



LONG CLOSE SCHOOL

PEGASUS NEWS

SUMMER TERM

ISSUE 9

FRIDAY 30 JUNE 2017

THE HEADMASTER WRITES...



At the time of writing this newsletter I have just walked out of an Introductory Meeting for the new Year 7 children and parents where my only job was to hand over to the new Head Teacher, Ms McBride. The reality of the end of term being just a week away is really starting to hit home and the fact that I am not going to be here come September is coming more sharply into focus. There is a huge amount to fit in between now and the end of term and we have just had a fun-packed week with various trips out of school and the Year 5 and 6 production being a huge highlight, not just of the week, but of the year! I have become accustomed to the quality of Mrs Bingham's productions and the standard that the children reach, at such a young age, and in such a short space of time I find incredible! They are so brave to act and sing and dance in front of their peers and teachers and these experiences, however daunting, will stay with them forever and will enrich their lives. Some of the Year 6 pupils in the play will now be involved in the Induction Day for next year as their journey at Long Close School continues. The new Year 7s will be taking part in a 'survival experience' with an outside company by the end of which they will have broken down barriers, started to make new friendships, will have enjoyed themselves and will feel excited about September. Across the school children will be moving up to their new classes today, spending time with their new teachers and finding out all about the changes of expectations and routines that the New Year will bring. Last night the senior staff hosted the Year 11 leavers at school to say our farewells and tonight the Year 6 will be having a celebration hosted by the PTA. Moving onto the next school can be an emotional time but, as I wrote last week, it does present us with an opportunity to reflect on the past and enjoy some happy memories. I started this year discussing my favourite moment over the summer holidays, which was the women's hockey final (won by the GB team), and I am delighted to be joined by Hannah MacLeod for Speech Day, who was part of that victorious team. This will close the circle quite neatly on the academic year but should also be an inspirational influence that helps us to look forward with purpose to the future. I often state that September is my favourite time of the school year and the reason for this is that the energy levels from pupils and teachers are at their peak following a long summer break. Fresh ideas and imaginative ideas fertilise the educational landscape of the school and make them hugely enjoyable places to work. For many pupils moving on this week, whether from Year 11 or Year 6 it may be slightly more difficult to picture the excitement of September. There may be nerves and apprehension. Today is very much about trying to reduce this for the pupils we have joining or for those moving through the school but we will never manage to alleviate all of the nervousness – I know – I am feeling it too! But I am confident that September will bring great things for all the pupils at Long Close School as there is a fantastic team here ready to take them through their next stage of education. Once again this week I have spent quite a bit of time with Ms McBride and I have every confidence that the school has a fantastic leader coming in to take the school into a new and exciting stage of its development. She is looking forward to seeing you all at the Speech Days this coming week and I also know that she too is excited about September.

Inside this issue:

Early Year News	2
Prep School News	4
Senior School & Music News	6
School Notices & Match Report	8
PTA News	9

AFTER SCHOOL CARE MOBILE NUMBERS

ASC team members can be contacted on the following numbers between 3.30pm and 6.00pm each day.

If you are running late to collect your child from ASC, please give the staff on duty a quick call to let them know. Thank you!

Nursery, Reception,

Yrs. 1 & 2:

07783 198 998

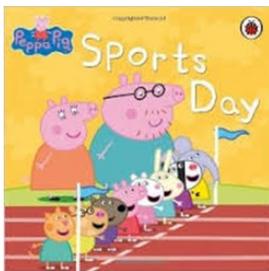
Yrs. 3-11:

07986 316 132

EARLY YEARS UPDATE BY MRS HARRIS

YELLOW ROOM

We have been developing our physical skills this week in preparation for our Sports Day, which will take place on Monday 3rd July from 9am. The children showed good listening and balancing skills when they joined in doing some warm up exercises every morning, we all stretched up high, bent down low, twisted left to right, jogged on the spot and even tried balancing on one foot! We listened to a Peppa Pig story called 'Sports Day,' and we went out onto the school field to practice some races, the children listened for 'Ready, Steady, Go!' before they set off. All the children enjoyed printing patterns using corks and paint onto paper to make flags for the children to wave and cheer on their peers during our Sport Day. We also played with our sensory balls by rolling them around on the carpet and practised throwing them up and trying to catch them as they came down.



