



Longhorsley School News

AUTUMN TERM



week ending 11th October 2019

MUSIC TUITION - again we apologise, tuition has commenced however we understand that the tutor and lesson day will be changing and the strings and woodwind sessions will be on different days - strings (violins) will have their lesson on Tuesday and woodwind (flutes and clarinets) on Thursday. Please remember to practice at home and bring in instruments on the correct day. Please note this tuition and the timetable is not controlled by school as it is at your request and we release the children from their school lesson to have the music tuition.

PAPERWORK reminder - we are still waiting for a few sheets to be returned - data collection, e-safety pupil acceptable use agreement/rules, photographic/video choices, blanket cover etc. It is important that we have these returned as soon as possible after issue. If you have not yet returned your child's, please do so on Monday 14th October in order to enable us to keep our records up to date, to continue to keep your child safe and to ensure your child does not miss out on any activity - no changes on the data collection sheets are also required to be returned.

Please also remember, if your consent regarding the use of photographs/videos of your child has changed in any way since completion of the form, that you are required to advise us of these, in writing, as soon as possible to ensure the continued safeguarding of your child.

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS September 2020 - Parents of children in Year 4 please ensure that you complete the online application for your child's Middle School place now that you have had the opportunity to visit the schools to help with your decision. The Northumberland County Council Online Schools Admissions Portal is **open** for applications into **Middle School** from parents of **children in Year 4** for entry in September 2020. **Applications should be made before the deadline of 31st October 2019**, after this date they will be classed as 'late' and will not be processed until all 'on time' applications have been allocated. Allocations day for Middle School is 2nd March 2020. For further information and guidance please go to:

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/School-admissions-places-appeals-1.aspx>

HARVEST SERVICE - it was lovely to see so many of you at this Service and your donations of provisions for the Wansbeck Valley Food Bank will be much appreciated by them. Thank you for your support.

Harvest Family Lunch in school followed the Service and this was a lovely occasion, we were joined by lots of mums, dads and other family members. Huge thanks to Mrs Lamb for all her hard work, making mince pie and sticky toffee pudding mmm....., and all her helpers on the day - lunch was delicious.



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SNACKS AT BREAK TIME and AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS - please see the guide 'Healthy breaks for schools A guide for pupils and parents' via the following link
https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/Healthy%20Breaks%20for%20Schools%20A5%20Leaflet%2007_17.pdf

We have received several enquiries about snacks at break time and at the end of the day before After School Clubs. As a healthy school we have used the guidelines of this publication which states: **What is included in healthy breaks for schools?** **Drinks** - Water: tap water or unflavoured, still, bottled water. Milk: all whole, semi-skimmed or skimmed unflavoured milk. **Fruit and vegetables** - A portion could be: • 1 medium sized piece of fruit, eg apple, orange, banana, pear; • 2 small fruits, eg kiwi fruits, satsumas, plums; • 1 cup of grapes, cherries or berries; • 1 large slice of pineapple or melon; • 1 cereal bowl of salad, eg lettuce, tomatoes, cucumber and celery; • 3 heaped tablespoons of fresh veg, eg chopped or sliced carrots, peppers or sugar-snap peas; • 3 heaped tablespoons of fruit salad (fresh or tinned in fruit juice). **Bread-based snacks** - plain bread sticks, plain crackers or plain unsalted rice cakes.

We hope you will support us and our healthy school and only give your children items from these guidelines.

Schoolgateway

Thank you to everyone who has activated their Schoolgateway account and made payments for their child/ren. If you have not already done so please make all payments due for your child/ren for this term by Friday 25th October 2019.

All future added costs will be advised by a text message to your nominated mobile. We hope this year's new arrangements work for everyone and any feedback on the changes made would be much appreciated.

