

Head Teacher:
Mrs E Reynolds



Martock Road
Long Sutton
Langport
Somerset
TA10 9NT

Email: enquiries@longsuttonprimary.co.uk
Website: <http://www.longsuttonprimaryschool.co.uk>
Facebook: @LongSuttonPrimarySchool

Tel: (01458) 241434
School Mobile: 07514 475017

7 February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

The school choir took part in an Opera workshop on Wednesday morning, rehearsing for the opera called 'The Team Mascot' which will be performed alongside other local school children at Huish Academy at the end of April. The children were expertly guided by a professional singer and did an amazing job of learning new songs, including an Italian aria! We look forward to the second workshop before Easter. It was a wonderful new experience for all of them!

On Thursday Mark Carter visited the school to work with all classes around careers within the NHS. Toy Box heard all about the Teddy Bears Hospital, the children were fascinated and listened attentively for the session. Cygnets focused on the people who help us e.g. paramedics, nurses, doctors, dentists etc and had endless questions to ask! Kite and Kingfisher learnt all about ears and eyes and Harriers found out all about different kinds of scans/radiography/MRI/ultrasound/ECG etc. Every session was excellent and the children asked lots of good questions as well as learning lots.

On Monday Y5/6 had a session on Child Exploitation and County Lines by Escapeline which was an eye opener to them but they found it useful. The parents who attended also felt it was an excellent and very useful session. Attached to this is a parent booklet from the session for everyone to read. It is essential that you are all aware of this as sadly it does happen within our community.

Thank you to those who have donated items to Cygnet class, they are much appreciated. They would still like:

- Wire coat hangers
- Cornflour
- Conditioner
- Food colouring and food colouring gel
- Baby oil
- Vegetable oil
- Sugar

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Staff Car Park

Just a polite reminder, please can parents not use the staff car park at any time of day. to drop off or pick up children. This is particularly important at the start and end of the day and when collecting from clubs or 3.30. The key reason for this is for the safety of other children who may be walking across the car park. If someone else is collecting your child, please can you ensure they are aware of this.

Cygnets Night Walk

Please let the school office know as soon as possible if you wish for your child to attend the night walk taking place on Monday evening. Final numbers are needed for Monday morning in order to ensure staff ratios.

First Aid

The PTFA have organised a First Aid Training course, with spaces open to parents, carers & friends of the school.

Thursday 13th & Thursday 20th March 2025

From 6.00pm - 8.00pm

Long Sutton Primary School

£35.00pp

Training will be given by JaLee First Aid Training Ltd.

Courses available that some of you may find useful

Mental Health Support Team

Calling all Parents & Carers!

The MHST (Mental Health Support Team) are offering a series of FREE helpful webinars over Spring 2025.

- Supporting your neurodivergent child
- Supporting exam and test wellbeing
- Helping your child to thrive: Boosting self-esteem & resilience
- Understanding and supporting anxiety and low mood
- Supporting your child's big feelings

Find out more & register here: <https://bit.ly/mhstwebinarspring2025>

SEN Workshops

These include workshops around Dyslexia, Autism, Sensory issues, Social Stories, Emotional Based School Avoidance, sleep etc. They are very good sessions; I recommend booking in on them. Click below to book on to them.

[WISE Up Workshops](#)

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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:

- 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

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND ARTSMARK GOLD

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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

Y5/6 Swimming at Huish	Wednesdays Spring Term
Inset Day	Friday 14 th February
Half Term	Week commencing 17 th February
Back to school	Monday 24 th February
School Council Cake Sale	Friday 28 th February at 3.30pm
World Book Day	Thursday 6 th March
Parents evening	Tuesday 1 st April
Parents Evening	Wednesday 2 nd April
Easter Service	Thursday 3 rd April
Easter Fair	Friday 4 th April

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](http://www.somersetdirect.gov.uk)

Best wishes
Mrs Lizzie Reynolds

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