

**Head Teacher:**  
Mrs E Reynolds



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6 September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope that you all had a good holiday. I have been hearing lots about the things you got up to, lovely days out at the beach, camping trips, local visits as well as time at home together. The children have come back to school well, mostly happy and are certainly settling down into their new classes. It has been a strange week with so much rain and wet playtimes but Year 1 managed to get out on Thursday for one of the wettest welly walks we have ever had, the children weren't remotely bothered by the rain, they were much more interested in how many blackberries they could find! I always find it amazing how much the children change and grow up over the summer and seem ready for their new classes and year groups.

I want to welcome our new children and families to school. The Reception children have done incredibly well on their first few days in school and have begun to settle down into Cygnet class. Phonics lessons began yesterday and very soon those children will be taking their first reading books home! As a reminder to all parents, if you have any concerns or worries about your child, talk to us – catch me at the gate, pop to the office to book an appointment, give us a call or email or best of all, if it is class based, catch the teacher at the end of the day. The more we work together, the better it is for the children.

### **Safeguarding**

On our INSET day we were doing our safeguarding training and part of this was looking at online safety, some of the staff were talking about their children online and some mentioned an excellent way to help keep children safer online 'Family Link'. Many staff use this and find it very good.

<https://families.google/familylink/>

### ***Help keep your family safer online***

*Family Link provides tools that respect families' individual choices with technology, helping them create healthy, positive digital habits. With easy-to-use tools, you can understand how your child is spending time on their device, share location, manage privacy settings, and find the right balance for your family.\**

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Also, as part of our training it mentioned this quick video and suggested that it was good for the whole school community to see it, do please have watch. It is from the NSPCC and takes 10 minutes.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/support-us/listen-up-speak-up/>

### General things!

All children need a named **water bottle**. This needs to have **water** in it and not squash please.

**Snacks** – fruit and veg only. Reception and KS1 get school fruit daily.

**Coats** – all children need a named coat in school daily.

**Outdoor shoes** – Reception and Year 1 need wellies, everyone else can choose trainers or wellies as their outdoor shoes for using on the field. If children have wellies for playtimes they will need trainers/daps for outdoor PE.

Children need **PE kits in school every day**.

**PLEASE CAN YOU NAME ALL CLOTHING** – at the end of last year I had 2 full loads of washing made up of unnamed jumpers and tops. If it is not named we can't get it back to you.

### Careers Fair

Thank you to those parents who have offered to help out at our Career's Fair next Friday (13<sup>th</sup> Sept). If you haven't signed up yet it is not too late! If you are free next Friday afternoon or know someone else who is (Grandparents/friends etc) and would be willing to come then please let us know. You do not have to speak to a large audience, the children will come around and talk to you in groups and as individuals. Children of all ages will be coming. It is from 1.15pm to 3.15pm. The hall will be free from 1pm for you to set up (photos, things the children might be interested in etc) – for more details please see the attached letter. Please let me know if you are able to come. Many thanks.

### PTFA UPDATES

Follow us on Facebook & Instagram @longsuttonprimaryptfa for regular updates.

### The Big School Picnic & Rainbow Raffle

The PTFA would like to invite you all to The Big School Picnic on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2024 from 3.30pm on the school field (weather permitting). Bring your own picnic and blanket. This free social event is an opportunity for grown-ups to catch up with friends, children to play together and everyone to welcome new families to the school. All school and preschool families are welcome.

The PTFA would also like to invite each child to bring in a NEW item in their class colour on the morning of Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> & Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September.

**CLASS COLOURS: Toybox - RED , Cygnet - ORANGE/YELLOW, Kingfisher - GREEN, Kite - BLUE, Harrier - PURPLE**

Examples of things you could donate include soft drinks, alcoholic drinks, crisps, chocolates, sweets, biscuits, toiletries, books, games, soft toys, candles, stationary.

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(Donations must be new items). These donations will be made into colourful hampers to be used in a Rainbow Raffle that will take place at The Big School Picnic, after school on Friday 13th September. Raffle tickets will be on sale at the picnic.

We appreciate that it's very early in the school term to be asking for donations, but we hope this will be a fun way to welcome everyone back and strengthen our school community. Thank you in advance for your support!