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DATES FOR 14TH OCTOBER - 25TH OCTOBER 2019

Monday 14 th October	Swim (Y1,4)/Gym (YR,3)/Wall (Y2) After School CAKE DECORATING Club (3 of 3 x 4)
Tuesday 15 th October	After School CHOIR Club (5 of 9)
Wednesday 16 th October	Before School RUNNING Club (5 of 7)
Thursday 17 th October	After School BUSHCRAFT Club (5 of 7)
Friday 18 th October	After School TEAM BUILDING Club (5 of 10)
Monday 21 st October	Swim (Y1,4)/Gym (YR,3)/Wall (Y2) After School CAKE DECORATING Club (1 of 3 x 4)
Tuesday 22 nd October	After School CHOIR Club (6 of 9)
Wednesday 23 rd October	Before School RUNNING Club (6 of 7)
Thursday 24 th October	School Photographs Flu Immunisation After School BUSHCRAFT Club (6 of 7)
Friday 25 th October	After School TEAM BUILDING Club (6 of 10) School Breaks up for half term

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TERM DATES for Autumn Term 1	Wednesday 4 th September -
	Friday 25 th October
Teacher Training Day	Monday 4 th November



BAG 2 SCHOOL - the PTA have arranged for a collection on Monday 11th November 2019. Bags have been sent home with your child - please check your child's school bag - half term is coming up so it's an ideal opportunity to clear out your good quality adults and childrens clothing, paired shoes, hats, belts, handbags, soft toys, bedding (but not duvets, pillows or cushions), curtains and towels that you no longer wear or use.

'The more we weigh the more they pay.'

SCHOOL UNIFORM - PLEASE PLEASE ensure you have named ALL of your child's uniform - sweatshirt / cardigan / hoodie / trousers / dress / pinafore / coat / shoes / wellingtons / bags / pe kit (shorts, t-shirt, plimsolls, jog pants, trainers). This means that when an item of clothing goes missing it is much more easily found, whether in school or when it has accidentally gone to the wrong home! Please can we ask you to check that you do not have anything belonging to another child - if you do find something that is not yours please return it to school and we will get it to its rightful owner.

PE KIT - this is required to be in school every day please for various activities over the week. If your child comes home with their kit they must return it the next day. If it needs to be washed please ensure it is replaced with a spare kit or comes back, clean or dirty, the next day. We do not have spare kit in school! As we are now in the Autumn term and winter approaches please also send in a pair of trainers for your child to wear when taking part in sport on the field. Thank you.

PERSONAL ITEMS - we have noticed that some children have brought items from home into school - this is other than for 'show and tell' - ie footballs, toys etc, which they have then taken out at playtimes and something has happened to them. We have talked to the children about items getting lost, balls going over the hedge etc and we would be grateful if you could ensure that your child does not bring in any items as it causes much upset when they go missing.

ADVANCE NOTICE - Theatre Visit / Federation Day on Tuesday 17th December 2019

This year we have arranged for a travelling theatre company to come to Longhorsley Village Hall with their production of The Snow Queen.

The Snow Queen – December 2019

A new musical adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's much loved fairytale by Gillian Jukes and Rick Jukes who have many years experience of writing drama, music and songs for theatre, TV and radio.

How far would you go to save your best friend? Gerda and Kay are the very best, better than best friends. When Kay is swept away by the Snow Queen to the Land of Snow and Ice, Gerda knows exactly what to do. She must set off on a journey to find him. Join Gerda and her helpers – the Crow and the Reindeer – on their quest to find Kay and rescue him from the Snow Queen's Palace before his heart turns to ice.

We will be joined by children in Longhorsley Village Playgroup and all our friends in Walton C of E Primary School. Further details to follow.

e-SAFETY - paper copies of our newly approved Pupil Acceptable Use Agreement/e-Safety Rules have now been sent home and lots have been returned - thank you. Please if you have yet done so, read through this with your child and then each sign and return to confirm your acceptance.

We continue to issue a reminder for parents to get involved and supervise what your children are watching or playing, whatever it may be, and ensure that they are using age appropriate only games and online sites.

useful sites are: ThinkUKnow - <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/> Childnet - <https://www.childnet.com/>
NSPCC - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>
Safety Net Kids - www.safetynetkids.org.uk/personal-safety/staying-safe-online/

