



# Long Wittenham C of E (C) Primary School

Weekly Newsletter  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May

Dear Families,

I have to say how very proud I am of our year 6 pupils who showed huge resilience and strength of character this week as they took their SATs. The look of sheer determination on their faces was a sight to behold and Mrs Richards and I are so very proud of them. All staff commented on how calm and organised they were. We are immensely proud of each and every one of them and know that they have all performed at their very best. All pupils had very clear strategies and had taken on board all of the advice Mrs Richards has been giving them all year. I would personally like to thank them all, and above all Mrs Richards for being such a fab year 6 teacher!

Of course, all of that hard work would not have been possible without a great team who have done a brilliant job of supporting our year 5 pupils as they had to be separated from their year 6 friends. Thank you to all of you for all of your hard work and most of all, thank you to the children for doing things the Long Wittenham Way and showing pride and courage in all that they do.

Year 2 have almost finished their SATs too and, like year 6, have worked calmly and orderly to get their tests done. Miss Mason and I are thrilled for you all and also very proud of you. I'd also like to thank Miss Mason who, in her NQT year, has had every challenge thrown at her! She is a fantastic teacher and the progress our Parrots Class is making is testament to her care and attention to providing the very best quality of education for them.

Of course, it's not all about attainment and progress is it? Last Saturday's May Fayre looked fabulous judging by the reports I've had and the photos I have seen. Thank you to Michelle van Roon and all of her team for all of their hard work in putting it together for us and raising a fantastic £993.35. I really do appreciate

it and would have much more preferred to have been with you than doing a presentation to 80 delegates, believe me! I am looking forward to Film Night this evening and seeing all of our children enjoying Spider-Man!

It's that time of year when we are starting to reflect on the progress and attainment of our children in school. Teachers are preparing to write reports and Mrs Richards and I are analysing data and carrying out moderation to ensure Quality First Education is in action across the school. I feel very proud of what we have achieved this year and the upward trajectory in place for all of our pupils. Yesterday evening, Mrs Butterfield and I met with the School Improvement Team at Oxfordshire County Council to report data and progress and we have been commended by them for the absolute dedication we show to our children and the Quality of their Education. LWPS is a happy and safe learning environment that supports all of the needs of our children and I am immensely proud of all that we have achieved.

As we head into the last week of term (is it really that time already?), I hope you all enjoy your weekend and I look forward to seeing you on Monday.

With warmest wishes,

Alison Bellingham

## **Owls Class**

Owls have listened to the story 'Oi get off our train' by John Burningham this week. We wrote speech bubbles and sequenced the story from beginning to end. The story introduced the children to the dangers that some animals face in their habitats and we spent time thinking about how we can look after our world.

In Maths, the children have been exploring pattern. They have created repeating patterns and looked at tessellation, using hexagons to mimic a tortoise shell.

We have also talked about road safety, the children were able to talk about how they cross the road safely.

## **Parrots Class**

This week in Parrots class, the children have been researching facts about flowers grown in our local area. They have used non-fiction texts and the laptops to

research information. They will be creating a leaflet about the flowers on Friday and next Monday.

We have started a new unit in maths which is measuring weight. We have been comparing weight and beginning to measure mass.

Just a reminder that there is no forest school next week as we are on a trip to Harcourt Arboretum.

### Eagles Class

Eagles class have worked really hard this week. We have finished our unit on time, but please do keep practising with your child as it is such an important skill. We have started a new unit on shape and so far it has been very practical and lots of fun. In English we have been looking at a poem called The River by Valerie Bloom and have changed it to make it our own. We have also written haiku and tanka poems. In Re we are finishing our topic on the big question - Why is Pentecost important to Christians? We have had some great discussions in class. We are looking forward to completing our work on rivers next week.

### Penguins Class

This week year 6 have completed their end of KS2 tests (SATS) and they have all tackled them with confidence and resilience. It is sad that these academic tests are not able to measure attitudes to learning, determination and self-confidence because these are real strengths in all the children at Long Wittenham Primary, but especially with year 6 this week. I am truly proud of all of them and the progress they have shown. Year 5's have continued with lessons in the hall while SATS have been going on, and again they have been self-motivated and focused in a change of environment. Well done.

