

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

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Dear Parent/Carer



What a busy and lovely week we have had in school. Monday started with a visit from the Cats Protection League, who spent time in all classes talking about caring for your pets and what their role/job entails. The children enjoyed these sessions, and some have been using the information in their writing during the week.

Alongside this was the Toy Box and Cygnet class sponsored Trike ride, this was to raise money to add to a grant we have received from WPA for some new bikes. It was rather damp but that didn't put the children off as they trundled around the playground using our rather old trikes that are very hard work! So far they have

raised an amazing £655.77 to add to the £2,200 from WPA. The new bikes have arrived in school and we will now be able to order the new trikes. Thank you to everyone who has raised sponsorship, this is incredible and far more than I expected. One last favour to ask. Is there anyone who could come in for an hour or so to build the bikes? They need peddles and seats fixing on so that we can start using them. I would really appreciate this.



On Wednesday afternoon Lucy and Daniel took part in the CLP Aquathlon, swimming and then running. They entered the event with a little trepidation as they were not sure what to expect but did amazingly, supporting each other well, enjoying themselves and making us all very proud. We have now received the results and Daniel was fastest out of the boys and Lucy was fastest out of the girls, a very big well done to you both!

I was also privileged enough to observe some amazing learning in Harrier class. The children were discussing/debating and at some points even arguing about the reasons for the Vikings attacking Lindisfarne. The children were so confident and had a very

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clear understanding of their reasons and explained their point to the others explicitly. The whole session was run by one child being the leader, having to organise and draw in the children who were not speaking and then controlling those who had a lot to say! It was a fantastic thing to see and a great example of how the children are developing their thinking and depth of learning through talk.



Wednesday afternoon was also 'Pirate Day' in Cygnet class. All the children dressed up as pirates and had a great time engaging in pirate activities! They read a story about pirate school and then had one of their own. They learnt to walk the plank, draw treasure maps, build boats and speak in pirate talk! All great fun and a lovely launch to their history learning about Grace O'Malley.

Thursday night I took 5 Year 3 children to a Year 3/4 Netball Tournament. They did really well and their confidence and skills developed over the tournament no end. It was lovely to see how well they moved about the court, their marking skills, determination and resilience. Thank you to them and their parents for supporting this event.

So, as you can see we have had a great week with some lovely extras alongside all the normal things. A heads up that we will be holding our Arts Week at the end of this half term, we will be inviting you into school to have a look at the children's work. This will be on Thursday 23rd May at 3pm. More details to follow.

Donations needed:

With summer beginning, most classes are learning about plants and will be growing their own, we would really like your help with some donations of seeds and compost. The seed packs can be ones you have left over, they don't need to be full or brand new. The key seeds we would like are: runner beans, sunflowers, wildflower mix, mustard, any herbs or any other seeds that you have no use for. Also any small plug plants for example geraniums. We would really appreciate this. If you have any, please give them to me at the gate or drop into the office.



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PTFA Updates



LONG SUTTON SCARECROW TRAIL

This May Half Term, the PTFA are hosting the Long Sutton Scarecrow Trail! But first... Scarecrow makers we need you!

- FREE TO ENTER
- Open to everyone
- Scarecrows can be displayed at addresses within the trail area of Long Sutton, Upton & Knole
- Scarecrows should link to this years theme of 'Nursery Rhymes'
- Scarecrows can be made from any material, & can be any shape or size
- And if you'd like to enter a Scarecrow but don't live in the trail area, don't worry, we'll try & find you a host!

If you would like to enter a Scarecrow for the trail, just click the link below & head to our online entry form, you'll find all the T&C's there too. **CLICK HERE**
<https://forms.gle/iTGN2HE6Bjp8UZ8K7>

If you have any questions or need more information, please pop us a message or email us at lsprimaryptfa@gmail.com.

A trail map will be available to buy from Saturday 25th May & participants will be able to vote for their favourite Scarecrow... there will be a prize for the winner!

THE BIG POOL CLEAN UP!

We're almost ready to open the school swimming pool again (when the weather improves!) but there's a few jobs to do before we can welcome the children back with a splash! We need to give the pool area a good spring clean, with sweeping, wedging, scrubbing and tidying!