DIARY DATES 2019-20

September 2019		
Monday 2 nd September	SCHOOL CLOSED to children - Partnership Teacher Training Day	Governors and staff training
Tuesday 3 rd September	SCHOOL CLOSED to children - Partnership Teacher Training Day	Staff Training
Wednesday 4th September	SCHOOL RE-OPENS - Autumn Term 1	
Friday 6 th September	Family Service - EVERYONE INVITED	9:00 St Helen's Church
Monday 9 th September	1 st swim (Y1,4) / gymnastics (YR,3) / bouldering wall (Y2) session After School CAKE DECORATING Club	pm Willowburn Leisure Centre 3:15-4:15 (1 of 3 x 4 over whole Autumn term)
Wednesday 11 th September	Before School RUNNING Club	8:15-8:50 (1 of 7)
Thursday 12 th September	1 st PE session through Morpeth & Ponteland Sports Partnership After School BUSHCRAFT Club	in school 3:15-4:15 (1 of 7)
Tuesday 17 th September	After School CHOIR Club	3:15-4:15 (1 of 9)
Friday 20 th September	After School TEAM BUILDING Club	3:15-4:15 (1 of 10)
Saturday 21st September	WHALTON VILLAGE SHOW	School / School field / Village Hall
Thursday 26 th September	Open Event at Dr Thomlinson C of E Middle School for parents of children in Year 4	1:30 - 3:00 or 5:30 - 7:00
Friday 27 th September	Federation Day - Meet your Federation buddies	EYFS & KS1 at Longhorsley KS2 at Whalton
Monday 30 th September	Pupil Progress Updates	
October 2019		
Tuesday 1 st October	Pupil Progress Updates	
Friday 4 th October	Longhorsley Ball launch	pm
Tuesday 8 th October	Family Church Service for Harvest - EVERYONE INVITED followed by Harvest Family Lunch with YR,1 & 2 parents	11:30 St Helen's Church 12 noon in school
Friday 18 th October	Skipping Festival - Y3	pm
Thursday 24 th October	Formal School Photographs NHS Nasal Flu Vaccination	
Friday 25 th October	School breaks up for Half Term	3:15

Dates/events will be added/updated as and when required, please check regularly to ensure you don't miss anything.

See also separate Diary Dates for the Academic Year 2019-2020

USED POSTAGE STAMPS - we continue to collect used postage stamps for recycling for the **Great North Air Ambulance**, one of our chosen charities. Please save them from your correspondence and send them in to go in our post box. Thank you.

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS - please note open times for the office are 8:45am to 12:30pm Monday (closed pm due to activities at Willowburn) and Wednesday (closed pm due to financial affairs); then 8:45am to 5:00pm Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

REMINDER 'SCHOOL NEWS' is available on the home page of our website (www.longhorsley-st-helens.northumberland.sch.uk) and back copies are available in the Office section under Newsletters.

Longhorsley St Helen's C of E First School PTA

Chair - Mrs Kathryn Fox
Secretary - Mrs Milly Archibald Treasurer - Mrs Kate Matheson

Dear Parents/Guardians

As you know we held our AGM on Friday 20th September. We had an excellent meeting and have formed a new committee for this school year. We are delighted to welcome Kathryn Fox as our new Chair and Laura Marshall and Millie Fasakin have joined the committee. We have had a wonderful response from you all offering help throughout the year. Thank you to Fiona Hindmarsh, Claire Bright, Louise Brown, Katherine Hague, Hannah Hubb, Claire Burn, Lucy Sutcliffe and Jenny Vickers.

This year we have some fundraising aims. We are looking to bring Numicon into Early Year's and Y1/2. This is a resource designed to help children visualise numbers to help them add, subtract, multiply and divide. We think it is extremely important to help our children get to grips with these skills as early as possible and hope Numicon will help build these important foundations. Mrs Brannen is also keen to supplement the Read Write Inc phonics books to help reinforce the children's phonics skills in addition to and alongside the current books.

For the older children we want to improve the IT facilities that they have access to. Mrs Brannen is talking to the middle and senior schools to ensure we have compatible equipment.

We also have a long term aim of refurbishing the Early Year's school kitchen - this might take a little bit of fundraising.....

I hope you will all agree that all of the above will really benefit our children. We would really welcome ideas for fundraising events that we can add to our calendar.

We are going to be hosting our Christmas shopping event on Friday 22nd November so please add it to your diaries. We are also going to do a Quiz night for all parents/guardians in the Spring Term.

We are adding a PTA page to the school website to keep you all updated of our fundraising and progress. We will also be in touch regularly throughout the year with updates.

Best wishes

The PTA Committee

Longhorsley Tree

the monthly newsletter for the parish of St Helen's, Longhorsley available online at site.google.com/site/longhorsleytree

If you would like to submit an article in the monthly newsletter please contact Alan & Sue Etchells, tel 788847 / email longhorsley.tree@gmail.com or leave in the postbox in the Village Hall