



Longhorsley School News

SPRING TERM



week ending 2nd March 2018

SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS - we made the decision to close school on Wednesday following the snowfall on Tuesday and throughout the following night and then again on Thursday and Friday giving as much advance warning as possible. The wind and the snow together making travel dangerous and in some places impossible. We hope the ParentMail text messaging worked with everyone being notified in good time after the initial delay (which the company have apologised for - due to the sudden increase in usage at the same time). The closure was also posted on our website and that of Northumberland County Council. Teachers put together work for children to do at home if they so wished and this was made available through our website, again advised by text. Thank you for bearing with us during this time - we do try to stay open whenever possible but there are times when we have to make that very difficult decision to ensure the safety of children and staff and adhere to official warnings.

PARENTMAIL +Pay - apologies once again as our arranged telephone training/set up session was abandoned due to the weather and is to be, yet again, re-scheduled. We are aware that many of you are very eager to get this up and running and we will ensure it is set up this half term ready for the new financial year.

STAFFING UPDATE - Mrs Green continues to be on long term sickness absence and Mr Smith will be with us in Early Years for the Summer term. Class teacher interviews have taken place and we are very pleased with the quality of the candidates and our appointment of Mr James Reilly who will be our new Year 3 and 4 teacher. Mr Reilly will take up the full-time post when we return from our Easter break but will be in school prior to that for a transition period to get to know children and parents. Please see below for dates. He comes highly recommended from Chantry Middle School where he is currently a Year 5 Class Teacher.

TRANSITION ACTIVITIES IN SCHOOL FOR YEARS 3 AND 4

Wednesday 14th March - 3.15pm - 4.15pm - After School Club for Year 3 children to get to know their new class teacher

Thursday 15th March - 3.15pm - 4.15pm - After School Club for Year 4 children to get to know their new class teacher

Details of the nature of the club to follow.

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PUPIL PROGRESS MEETINGS: Letters will be going out next week to ask you for your preferences of day and time to come along and discuss the progress of your children towards the end of year expectations with their class teacher and any other questions you may have. For Years Reception to Year 2, these will be on Monday 26th March and Tuesday 27th March.

To help aid transition further for our Year 3 and 4 children, the pupil progress meetings will take place the week earlier on both Wednesday 21st March and Thursday 22nd with both Mrs Rusby and Mr Reilly.

DATES FOR 5TH MARCH – 16TH MARCH 2018

Monday 5 th March	Y4 Residential - day 1 Swim/Gym/Wall NO After School COOKERY Club
Tuesday 6 th March	Y4 Residential - day 2 After School GYMNASTICS Club (3 of 5)
Wednesday 7 th March	Y4 Residential - day 3
Thursday 8 th March	
Friday 9 th March	
Sunday 11th March	Mothering Sunday <i>'Happy Mothers' Day'</i>

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Monday 12 th March	Swim/Gym/Wall After School COOKERY Club (3 of 4)
Tuesday 13 th March	After School GYMNASTICS (4 of 5)
Wednesday 14 th March	
Thursday 15 th March	
Friday 16 th March	

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TERM DATES for Spring Term second half	Monday 19 th February - Thursday 29 th March
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MONIES – dinners for children in **Years 3 and 4** are £2.20 per child per day (£11/week)
£63.80 for Spring term 2 for children in Year 3 (29 days) and
£57.20 for children in Year 4 (29 days less 3 days residential visit)

swimming/gymnastics/climbing wall for children in Reception to Year 4. A voluntary contribution towards these activities is £4 per child per week
£24.00 for Spring term 2 for all children in Reception to Year 3 and
£20.00 for children in Year 4

Please note that monies requested to support the additional activities, which the children take part in on Monday afternoons, are voluntary contributions towards the total costs of provision. **However, school relies on your contributions to allow these activities to continue and, without your support, we would be unable to fund all those which are currently offered to your children, resulting in fewer activities being offered.**

MATCH ATTAX CARDS - following several children bringing their collections into school it has been decided to allow these only on Fridays when they can 'trade' and play games with them after Fantastic Friday lunch but they must check with parents before bringing them in.

Longhorsley St Helen's C of E First School PTA

Chair - Mrs Sarah Waterston
Secretary - Mrs Zoe Nelles Treasurer - Mrs Fiona Hindmarsh
Helpers - Claire Bright - Lesley Hall - Emma Lawton - Andrea Light

CANVAS SHOPPERS £5 each - Gift idea for Mothers Day

EASTER COFFEE MORNING - will be in school following the Easter Service on Thursday 29th March. Please join us for a coffee and chat and browse the stalls. We look forward to seeing you.

Donations of Easter eggs (for a children's raffle), cakes and tray bakes would be appreciated. Please send your child with a small amount of money to spend on the day. Thank you.



WATER BOTTLES only **£3.50** each, available in school

Hydration is very important for children in school, it has been proven that performance and concentration improves with a regular intake of water.

If you've not already got one, get your child's now.

The water bottles are hands free, special cap, screw lid, bpa free, dishwasher safe - for further information visit www.schoolbottle.co.uk.

Longhorsley Tree *(previously The Gloria)*

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
articles for the next edition should be submitted by mid month

DIARY DATES 2017-18 UPDATE

February 2017		
Date:	Event:	Time/Venue if applicable:
Thursday 1 st February	Federation Day - Y3, 4 at Longhorsley	
Friday 2 nd February	Family Service	9:00am St Helen's
Monday 5 th February	After School CRAFT Club (5 of 5)	
Tuesday 6 th February	Safer Internet Day After School FOOTBALL Club (5 of 5)	
Friday 9 th February	School breaks up for half term	
Saturday 10 th February - Sunday 18 th February	HALF TERM	
Friday 16 th February	Teacher Training Day	
Monday 19 th February	School re-opens for Spring term 2 Willowburn Sports Activities - Reception, Y2, Y4 - SWIM Year 1 - GYMNASTICS Year 3 - CLIMBING WALL After School COOKERY Club (1 of 4)	3:15-4:30pm
Tuesday 20 th February	After School GYMNASTICS Club (1 of 5)	
March 2017		
Date:	Event:	Time/Venue if applicable:
Thursday 1 st March	World Book Day	
Friday 2 nd March	Family Service	9:00am St Helen's
Monday 5 th March - Wednesday 7 th March	NO After School COOKERY Club Year 4 Residential visit to Robinwood Activity Centre, Alston	
Friday 17 th - 23 rd March	Sport Relief	Activities tbc
Friday 23 rd March	Easter Journey	Whalton St Mary Magdalene Church & Village Hall
Tuesday 27 th March	Pupil Progress Updates for Parents	
Wednesday 28 th March	Swimming Gala	Willowburn
Thursday 29 th March	Easter Service PTA Coffee Morning	9:15am Longhorsley Mission School
Friday 30 th March - Sunday 15 th April	EASTER HOLIDAY	

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

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.