2024	School Closed (May Day Bank Holiday)
Friday 24 May 2024	End of half term

Half Term Holiday – Monday 27 May 2024 – Monday 3 June 2024

Half Term 6 (36 days)

Monday 3 June 2024	Whole School Training Day – School Closed to pupils
Tuesday 4 June 2024	Start of Summer Term 2 – School Open to pupils
Tuesday 23 July 2024	End of term