

Longford Primary Academy Newsletter

Edition 12



Dates for your diary:

- Oct 11th Open Morning Cannock Chase High
 - Oct 12th Flu Vaccination
 - Oct 13th Y3/4 Harvest assembly (parents)
 - Oct 12th Flu Vaccination
 - Oct 21st Y3/4 visit to Twycross Zoo
 - Oct 21st Pupils break up
 - Oct 31st Schoolopen
 - Oct 31st Y5 visit to Tamworth Castle
 - Nov 1st Reception 2023 applications open
 - Nov 2nd Bikeability (Y5)
 - Nov 3rd Bikeability day 1 (Y6)
 - Nov 4th Bikeability day 2 (Y6)
- Nov 10th Reception open afternoon for Sept 2023 starters

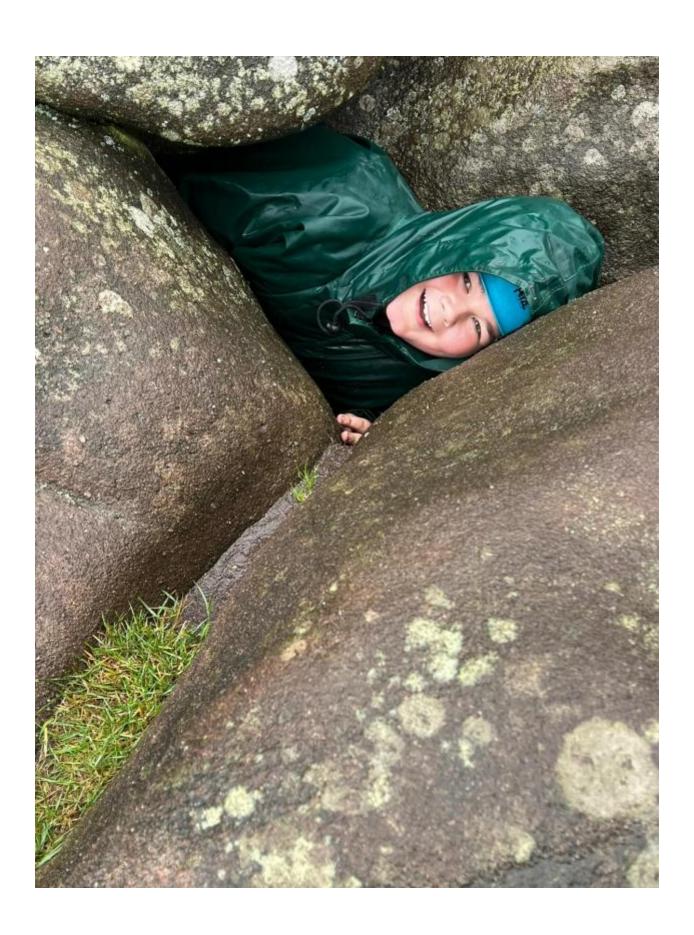
In This Issue - 7th October 2022



- Standon Bowers
- Harvest Festival
- Phonics Workshop
- Attendance/ Term Time Holidays
 - Governors
 - AOB