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So, if you'd like to lend a hand then come and join us on **Saturday 11th May from 10.00am** onwards at the school pool. (Adults only please - no children due to pool safety). If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Parent Information Sessions

Would you like to understand more about children & young people and self-injury? Joining our free 90-minute self-harm awareness training, for parents, carers and family members in Somerset will help you to –

- Understand self harm and who it can affect
- Identify reasons that can lead a young person to self-harm
- Recognise the stigma surrounding self-harm and the impact this can have
- Understand the wider impact self-harm has on friends and family, with a focus on parents/carers
- Raise confidence in responding to/supporting young people who self-harm
- Establish how to maintain your own self-care and wellbeing
- Identify a range of local and national resources/services/information to support young people who self-harm
- Understand the importance of recovery
- Q & A

The training dates below offer mixed training for people who want to understand about self-injury, including for children and young people or adults

Thursday 9th May AM

9.30am – 11am

[FREE Somerset - Self Harm Awareness Training Tickets, Thu 9 May 2024 at 09:30 | Eventbrite](#)

Monday 1st July PM

3.30pm – 5pm

[FREE Somerset - Self Harm Awareness Training Tickets, Mon 1 Jul 2024 at 15:30 | Eventbrite](#)

Friday 16th August AM

9.30am – 11am

[FREE Somerset - Self Harm Awareness Training Tickets, Fri 16 Aug 2024 at 09:30 | Eventbrite](#)

Child Exploitation by County Lines with Escapeline

Date: Monday, 20th May 2024

Time: Starting at 6pm with an estimated end time of 7:30pm

Venue: Room H1, Huish Sixth building, Huish Episcopi Academy, Langport, TA10 9SS

Child Exploitation by County Lines - In the South West of the UK, including all areas of Somerset, there is a significant rise in county lines drug crime, whereby a large amount of young people as young as **6 years old**, are being criminally and sexually exploited by

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gangs. County lines are illegal business models, in which drug gangs expand their operations from their big city bases, such as London, Birmingham and Liverpool, to smaller cities, towns, coastal and rural areas across Britain. These gangs use their power and position to groom, recruit and exploit children and young people for the purpose of criminal gain.

These gangs proactively recruit young people to drug run in and around the South West, as well as outside the area. The gangs and criminal networks use extreme violence and intimidation towards these young people, which result in these young people feeling trapped and scared. Some of these gangs are forcing vulnerable children from their homes to be trafficked to other parts of the country. As well as criminal exploitation, young people, both girls and boys, are also being sexually exploited by these gangs.

This session will raise awareness of the signs of Child Exploitation by County Lines and guide you in teaching children and young people about healthy relationships.

To book a place to attend this session please visit: <https://forms.gle/YVj1EpvbRqJKQzoF8>

Tuning in to Kids – back by popular demand!

A FREE six-session programme for parents of toddlers to teens.

This programme shows you how to help your child develop emotional intelligence.

Would you like to learn how to:

- be better at talking with your child?
- be better at understanding your child?
- help your child learn to manage their emotions?
- help to prevent behaviour problems in your child?
- teach your child to deal with conflict?

Where: Long Sutton C of E Primary School

When: Monday 29th April, Monday 13th May, Monday 20th May, Monday 3rd June, Monday 10th June and Monday 17th June

Time: 1.30 – 3.30

Contact: Mrs Reynolds or the Office

OR

The school PFSA (Parent Family Support Advisor) is also running this programme at Somerton Library

On Tuesday 30th April, Tuesday 7th May, Tuesday 14th May, Tuesday 21st May, Tuesday 4th June, Tuesday 11th June.

Time 10 – 12

Click this link to book a space:

<https://form.jotform.com/240703159731049>

Attendance – Unauthorised Term-Time Leave

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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](#)

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 29 th April at 3.15pm
Parents to share work – Cygnet and Harrier Class	Tuesday 30 th April at 3.15pm
Parents to share work – Kingfisher Class	Wednesday 1 st May at 3.15pm
Y6 SATs week	w/c Monday 13 th May
Arts week celebration	Thursday 23 rd May at 3pm
INSET	Friday 24 th May
Sports Day	Wednesday 12 th June
Transition Day	Wednesday 3 rd July
Information Evening for new parents and those moving classes	Wednesday 3 rd July
Summer Fair (New Date)	Saturday 13 th July
Harrier Show	Wednesday 17 th July
Leavers' Service	Wednesday 24 th July

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).

[NSPCC](#) [SOMERSETDIRECT](#)

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Best wishes
Mrs Lizzie Reynolds

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