GREEN ROOM

This week the children have been exploring holidays and the seaside. They have been thinking about where they have been on holiday and how they got there, did they go by train, plane or bus? The children recalled their experiences and we thought about what things we would like to take on our holidays with us and why they are important. We discussed water, sunhats, sun cream, a bucket and a spade.

The children then used their imagination by using the boats and sea creatures thinking about what different sounds and smells they may find at the beach. They thought about seals, seagulls, people and the sea.

In the garden the children tackled a very tricky obstacle course. They started by balancing a bean bag on their head before standing in the hoop and lifting it over their body. The children then balanced across the stepping stones and crawled through the tunnel. Everybody did super listening as Mrs Sandhu gave the children some instructions to follow.



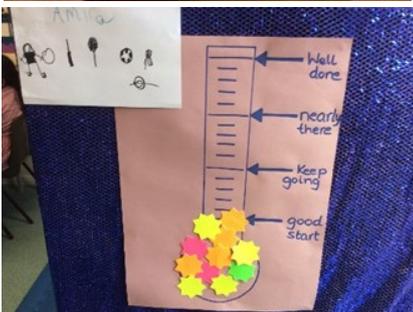
THIS WEEK IN EARLY YEARS

RED AND BLUE ROOMS

The children in Red and Blue rooms were involved in a plethora of fun physical activities this week to celebrate our Sports week. Despite the postponement of our Sport Day, the children immersed themselves in many exciting physical challenges in preparation for the new date on Monday the 3rd. The children completed an obstacle course and a tricky egg and spoon balancing relay race. They also explored some sports paraphernalia such as cheerleading pompoms, shin pads and swimming floats to support their role play pretending to be famous footballers or swimmers. We continued our transition program this week as the children visited and had fun meeting their new teachers and peers in their new classrooms during transition afternoon.

RECEPTION

This week Reception have been busy helping another friend in trouble. Sportacus from Lazy Town heard about how Reception have been helping lots of others, solving problems and completing tasks, so this week he asked for them to help Lazy Town. Sportacus needed the children to help fill the town's energy meter with lots of energy, before they were named the laziest town ever! The only way to do this was by everyone getting active and doing lots of moving about! Well it was a good job Mrs Harris had given the children lots of goodies, including a fun wheel, as part of the 'Change 4 Life' initiative. We used this wheel to help us choose activities throughout the week to be active. Reception have been jumping, hopping, running, dancing and one of our favourites, yoga! But Reception also learnt that being healthy is not just about exercise, but eating lots of 'sports candy' like apples, oranges and all the other fruits we enjoy. We also need to eat a variety of vegetables and drink lots of water! Reception did an amazing job getting stars to add to the energy meter. We have had lots of fun getting active and thinking about how to keep our bodies healthy. Sportacus was so impressed with our efforts that he has promised to send the children fruit lollies for next week's Sports day!



PREP SCHOOL NEWS

KEY STAGE 1

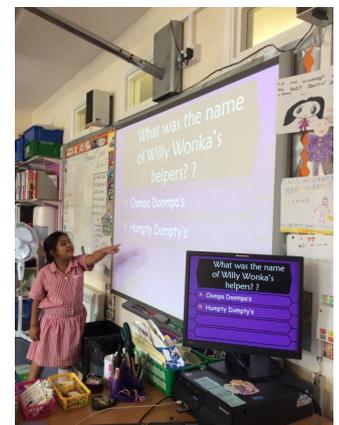
Year 1

What an eventful and busy week! Monday saw Year 1 perform their first ever assembly; Jack and the beanstalk! Miss Staniford and Mrs Hallett were extremely proud of all the children and their hard work learning their lines and getting into character! Well done Year 1! Tuesday saw our trip to Black Park for a minibeast workshop. The children were given resources to share and use to collect creatures before looking carefully at them through magnified pots and sharing what they found with their peers. There was much excitement as they went off and collected woodlice, ants, spiders, moths, millipedes and slugs! Everyone was given the opportunity to help the park rangers to create a big hotel before introducing their insects to the newly built home! A calippo ice lolly in the rain caused much excitement as you can imagine followed by a walk which saw the children spot a tiny frog and many wild birds- a fun day was had by all!