Standon Bowers

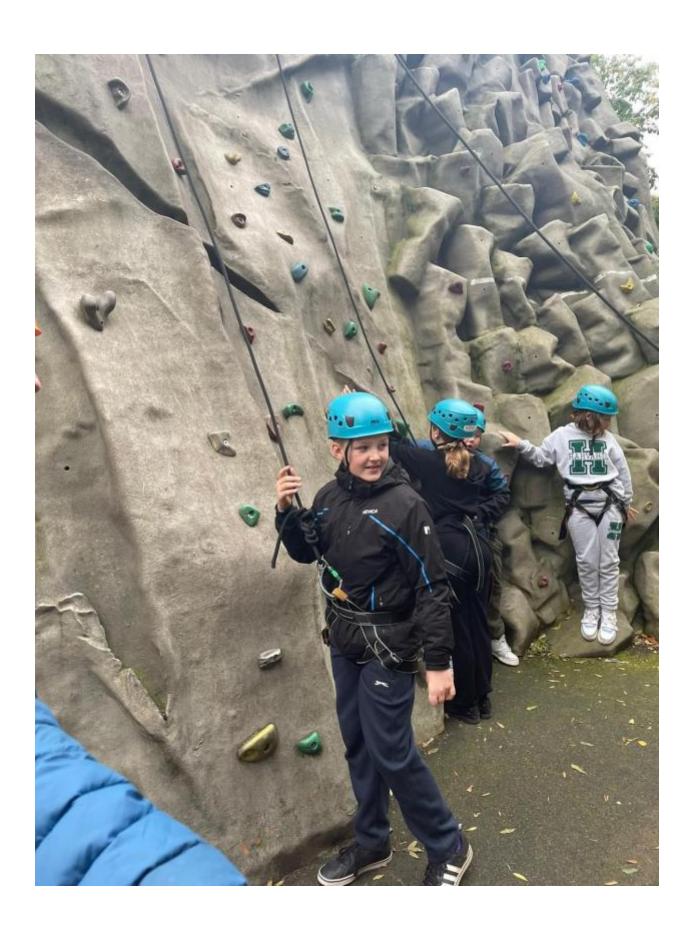










































Harvest Festival



Week beginning Monday 10th October we are learning about Harvest in Year 3/4.

The children will be finding out how different foods travel from places around the world and what the Red Tractor symbol represents as well as what seasonality in food means.

Also, we are finding out about how Christians celebrate Harvest and other countries throughout the world. We are crafting Harvest pictures and wool pumpkins.

We would like to invite all **Year 3/4 parents to our Harvest Assembly on Thursday 13th October** in the KS2 hall at 2:45pm.

Harvest Food Donations Thursday 13th October:

We realise the current cost of living issues make now an especially difficult time for everyone. However, we also know how very generous our parents and carers are. We wondered, therefore, if you could donate as you have done in previous years an item or two of non perishable tinned or packeted food, that will then be collected by the Cannock District Foodbank, for distribution across the local community.

Phonics Workshop

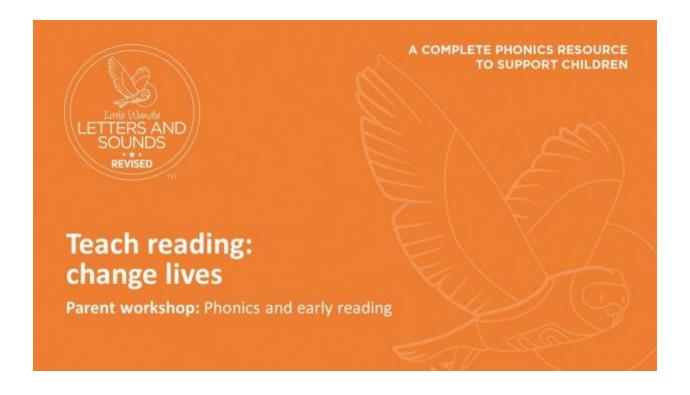


Thank you to all the parents and grandparents who attended the phonics workshop on Tuesday with Mrs Wareham, it was fantastic to see that so many of you attended.

We hope the workshop provided you with a deep understanding of phonics and early reading with ideas on how to support your child at home.

As Mrs Wareham shared, the greatest gift we can give to all our pupils here at Longford is the ability to read so that their future life chances are limitless.

For those that were unable to attend please take a look at the presentation slides below:







A love of reading is the biggest indicator of future academic success.

OECD (The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development)







85% of secondary curriculums require the ability to read.

Reading failure begins early and takes grip quickly.

The teaching of reading develops' learners confidence and enjoyment in reading.



How many times have you already read today?









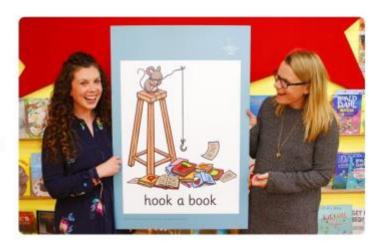




Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised



Our school has chosen
Little Wandle Letters and
Sounds Revised as our
systematic, synthetic phonics
(SSP) programme to teach
early reading and spelling.







