



Headteacher's Christmas Message...

The children and staff have worked really hard this term and now we are working just as hard celebrating Christmas and preparing for all festivities in the coming week! We do hope that you will be able to join us next Wednesday morning for our annual **School Christmas Show (11am)**. Everyone is welcome! Every pupil is involved and so your child would love to see friends and loved ones in the hall!



Our fabulous Kitchen Team are busy preparing for the **Christmas Dinner** tomorrow. We will decorate the hall for the event and the children will have made Christmas Crowns to add to the festive spirit. On Thursday, our Deaf Team will present their annual '**Deaf Panto**', which is always a huge highlight for all the children (and staff!). And finally, we will celebrate with a school **Christmas Party** on the afternoon of Friday 16th December. I keep my fingers crossed that a certain VIP will visit us to deliver presents to the children!

On another note, I still have not yet received the much awaited OFSTED Report. It should be out any second! I do hope it comes before the end of term as it will be super to be able to share it with you before Christmas. Please be assured that I will share it with you as soon as I am able!

In the meantime, can I wish you all a wonderful Christmas. I look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday 3rd January 2023.

Everyone at Longwill wishes you a very
Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year!



Fundraising for Longwill school

You can raise FREE donations for Longwill School - Birmingham EVERY time you shop online. Just use easyfundraising! Over 7,000 brands will donate, including all the big names like eBay, John Lewis & Partners, Argos, ASOS, Expedia, M&S, Just Eat, Uswitch and many more!

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/longwillschool/> So far, we have raised £330, but we could raise so much more with all your support! Please help us!



Last Friday we enjoyed our '**Home Learning Tea Party**'. Pupils who have excelled in home learning are given an invitation to join the Head Teacher at her tea party. We ate sandwiches, scones and cakes and sampled drinks of water, juice or tea. The children loved it! As this is a termly event, a wide range of children who work hard at home as well as at school will be able to take part in this small event over the year – as a celebration of their efforts! We will upload photos of this amazing celebration to our website.



BSL Classes for Parents



Our BSL classes continue to run every Tuesday morning from 11-12 at school. Also, we continue to run TEAMS classes every Wednesday afternoon. These are free and are run by our Deaf team (Randip Kaur and Michael Reid) so that you can develop your signing skills. Your children are all skilled signers and I know it is often hard to keep up with them – but we must! Perhaps we can make it another of our New Year's Resolutions to join these classes?

Gymnastics Festival

We will hold our annual Gymnastics Festival this Thursday afternoon. Every pupil will demonstrate their latest gym skills in the school competition. Please look on the website for photos!



Asthma Awareness:

Please let us know if your child develops asthma or uses an inhaler. We ask that you complete an asthma plan, which tells us about your child's medical needs. You can find the form here: https://www.asthma.org.uk/401d7776/globalassets/childrens-asthma-plan_may22_cc_editable.pdf

Parents Consultations 18th January 2023

Sadly, we had to cancel this term's meeting with you because of our OFSTED Inspection. So we have brought forward the date of the Spring term event. Please save the date!



Clubs

We run clubs each lunchtime for the children. Please do encourage your child to join in!

- Monday:** Gross Motor; Eco Warriors; Golf
- Tuesday:** Lego; STEAM for KS1
- Wednesday:** STEAM for KS2; Bikes;
- Thursday:** Athletics; Sports
- Friday:** Chess

Debating club will start next term. Youth club runs for pupils over the age of 8 after school every Wednesday at the BID.

Attendance

Attendance Matters! Staff and parents share the same aim for our children – that they are happy, safe and progressing as much as possible during their time at school and, with that in mind, I would ask that you all continue to support the very best attendance possible! Each week, we celebrate class attendance. Also, each half term we celebrate good attendance at an individual level. Whilst we encourage the very best attendance we also recognise that, for some pupils, they are actually attending at their very best levels but might have additional medical needs which make it tricky for them. For them we offer individual awards for improving attendance or for attending as much as they can – as long as pupils are here as much as they can, then we celebrate that! Also, I like to send out 'praise postcards' for children whose attendance is on 'an upward trend'. Please help us by providing appointment cards/letters for any medical appointments. These can be sent to the office and will then enable absences to be correctly recorded. Also, I would ask parents to **ring the school line every day to let us know why your child is absent**. Then we can make sure our records are accurate. Currently, our whole school attendance figure stands at **91.9%** for Y1-Y6! Please help us achieve our target figure, which is 95%.

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