Year 2

As part of the English curriculum, the children were asked to plan and present a short talk to the rest of the class. The children had all of last week to prepare their talk on the topic of their choice and planned for their presentation to last around two minutes. To help support them with this task the children brought in a wide range of props such as: photos, PowerPoints, trophies, costumes and cuddly toys! Wow! Mrs Woodcraft and Miss Moss were blown away by the children's ability to confidently stand in front of their peers with such maturity and verbalise their thoughts clearly and concisely. Well done Year 2, public speakers in the making!



Year 3

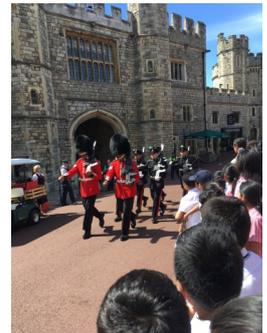
This week Year 3 have enjoyed combining their History knowledge with their Design Technology skills. In our research about the Romans, one of the things that has enthralled the children the most is the wonderful mosaics. They have created their own replica Roman mosaic tile this week by gluing down tiny coloured stones in beautiful patterns on a square tile background. Their teachers were so impressed by their dexterity and precision! Well done Year 3! The children were also captivated when researching the life of the powerful leader, Julius Caesar. Did you know he was the first leader to put an image of his head on a coin? The children had fun making their own model coin out of clay and are looking forward to painting them in metallic colours next week.

PREP SCHOOL NEWS

KEY STAGE 2

Year 4

There was a buzz of excitement, in Year 4, on Monday morning, as we prepared to go on our trip to Windsor Castle. It was surprising how many children had not visited Windsor Castle before, even though it is in a close proximity to the school. As always, Windsor Castle was magnificent! Its motte and two baileys, its elegant rooms and towering castle buildings had us all in awe. The children found out so many interesting facts. Did you know, Queen Mary is our present Queen's grandmother and her doll's house is on display at the castle? The children enjoyed the workshop, which focused on heraldry; sitting in the great hall was certainly an unusual classroom to be in. Back at Long Close School, several lessons have involved discussing, drawing and researching what we found out. A HUGE thank you to the parent helpers, Mrs Majid and Mrs Bhagi, who were fabulous!



Year 5

We rounded off an exciting week with a fabulous trip to the Gurdwara. The children were really excited to see just how the Sikh religion worships. We started off by taking off our shoes, covering our heads with a scarf and washing our hands. Mr Nirmal very kindly explained how the temple is open 24 hours a day, serving food for anybody of any religion. We saw the volunteers preparing vegetables for lunch and cooking the delicious langar (food). The children were offered a vegetable curry, a lentil dish, yogurt and chapatis. To finish off this dish, pupils were also given some sweet noodles and a delicious shortbread biscuit. We sat on the floor amongst the worshipers and all the pupils were even offered seconds! Following this, the children proceeded to the prayer hall where the Guru Granth Sahib was being read. We were lucky enough to attend on the day which the scriptures were being read over the weekend from start to finish. After that, Mr Nirmal explained the main beliefs of the Sikh religion and asked children questions about what they already knew. We were so proud of their deep understanding and mature attitude! The children behaved with respect and gained a great deal from the experience. This week, Year 5 have researched about Greek theatres and produced independent information leaflets showing what they have learnt. They have also designed Greek theatre masks showing comedy and tragedy. In English, the comprehension focus on Eid-ul-Fitr and children used the text to work on their retrieval and inference skills. We hope that everyone had a fantastic Eid celebration! Throughout the week, we have been rehearsing for the Oliver performance and we can confidently say that all the children have worked so hard and, with Mrs Bingham's guidance, have produced an excellent show for you all. We hope that you all enjoyed it!