In class, we have been evaluating the design of our Anderson shelters we have made, and have begun testing their strength scientifically. We have also linked our work on fractions with this topic by considering what fraction of our weekly rations would be used to make Wartime recipes. On Wednesday afternoon we made 'Carrot Cookies' which went down a storm with the class – even those reluctant carrot eaters! I will put a copy of the recipe on Classdojo in case anyone is keen to make more at home.

Next week, we have the Home Guard coming in on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> in the afternoon to talk about World War 2. This is an exciting opportunity and the volunteers who run this service rely on voluntary donations for their time (£50 per afternoon). If any of you would like to make a donation towards the cost of this, please speak to Mrs Folkman.

Other information

Young Enterprise Fiver Challenge is back at Long Wittenham this year. Parents in Yr4, 5 and 6 should receive a separate letter but the important date, if you want to sign up is 24th May (deadline). This national initiative was hugely successful last year and we are looking forward to another 'Market Day' on 28th June. Thanks Mrs Richards

### 100 Club

The winners for May are 1<sup>st</sup> prize: Jess Haynes 2<sup>nd</sup> prize: Victoria Mortimer

If you would like to be in it to win it, you can join any month! Please contact Jenny Caw on

[jennycaw@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jennycaw@hotmail.co.uk)

### What's Up Next?

Mon 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Forest School for Owls, Year 4 and 5 Parrots – Fire Safety Talk Cycling Proficiency Training Year 5 Gymnastics After School
Tue 21 <sup>st</sup> May	9am Rising Yr 7s Parents Meeting (DGS/SBS) Swimming Eagles Multi-Sports After School
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	iRock Sessions Parrots – Meadow Session at Harcourt Arboretum Penguins – WWII Talk Football After School
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> May	JNBS – come and save with us! 8.15- 8.50am Bacon Butty Morning for Walk to School Week

### Future Events

Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Mum's Sponsored Walk
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## Local Events

### the parenting children course

The Parenting Course is for any parents, step-parents or carers of children aged 0 – 10 years. While it is based on Christian principles, it is designed for parents with or without a Christian faith. It is a practical 5 week course that will help you parent effectively. You don't have to be struggling either, maybe you just need a few more tools at your disposal. It is presented by Nicky and Sila Lee from Holy Trinity, Brompton (HTB).

**Dates:** 5 week course - Thursdays: 6 June, 13 June, 20 June, 27 June + 4 July 2019.

**Time:** 7.45pm - 10.00pm

**Venue:** Ian and Kate Woods, 66 Loyd Road, Didcot, OX11 8JS

**Contact:** Richard and Tessa Case: [tessa@casebase.co.uk](mailto:tessa@casebase.co.uk) or call 07478 725411

This course is run under the umbrella of The King's Church, Didcot.

The evening consists of pudding and coffee, a 60 minute DVD (in two parts) and an opportunity for discussion and to work through your manuals. The cost is £12 per person which will cover all materials and catering. It is fine for one parent to attend if babysitting is a concern. There are limited spaces so email if you want more information or would like to attend.

Here is a link to the HTB website which has more information about the course:  
[www.relationshipcentral.org/parenting-children-course](http://www.relationshipcentral.org/parenting-children-course)



Saxon, Norman, Celtic, and Viking Re-enactment  
**The Vikings**

## Viking invaders!

The Great Heathen Army is terrorising the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms. After successfully subduing the kingdom of Mercia, the Vikings once again turn their attention to Wessex. Crossing the Thames one of the war bands reaches the village of Harwell. The local Saxons are trying to repel them while waiting for reinforcements from Wantage. Will the Saxons stand their ground or will the Vikings manage to overrun them? Visit our living history camp and talk to the Saxon and Viking ladies and men demonstrating various crafts. Ask the warriors about their weapons or to tell you stories of their brave deeds.

We would like to invite all school children and their parents to come and visit us Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May 12pm-5pm at the Harwell Recreation Grounds. The living history camp will be open with a small arena for the warriors to train their skills, and at 2pm-2.30pm the children will have a chance to train to be in the Saxon shield wall and fight the Vikings in Kiddie Vike.

This event is free of charge.



### Harwell Feast:

<https://harwellfeast.com/category/2019-feast/>  
Monday 27th May Harwell Feast.

The living history camp will be open during the Feast, and the Warriors will give a weapons display and a shield wall battle in the main arena.

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<http://www.vikingsonline.org.uk>



