



## **End of Year Newsletter**

19<sup>th</sup> July 2018

With the songs and brilliant performances of 'Panto Pandemonium' still fresh in our minds, the end of the academic year is fast approaching and once again it time to say good bye to our Year 6 pupils. Whilst there is always an element of sadness, it is also a time for celebrating all they have achieved during their time at Longney including Key Stage 2 SATs results that I am pleased to report are, once again, above the national average.

In March we had a visit from Ofsted and I am very pleased the inspector judged the school to still be Good. It was very pleasing to see the recognition of all the work that takes place with the inspector's comments "You have ensured that the quality of education and curriculum inspires the pupils" and our focus on Growth mind-set and independence was noted through "This helps them to gain confidence and independence in their work." And "pupils know how to assess and improve their own work through collaboration with the class teacher. This is helping them to make strong progress." We have three action points that we have already begun work on. One of the points includes communication with parents and this is an area I really want to ensure we get right. I will be sending a survey to parents in September to gather your thoughts and ideas on how we can improve this.

During the last year our pupils have had the opportunity for adventure activities at Morfa Bay on their residential, being part of the Gloucester Dance Festival Cheltenham Town Hall, been introduced to public speaking through the Rotary Club Young Speaker competition, competed in the Gloucestershire Wildlife Nature Quiz, visited the Big Bang Science Fair at the NEC, taken part in the Young Voices Concert where they sung with 6 000 other children at the Genting Arena, visited Puzzle Wood, Nature in Art, Pizza Express, the Three Counties Show and learned to play the violin! The whole school attended the Pantomime at the Everyman Theatre in December and Key Stage 2 used their experience of these visits to give a wonderful production of 'Panto Pandemonium' this week. Our Drama Club, led by Catherine Herring, performed at The King's Theatre, Gloucester with 'The Wonderful Loaf', a play written for them by Catherine. We continue with to have a strong link with St Laurence Church and this was celebrated at Café Church this term

Pupils have participated in a wide range of sports including archery, indoor rowing, a mini triathlon and even curling this year, alongside the more traditional sports of football, cricket, netball and athletics. Everyone took part in Sports Week which involved climbing, archery and a visit from Mike Mullen, BMX World Champion, who led an assembly on how important it is to persevere and BMX workshops for Key Stage 2. Our netball team had another very successful season in the GPFSA league. I am delighted to be able to announce that this week we have been awarded the School Games Gold Mark for commitment, engagement and delivery of competitive school sport. Thank you to everyone who supports the teams and helps with transport so that pupils can participate in such a wide variety of sports.

The Friends of Longney School continue to work hard with fundraising events and the funds raised enable us to provide the 'extras' for our pupils, subsidise trips and help improve our school environment as well as providing excellent social occasions for the school community to come together. The Pet Show, 100 Club, a lovely Medieval Fete, Eggmore, the quiz evening and Bingo evenings were all enjoyed by our school community. I would like to thank the whole team and everyone who helps at events for their dedication and hard work. Also my thanks to the many parents

who give their time to help with cookery, reading, sport, accompanying swimming each week. We are all very grateful for all the support you give to our school.

Being part of the Diocese of Gloucester Academy Trust brings many opportunities for further school development. Staff have opportunities to work with peers across the trust on a range of professional development including moderating pupils' work and carrying out action research projects to develop teaching and learning. This year all staff have undertaken training to deliver Philosophy 4 Children across the school. P4C develops pupils' enquiry and critical thinking skills prompting them to ask the 'big questions' and debate relevant issues. All academies within DGAT are involved with P4C and staff work together so that quality provision is in place for all pupils. Amongst our charity fundraising, we have taken part in the Readathon along with the Trust academies raising £3677.83 this year. Over the past two years we have all raised £8807.99 to support bringing reading and reading books into hospitals, including Gloucestershire Royal, for children on the wards.

For our Harvest Festival, pupils brought donations of food that were gratefully received by the Gloucester Food Bank. Our charity fundraising this year includes: Unicef's Crisis in Yemen through the Christmas Fayre, Sports Relief, Comic Relief and the Children's Society

We are often commended by external visitors on the range of experiences and events that we are involved in. I would like to thank all the staff and parents for their commitment in ensuring these opportunities are available to all the children. At Longney we believe in ensuring our pupils are offered a wide range of activities so that we leave us as confident young people who are not afraid to 'have a go' as they move on from Longney and truly living out our vision statement "***Building Community, Enriching Lives***".

From all of us here at Longney, best wishes for a restful and enjoyable summer break.

Penny Howard  
Headteacher

#### **CLASS STAFF NEXT YEAR**

I am pleased to be able to confirm the class staffing for next year..

Class 1: Miss Wilce	Mrs Tranter a,m	Mrs Brint/Mrs Jenkins p.m.
Class 2: Mrs Price	Mrs Taylor	Mrs Brint a.m.
Class 3 Mrs Vaughan and Mrs Kirby	Mrs Sanders	Mrs Smith a.m.
Class 4: Mr Hanrahan	Mrs King a.m.	Mrs Tranter p.m.

LOSC Mrs Jenkins Mrs White

#### **RETURN DATES**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September - In-service Day for staff

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September – all pupils return

**CLUBS NEXT YEAR:** commencing Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September (Clubs will finish at 4 pm unless stated otherwise)

Monday:	Drama Y3 – 6 finishing at 4.15 pm
Tuesday:	KS2 Archery (priority will be given to children on waiting list from this term) Y1/2 Craft Club (max 10 children)
Wednesday:	Y5/6 Netball Club
Thursday:	Year 4, 5, 6 Football club