### **PTFA Meeting & Upcoming AGM**

The PTFA AGM will be held on Thursday 19th September at 7.00pm at school. This is an opportunity to report on the previous year, elect a committee and make plans for the year ahead. Everyone is welcome! If you would like to volunteer on the PTFA, in any capacity, please email [lsprimaryptfa@gmail.com](mailto:lsprimaryptfa@gmail.com) by Friday 13th September.

### **Asda Rewards - Cashpot for Schools**

Between 2nd September and 30th November 2024 – every time you shop with Asda using your Asda Rewards app, Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to your chosen Primary school. Also, every time somebody opts-in to support our Primary school, Asda will give an additional £1 to the school Cashpot. Plus, it doesn't stop there – Asda are also giving £50 to every school to get them started.

It's as easy as 1,2,3...

1. Download the Asda Rewards app, register and opt-in to Cashpot for Schools.
2. Choose 'Long Sutton C of E Primary School' – either searching by name or postcode. (TA10 9NT)
3. Shop instore across Asda and George, or online at [Asda.com](http://Asda.com) and start filling your Cashpot as you shop!

Remember, anyone can sign up – so start spreading the news and raising funds for our school. This initiative is on top of the existing Asda Rewards benefits you get as a shopper – so you won't lose out on any of your own earnings or Cashpot, so everyone is a winner! For more details, visit [asda.com/cashpotforschools](http://asda.com/cashpotforschools)

### **Attendance – Unauthorised Term-Time Leave**

Please be aware that when a parent or carer chooses to take their child out of school for a period of leave, which has not been authorised by the Head Teacher it may result in a Penalty Notice being issued. Term-time leave of absence is not an automatic right and will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. You can find the school's attendance policy and letter of intention to take term-time leave request form on the school website.

### **Is my child too ill for school?**

It is usually appropriate for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild respiratory illnesses. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above. Further guidance can be found here - [NHS 'Is my child too ill for school?' guidance](#)

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**Article 28** The right to education

Children and young people said:


- School is a place where we access support and other services. It's a place which supports our physical, emotional and mental health.
- Health services and schools should work together to help us with school attendance.

We are looking at improving the ways healthcare, education and other services for children and young people work together to better meet their needs:


- We would like to hear your views on healthcare related school absence and how our services could be improved
- If you would like to help, please scan the QR codes opposite for links to anonymously complete our surveys!

**Please share your views on health-related school absence...**

Scan for parent or carer questionnaire:




Scan for young person's questionnaire:



**RCPCH & Us**  
The voice of children, young people and families

Find out more...  
For useful links and tips on participation on children's rights go to [www.rcpch.ac.uk/rightsmatter](http://www.rcpch.ac.uk/rightsmatter)



### Nut free school (inc. Toy Box)

We have multiple children in school at present with a nut allergy. Please do not give your child food/snacks to bring into school containing any type of nut or nut product, e.g. Nutella and Peanut Butter. Thank you for your support.

### Dates for the diary

Reception Foundation Stage Information Evening	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> September at 6pm
Careers Fair	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> September at 1.15pm
The Big School Picnic	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> September at 3.30pm
Reception Phonics Evening	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> September at 6pm
PTFA AGM (all welcome)	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> September at 7pm
Year 1 Phonics Evening	Wednesday 02 <sup>nd</sup> October at 6pm
Individual School Photo Day	Wednesday 09 <sup>th</sup> October

### Safeguarding (Protecting children from harm/keeping them safe)

In school we have a duty to ensure that all children are safe and protect from harm or abuse. If we have concerns about a child's wellbeing it is our duty to look into this, talk to the family, and if need be, report it to Somerset Direct.

**If you have any concerns about your child, or another, please come and speak to me. Safeguarding is everyone's business and cannot be ignored. Somerset Direct (0300 123 2224) or the NSPCC are useful points of contact, should you wish to share or discuss any Safeguarding concerns you have.**

**Here are some useful websites recommended by our DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead – Lizzie Reynolds).**

### SOMERSETDIRECT

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Best wishes  
Mrs Lizzie Reynolds

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