Phonics is:

making connections between the sounds of our spoken words and the letters that are used to write them down.



Blending



Terminology



Phoneme

Grapheme

Digraph

Trigraph

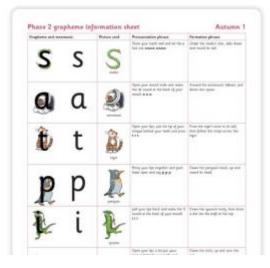
Split vowel digraph

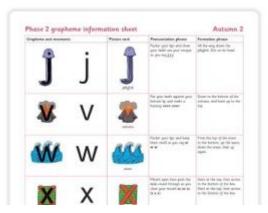
Blend

Segment









Gradually your child learns the entire alphabetic code:



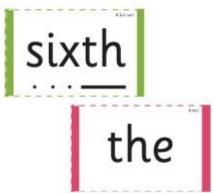


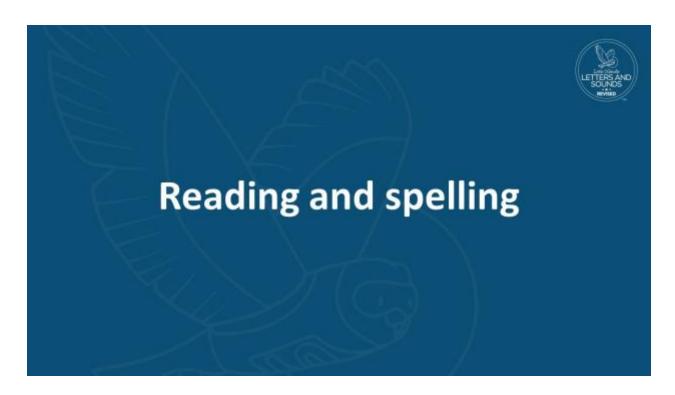






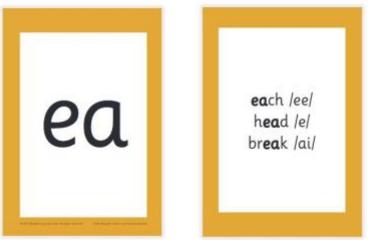












And all the different ways to write the phoneme sh:



<u>sh</u>ell <u>ch</u>ef spe<u>ci</u>al

cap<u>ti</u>on man<u>si</u>on pa<u>ssi</u>on

Tricky words





Spelling

- Say the word.
- Segment the sounds.
- Count the sounds.
- Write them down.





How do we teach reading in books?

Reading practice sessions are:

- · timetabled three times a week
- taught by a trained teacher/teaching assistant
- · taught in small groups.





We use assessment to match your child the right level of book









Reading a book at the right level



This means that your child should:

- Know all the sounds and tricky words in their phonics book well
- Read many of the words by silent blending (in their head) – their reading will be automatic
- Only need to stop and sound out about 5% of the words by the time they bring the book home – but they should be able to do this on their own.





The most important thing you can do is read with your child



Reading a book and chatting had a positive impact a year later on children's ability to...

- · understand words and sentences
- · use a wide range of vocabulary
- · develop listening comprehension skills.

The amount of books children were exposed to by age 6 was a positive predictor of their reading ability two years later.



Parental involvement in the development of children's reading skills: A five-year longitudinal study (2002) Senechal, M. and Lefvre, J.



Listening to your child read their phonics book



- Your child should be able to read their book without your help.
- If they can't read a word read it to them.
- Talk about the book and celebrate their success.



Supporting your child with phonics





Phase 2 sounds taught in Reception Autumn 1



Phase 2 sounds taught in Reception Autumn 2



Phase 3 sounds taught in Reception Spring 1

Read to your child



The shared book is for YOU to read:

- Make the story sound as exciting as you can by changing your voice.
- · Talk with your child as much as you can:
 - o Introduce new and exciting language
 - o Encourage your child to use new vocabulary
 - o Make up sentences together
 - o Find different words to use
 - o Describe things you see.







