

**Head Teacher:**  
Mrs E Reynolds



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28 February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you all had a good half term. It is lovely to see the first signs of Spring and slightly lighter mornings and longer days. We have even had some sunshine this week which we have all enjoyed. On Welly Walk this week we saw bloom, the first hawthorn leaves, primroses, daffodils, the last of the snow drops, very busy birds and lots more signs of Spring.

Tomorrow, Saturday, is the Village Coffee Morning in aid of Toy Box, the funds from this will help to pay for the new windows which are now keeping the temperature steadier, this has made a real difference on the cold days and will help with the hot summer days too. Please try to come along and support this event. It is always enjoyable and there is plenty of cake too!

Thank you to those of you who have spoken to me or responded to the letter about the school's proposed joining of a MAT. The governors are looking to arrange a meeting in the next few weeks so that you can ask any questions you have. As soon as we have a date, we will let you know.

Remember to sign up for film night which is next Friday after school. The PTFA need to know by **Wednesday 05<sup>th</sup> March** so they can order the food. I am looking forward to watching Paddington with the children!

### **World Book Day – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March**

This year we will again be asking children to make a potato into their favourite book character and bring this to school in the morning. We hope to do a book swap/give away again, if you have any books that you don't want any more and you feel other children would appreciate, please bring them to the office after half term – we are mainly after books for KS2 children as we have a number for younger children. Many thanks.

Advance notice – We will be doing a poetry and music performance for parents on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 3pm. Each class will be performing.

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## PTFA UPDATES

### **POPCORN & PYJAMAS!**

The PTFA film night is back on Friday 7th March! Tickets are £5.00 per child and are available to buy from the PTFA website. Please see the attached poster for full details.

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/longsuttonprimary/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=94480>

### **FIRST AID TRAINING - (OPEN TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY)**

The PTFA have organised a First Aid Training course, with spaces open to parents, carers & friends of the school. The training will be held on Thursday 13th & Thursday 20th March 2025 from 6.00pm - 8.00pm at Long Sutton Primary School at a cost of £35.00pp. For full course details & to book your space today, just click the link below.

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/longsuttonprimary/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=92526>

## **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](#)

### **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](#)

The infographic is divided into two main sections. The left section is titled 'Article 28 The right to education' and contains text about children's views on school and healthcare, along with a QR code for a survey. The right section is titled 'Please share your views on health-related school absence...' and contains two QR codes for parent/carer and young person questionnaires, along with the RCPCH & Us logo and a QR code for more information.

### 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.

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## Dates for the diary

Y5/6 Swimming at Huish  
Village Coffee Morning – Toy Box  
World Book Day  
PTFA Popcorn & Pyjamas  
Poetry Performance  
Parents evening  
Parents Evening  
Easter Service  
Easter Fair

Wednesdays Spring Term  
Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March at 10.30  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March  
Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March at 3.30pm  
Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 3pm  
Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April  
Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April  
Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April  
Friday 4<sup>th</sup> 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](#)

Best wishes  
Mrs Lizzie Reynolds

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