BUSINESS CLUB UPDATE

Come and tidy your classrooms, teachers, with clean, clean classroom.

We take orders on Mondays and Tuesdays and clean on Thursdays however there are a number of packages that you can choose of.

There will be a sheet of paper in the teachers' lounge where you can order.

Messy classrooms will turn into clean classrooms!

Harris, Anisha and sumedha.

CLEAN, CLEAN CLASSROOM



Come and pre-order your slot to wash your car by Crystal Carwash! Your pre-orders can be made this week after school and the service will be offered next Wednesday.

COMPETITIVE PRICES!

Crystal Carwash:

Kalim, Hadi, Raheim

Business Club

The finished product



Sweet Tooth will be selling fresh and delicious smoothies next Friday during first break. Make sure that you bring £1-£1.50 so that you can enjoy our delicious and refreshing treats!

HARVEY PALASH AARIZ

SWEET TOOTH

SCHOOL NOTICES



THE READING AGENCY AND LIBRARIES PRESENT
ANIMAL AGENTS
SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2017
animal-agents.org.uk

Slough Libraries
Summer Holiday Activities
1 July - 16 September 2017

www.slough.gov.uk/libraries

Slough Borough Council

SLOUGH LIBRARIES

The fun doesn't stop with the Summer Reading Challenge - there are a HUGE selection of both FREE and paid for events across all of their libraries this Summer!

www.slough.gov.uk/libraries/animal-agents-summer-reading-challenge-2017

RETURN OF JUDO KITS

Can anyone leaving at end of this term please return their judo kit to Gary before they leave on Friday 7 July. Last Judo lesson for this term is Monday 3 July - therefore returns on this evening would be appreciated.

SCHOOL EVENTS FOR W/C 3 JULY 2017

Mon 3 July—Yr. 10 Shakespeare Globe Performance

Senior School Enrichment Week

Tues 4 July—Yr. 2 Trip to Fishers Farm

Yr. 3 Reward Trip to Chessington Zoo

Wed 5 July—Yr. 6 Final Assembly

Yr. 8 Trip to Houses of Parliament

Yr. 7 Bray Lake Activity Day

Yrs. 9-10 Softball House Matches

Junior Speech Day (Rec, Yrs. 1 & 2)

Thurs 6 July—National Games Dance Performance—Senior Girls

Yrs. 8 –10 Enrichment Experience

End of Year Reports go home

Yr. 7 Trip to 'The Woman in Black'

Fri 7 July—Prep & Senior School Speech Day

END OF TERM

PTA NEWS

PTA News Friday 30th June 2017

Only 1 week of the school year left, I am sure that we say this before every summer break *"how did that come around so quickly?"*

There is no denying that the children have many achievements to celebrate over the past year, and for some it's a bigger period of change as they move on from Long Close to other schools. Tonight we are looking forward to treating the Year 6 pupils to a well-deserved evening out to celebrate their hard work this year.



Your PTA are also celebrating our achievements on the fundraising front. **We managed to raise a very impressive £10,000 this year.** After accounting for the expenses incurred for suppliers, venue hire, prizes and of course tuck shop stock we are left with a great profit of **£4,500**

Some of this profit has already been given back to the important people (the children) in the form of the playground equipment /table tennis tables and storage. As well as the year 6 and year 11 leavers events/gifts.

We have a fabulous £1,800 left towards our next fundraising goal.

Coming up

A full report on our accounts will be provided at our AGM, this will be at the end of September/ early October, date tbc. Everyone is welcome to the AGM and we encourage you to join us if you are interested in becoming part of the PTA committee, taking on a role as class rep or just want to help by volunteering at events.

PTA Social this eve, 8.45pm.

This evening your PTA will be reviewing the year over drinks in Browns Bar and Restaurant, Windsor. If you want to join us please do. We always welcome feedback and ideas to help shape future events.



Stay in contact with us-

Join the PTA Facebook page



longcloseschoolpta@gmail.com