One of the greatest gifts adults can give is to read to children

Carl Sagan











A COMPLETE PHONICS RESOURCE TO SUPPORT CHILDREN

Please click the link below or scan the QR code to access the resources and additional supporting videos to support phonics and early reading at home.

Resources for Parents



Holiday Requests



We are only 5 weeks into this academic year and already a number of families have requested to take leave during term time.

Holidays during term time will not be granted, unless the circumstances are exceptional. We have a duty to inform the local authority of any children who are absent from school due to a holiday resulting in a fixed penalty notice being issued. Taking a holiday will immediately put your child into the persistent absence category, meaning that parents will also receive a stage 1 warning letter regarding attendance. Further absences following a holiday will result escalation to the local authority more quickly who may determine that legal action is required.

Lets keep pushing: Attendance & Punctuality

100% attendance	A fantastic attendance level – you are giving your child the best chance of success & getting them off to a flying start
96% and above	Attendance is good – you are getting your child off to a great start and giving them a good chance of success. Up to 8 days of learning have been lost.
Below 96%	Requires Improvement – attendance is worrying, your child has less chance to succeed and it is harder for them to make progress in their learning. Up to 19 days of learning have been lost.
90% or less	Serious concern - This level of attendance is not fair on your child. Persistent Absentee - (as defined by the Department of Education). This is the equivalent of up to 4 weeks off school or more/a day off school per fortnight. Your child's attendance will be closely monitored and considered for further action. Penalty Notices can be issued for persistent absence.

Our whole school attendance target for this academic year is 96%. Sadly after a superb start to the year we are currently at 94.3%. We need your support to improve this.

High attendance is a priority at Longford and is therefore closely monitored. At this point of the year being absent for only 1 or 2 days puts your child into the persistent absence category which may result in a warning letter from our attendance officer.

If your child has a bit of a cold, runny nose, or headache, please try to get your child into school as often these symptoms improve throughout the day and your child will not miss out on vital early learning. It is important that your child develops good attitudes to school and keeping them off unnecessarily does not support this.

Teachers will always monitor a child and contact home if they feel your child is too unwell for school.

Attendance and punctuality falls under our duty to safeguard pupils. Repeated lateness and attendance below 92% is considered to be poor and triggers a first stage warning letter. If attendance does not improve then next stage warning letters and school meetings will be arranged. Further absence may lead the safeguarding team to take action and will result in referral to the local authority who may take legal action if they deem it necessary.

If you need help with your child's attendance please contact the school so that we can work together to support you and your family.

Governors



Our Local Governing Committee (LGC) are volunteers who help to run the school. They're involved in decisions about all aspects of managing the school – such as running buildings and budgets, supporting staff and setting standards of school discipline.

The LGC also help to make big decisions about the school's long-term goals. They support the principal, but also ask questions and make sure the headteacher is taking the school in the right direction.

A vacancy exists on our school's local governing committee for a parent governor, parents who are willing and eligible to stand as a candidate for election may obtain nomination forms from the school office. The nomination form then needs to be signed by the candidate and two other parents. Parents of all children currently registered at the school are entitled to stand for election or to nominate others. For these purposes 'parent' includes a stepparent, guardian or other persons having parental responsibility.

If you could see yourself able to join the rest of our governing committee please contact the office.

Who are our LGC?

Mr M Officer

Chair of Governors - Health & Safety including safeguarding, well-being & sports premium

Mr I Hunt

Trust Representative - Inclusion (SEND & pupil premium)

Mrs S Camacho

Core curriculum link governor

Mrs L Lawrence

Principal

Mr A Steele

Vice chair & EYFS link

Mrs C Mills

Phonics & Reading

Mr S Mills

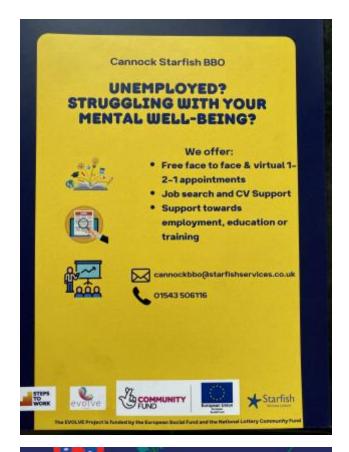
Behaviour & Attitudes (including attendance)

Any other bits and bobs...











