

**Head Teacher:**  
Mrs E Reynolds



Martock Road  
Long Sutton  
Langport  
Somerset  
TA10 9NT

Email: [enquiries@longsuttonprimary.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@longsuttonprimary.co.uk)  
Website: <http://www.longsuttonprimaryschool.co.uk>  
Facebook: @LongSuttonPrimarySchool

Tel: (01458) 241434  
School Mobile: 07514 475017

22 November 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

What a strange weather week we have had. It was amazing to arrive at school with it all white this morning and the children have loved it! Thank you for ensuring your children have had coats and warm clothes this week. Well done to Daisy for raising £205.67 for Children In Need. Thank you to everyone who supported this.



## Parents Evening

Parents evenings are taking place in the school hall on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December and Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December from 3.45pm. Look out for sign up sheets in the playground next week.

## PTFA UPDATES

### **PTFA FESTIVE EVENTS - TICKETS ON SALE NOW**

**Christmas Disco** ~ Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December  
**Wreath Workshop** ~ Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December

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## Santa's Grotto ~ Friday 20th December

Tickets for all of these events are ON SALE NOW! Just click the link below for full details & buy your tickets online!

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/longsuttonprimary/>

## Santa & the PTFA need your help!

Unfortunately customs won't allow Santa to bring some of his treasured items with him from the North Pole, so we've put together a little list of everything he needs for his grotto, & we'd be really grateful if you could help us find them.

- Fairy lights
- Good condition Christmas decorations
- Tinsel
- Christmas stockings

If you are able to donate or lend any of these items, or have something else that you think might be useful, please send us a message on Facebook, email [lsprimarypta@gmail.com](mailto:lsprimarypta@gmail.com) or speak to Chloe Austin in the playground. Thank you!

## Guitar Lessons

We still have spaces if any children in KS2 would like to have weekly guitar lessons. Contact the office for more information.

## The MHST (Mental Health Support Team) are offering a series of free helpful webinars this Autumn.

- Supporting your child's mental health & wellbeing
- Supporting your child's big feelings
- Understanding & supporting anxiety & low mood

Find out more & register here:  
<https://bit.ly/mhstwebinars2024>



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FREE WEBINARS FOR PARENTS & CARERS

**SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING**

IN THIS 1 HOUR VIRTUAL WORKSHOP HOSTED BY SOMERSET'S MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM, WE WILL EXPLORE...

- What mental health is and the importance of good mental health for children and young people.
- How to identify the early warning signs of poor mental health.
- A range of strategies to support your child's emotional and mental wellbeing.
- Where and how to get more support if needed.

**WHEN?**  
 10:00 – 11:00 7th August 2024 | [Register here](#)  
 or  
 17:30 – 18:30 19th August 2024 | [Register here](#)  
 or  
 10:00–11:00 10th October 2024 | [Register here](#)  
 or  
 17:30–18:30 23rd October 2024 | [Register here](#)  
 or  
 13:00–14:00 7th November 2024 | [Register here](#)

Workshops are open to any parent/carer in Somerset. You will just need to provide the name of your child's school on registration.

**1**

FREE WEBINARS FOR PARENTS & CARERS

**SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S BIG FEELINGS: AN EMOTION COACHING APPROACH**

IN THIS 1 HOUR VIRTUAL WORKSHOP HOSTED BY SOMERSET'S MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM, WE WILL EXPLORE...

- How to support your child's and teen's feelings in the moment and for the future.
- You will go away with a range of strategies (including emotion coaching) to boost your child's, and your own, emotional resilience.

**WHEN?**  
 14:00 – 15:00 7th August 2024 | [Register here](#)  
 or  
 17:30 – 18:30 21st August 2024 | [Register here](#)  
 or  
 10:00–11:00 3rd October 2024 | [Register here](#)  
 or  
 17:30–18:30 7th November 2024 | [Register here](#)  
 or  
 13:30–14:30 3rd December 2024 | [Register here](#)

Workshops are open to any parent/carer in Somerset. You will just need to provide the name of your child's school on registration.

**3**

FREE WEBINARS FOR PARENTS & CARERS

**UNDERSTANDING & SUPPORTING ANXIETY & LOW MOOD**

IN THIS 1 HOUR VIRTUAL WORKSHOP HOSTED BY SOMERSET'S MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM, WE WILL EXPLORE...

- Why young people may struggle with anxiety & low mood.
- How to recognise anxiety & low mood in children.
- A range of strategies to support with anxiety & low mood.
- How and when to seek further support.

**WHEN?**  
 13:30–14:30 26th September 2024 | [Register here](#)  
 or  
 17:30–18:30 16th October 2024 | [Register here](#)  
 or  
 10:00–11:00 4th December 2024 | [Register here](#)

Workshops are open to any parent/carer in Somerset. You will just need to provide the name of your child's school on registration.

**4**

## **Apply now for your child's 2025 school place**

Somerset parents and carers of children due to start school or move on to their next school in September 2025 are being urged to apply for their place online and on time.

Parents and carers of children due to start school for the first time or transfer to Junior or Middle School can apply for places for their children from 30 September 2024 until 15 January 2025. Please visit:

[Apply to start school for the first time \(somerset.gov.uk\)](https://www.somerset.gov.uk)

There is also information on these pages from [Somerset's SEND Local Offer](#) on Starting school or changing schools if your child has an Education Health and Care Plan: [Education, Health and Care plans and school placements \(somerset.gov.uk\)](#)

The webpage [www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions](https://www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions) holds a wealth of related information including a directory of schools, catchment areas and admissions policies.

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

All children have a legal right to suitable, full-time education. There is no entitlement for children to have time off from school during term-time for the purposes of a holiday, recreational or protest activity.

The School Attendance (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2024 set out the statutory requirements for schools:

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- all references to family holidays and extended leave have been removed, including the removal of the H code for approved leave,
- headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are "exceptional circumstances",
- headteachers do not have any discretion to authorise up to ten days of absence each academic year.

We expect all pupils to attend regularly. As such, any requests for term-time leave will be considered but only approved if the reasons and circumstances for that leave are exceptional and unavoidable.

[See policy for more details.](#)

### 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](#)

**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** 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

Parents to Share Work – Kite Class	Monday 02 <sup>nd</sup> December at 3.15pm
Parents to Share Work – Cygnet Class	Monday 02 <sup>nd</sup> December at 3.15pm
Yr4/5/6 Badminton Tournament	Monday 02 <sup>nd</sup> December at 4pm
Parents to Share Work – Harrier Class	Tuesday 03 <sup>rd</sup> December at 3.15pm
YR 4/5/6 Trip to Numatic	Wednesday 04 <sup>th</sup> December
Parents to Share Work – Kingfisher Class	Wednesday 04 <sup>th</sup> December at 3.15pm

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Parents Evening  
Parents Evening  
Nativity for Senior Citizens  
Cygnet Nativity – Matinee  
Kingfisher Nativity – Evening  
Kite Class Trip – We The Curious  
Kingfisher Nativity – Matinee  
Cygnet Nativity – Evening  
School Christmas Lunch  
Carol Service  
Mufti Day  
Children’s Christmas Fair  
Christmas Holiday  
Inset Day  
Start of Spring Term

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 3.45pm - 6pm  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 3.45pm - 6pm  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30pm  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00pm  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30pm  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00pm  
Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December  
Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30pm  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 2.15pm  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec – Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Jan  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January  
Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January

**If you have concerns about your children’s well being or mental health please contact me (Lizzie Reynolds) as the schools Senior Mental Health Lead.**

**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](#)

Best wishes  
Mrs Lizzie Reynolds

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