

3rd September 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new school year and an especially warm welcome to our new Reception pupils. I know you will make sure our new parents and children are given a Longney welcome and made to feel part of our community.

I hope you have all had a lovely summer and your children are rested and ready for the term ahead. We already have some exciting activities planned for this term including the Friends of Longney School (FOLS) Promise Auction which will take place next week, Junior Parkrun (Stonehouse), African drumming workshop, Harvest Festival and a whole school trip to Westonbirt Arboretum.

FOLS PROMISES AUCTION

On Friday, 13th September, the Friends of Longney School (FOLS) will be holding a Promise Auction at The Anchor. This will be a good way to meet other parents whilst raising much needed funds for our school. Further details to follow this week.

JUNIOR PARKRUN TAKEOVER

On Sunday 15th September at 9.00am, we are doing a 'take over' of the Junior Parkrun at Stonehouse. It would be great to see as many purple t shirts at the 2 km run as possible. FOLS will be running the refreshment stall and any profit we make will go into our fundraising.

<https://www.parkrun.org.uk/stonehouse-juniors/>

INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS

At Longney we offer instrumental lessons for guitar, keyboard, flute, clarinet and violin. Please see Heidi if you would like your child to take up this opportunity.

LIVING VALUES

This term our Living Values are Respect and Thankfulness . Please find the Home -School Value sheet for Respect with ideas for you to explore with your child/children at home.

HEALTHY EATING - REMINDER

At Longney we encourage pupils to think about eating healthily.

Break times – If you want your child to have a snack please send fresh fruit, dried fruit, (not fruit winders as they are so sweet and sticky), or a healthy cereal bar. Please do not send loose nuts as they may choke on these in the playground. Sweets, chocolate and biscuits are not suitable for a mid-morning snack.

Lunch - All pupils in Class 1 and 2 are now entitled to a free school lunch. If, however, you do decide to send your child with a packed lunch – please try to include a variety of food groups for your child. We do notice a deterioration in behaviour in those children who have a lot of chocolate, cake and biscuits in their lunch box and not a lot else.

Water bottles - Pupils are encouraged to drink water during the day to keep them hydrated. All pupils should come to school with a labelled sports bottle. Only water is permitted during lesson time.

Please find attached a newsletter from Gloucester Early Help team that contains information and tips about Healthy Lifestyles and in particular how to create a healthy lunchbox.

MEDICAL/DENTAL APPOINTMENTS IN SCHOOL TIME

If you need to collect your child during the school day for an appointment, please first go to Heidi in the office so she knows your child is going out for class. On return to school please would you again go to the office to check your child back in. This enables us to know exactly who is in school at any one time in case of an emergency e.g. fire

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

As you are aware, we work hard to ensure that all our pupils attend school and we are very grateful for your support in this area. The research demonstrates there is a direct correlation for children between attendance and achievement. We have always been very proud of our attendance.

If your child is unavoidably away from school due to illness, please phone Heidi in the office before 9.30am. If you know you will be late to pick up at 3pm due to traffic or some other problem, please also ring and let us know. If you need to request time out of school for your child, you must inform us in writing.

I am not able to authorise absence from school unless there are exceptional circumstances. If you do need to request time out of school for your child, please complete the absence form available from the office or on our website. Your request must be submitted two weeks prior to your child's absence.

Class registers are taken straight away and any pupil arriving after 8.50 am will be recorded as late. If your child is late after 9.00 am when registers have been close, a mark of unauthorised lateness will be recorded. Registers are scrutinised by the local authority and persistent lateness will be addressed.

MEDICINES

Medicines should be taken to the office in a labelled container which clearly states the child's name and dosage required and an authorisation form must be signed. If your child has a medicine that they self-administer, such as an inhaler, please send a note to school authorising the use and setting out clear dosage levels. We do not hold Calpol in school for general use.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Pupils at Longney look very smart in their uniform and this is part of the high expectations of the school. The dress code is a purple sweatshirt or cardigan, white polo shirt or white shirt or blouse, grey or black trousers, shorts, skirts or pinafore dress, purple gingham summer dress and black shoes. Trainers are not considered suitable footwear for the whole school day.

Watches and one set of plain studs or sleepers are the only jewellery that may be worn and long hair should be tied back. Both of these are for health and safety reasons. Nail varnish is not acceptable in school.

P.E. KIT

All the children need to have their kit in school every day. Years 3 to 6 will need their football boots and trainers as well so that they can take part in PE on the Maze throughout the year. All classes will need trainers, please to not send daps in as they get wet very.

P.E. kit is: purple t-shirt and black shorts/skorts, school tracksuit or black jogging bottoms/dark sweatshirt bottoms for cooler weather. An older style white school P.E. t-shirt is acceptable. Shin pads and football socks will be needed for football club.

WELLINGTON BOOTS

We allow the children to play on the Maze and in the Adventure play area at lunchtimes unless it has been very wet as long as they have their wellington boots in school. Please ensure a named pair of wellingtons are on the class wellie rack every day.

FOREST SCHOOL

When your child's class attends their Forest School session (approximately once every four weeks), they may come to school in the clothes they are going to wear for the session. Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately as these sessions take place in nearly all weathers and the children will be outside for the whole morning. Two pairs of socks are good with wellington boots along with a spare pair in case they get wet. Jeans are not recommended as they take a long time to dry if they get wet, leggings are not suitable. Please make sure your child brings a coat on these days. Please do not send your child to Forest School in shorts. This is because there are stinging nettles and brambles around some areas.

Please ensure all uniform/clothing is named.

Yours sincerely
Penny Howard
Headteacher



Dates Term 1 and 2 - 2019

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| Thursday 5 th September | Skylark Class to Forest School |
| Friday 7 th September | FOLS meeting 9.00 am in the school hall No Parents' Celebration Worship this week |
| Monday 9 th September | Clubs start this week |
| Tuesday 10 th September | Swift 1st swimming |
| Thursday 12 th September | Swift Class to Forest School |
| Friday 13 th September | Parents' Celebration Worship – 2.40 p.m. Please come and join us! Year 5 boys' rugby @ The King's School 2.15 pm FOLS Promise Auction at The Anchor |
| Sunday 15 th September | Stonehouse Junior Parkrun Longney Takeover |
| Monday 16 th September | Whole school trip to Westonbirt Arboretum |
| Thursday 19 th September | Goldfinch Class to Forest School |
| Friday 20 th September | Individual school photographs |
| Wednesday 25 th September | Harvest Festival TBC |
| Thursday 26 th September | Skylark Class to Forest School |
| Thursday 3 rd October | Swallow Class to Forest School |
| Monday 7 th October | Flu Vaccinations |
| Wednesday 9 th October | Parents evening |
| Thursday 10 th October | Swift Class to Forest School |
| Monday 14 th October | Parents evening |
| Thursday 17 th October | Goldfinch Class to Forest School |
| Thursday 24 th October | Swallow Class to Forest School Celebration Worship 2.30 pm Break up for half term |
| Friday 25 th October | Inset day |
| Monday 4 th November | Back to school |
| Monday 9 th December | Whole school visit to the Pantomime, Everyman Theatre |
| Friday 20 th December | End of term – Celebration Collective Worship in St Laurence's Church at 1.30 pm |