MENU
Harvest Chicken Casserole
of Vegetable Pie
with
Mashed Potato, Yorkshire Padding, Carrots and Broccoil

Apple Crumble

Contact Us



Principal: Mrs Louise Lawrence

Longford Primary Academy

Ascot Drive

Cannock

Staffordshire

WS11 1PD

Email: longfordoffice@sbmat.org

Tel: 01543 227410

Visit us on the web at www.longford.staffs.sch.uk

Reporting Student Absence

If your child is unable to attend school please contact the office on 01543 227410 or email the office on longfordoffice2@sbmat.org



...wishing you all a wonderful weekend, see you on Monday...



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https://sbmat.org/vacancies/

Online Safety Tips

ROBLOX

Roblox is one of the most popular video games on the market. By 2020, the game's makers were claiming that more than half of children in the USA play it. As a 'sandbox' title, Roblox offers a huge amount of creative freedom; it lets players create their own gaming experiences with the Roblox Studio to build custom levels and games, which can then be shared with other players online. Roblox fosters creative thinking and enjoys a robust online community of fans.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Robiox encourages players to communicate online (including a group chat facility). This could expose children to risks such as scammers, online predators, harassment, griefers and more. The in-game chat has some filters, but isn't perfect: players can still send harmful messages to others – such as scam links or general hostility – while predators can react out to children directly.

PUBLIC SERVERS

WHAT ARE

THE RISKS?

Robiox has private or VIP servers which allow people to play exclusively with their friends, but this costs money. Most Robiox players will instead be on public servers that anyone can join. Servers can host games which focus on all kinds of aspects, including direct player interaction. Some games and servers, therefore, will put children more at risk of contact from strangers than others.

ONLINE DATERS

These are also called 'Obers' and are quite common in Roblox. An Ober is an individual who joins a game with the intention of finding someone to date online – and eventually meet in person. Such online dating is against the Roblox community guidelines, but this usually doesn't deter Obers. Some player-built Roblox game worlds have even been designed with online dating specifically in mind.

PEGIRAN

IN-APP PURCHASES

and play, but bear in mind that there are some hidden costs. Players are encouraged to make purchases in the game, for example, using real money. People can also buy extra Robux (the in-game currency) to spend on cosmetic items in the game, while it's possible to purchase a private or VIP server.

Advice for Parents & Carers

OSCAR!

SET PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox comes with several parental control options, which are explained well on the game's official website. It's essential to enter the correct date of birth for your child, as that allows Roblox to automatically apply the appropriate charlitiers. The game also allows parents and corers to set monthly spending

DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING

Roblox's private messaging function raises the risk of children being contacted by people they may not want to speak with – potentially leading to builying, harassment, toxicity and scam attempts. The game allows you to disable messages from anyone who hasn't been added as a friend on your child's account.

PRIVATE SERVERS

If your child has some genuine friends to play Roblox online with, paying for a private or VIP server decreases the risk of contact from strangers. Even then, however, some players could invite other people — who might not necessarily be child friendly — into the private server. If your child is a Roblox fan, it's important to talk with then

MONITOR SPENDING

If they don't understand they're using real money, it's easy for children to accidentally spend a sizeable amount in the game. Using parental controls to place limits on their spending will help avoid any nasty financial surprises. Ensuring that you have two-factor authentication on your payment accounts also makes it harder for your child to spend money inadvertently.

DEALING WITH STRANGERS

At some point in their development, your child will need to learn how to deal with strangers online. Show them how to block and report any users who are upsetting them or asking uncomfortable questions. Talking to them about what's OK to discuss and what they should never tell a stranger online — will help them understand how to communicate with attorn a panels and less them.

Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including







curcus https://www.theverge.com/2020/1/21/28339431/nobics-ov









