

# Longman's Hill Community Primary School Newsletter



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20/01/17

## A Sad Farewell

At the end of this month, we say goodbye to two long standing key members of our governing board, Mrs Pat Griffiths and our Chair of Governors, Mr Arthur Adamson. Both have been members of the board for many, many years, showing great commitment and dedication in supporting the school and me as the headteacher. They have played a key role in the success of the school. I would like to take the opportunity to personally thank both of them on behalf of the children, parents and other governors for their hard work and for being so generous with their time. Both have attended hundreds of meetings in their official capacity but have also volunteered to support the school in other ways such as accompanying trips for example. They are both very often in school, finding out what is going on in lessons, and as such are familiar faces around the school. They will both be missed greatly. However, having both retired some years ago they do now, quite understandably, want to spend more time with family and friends and are certainly due some well earned holidays! We wish them well. I will write to you in due course when a new Chair of Governors is appointed.

## PARKING COMPLAINTS

Once again I have been contacted by two local residents regarding parking near the school. The complainants were both concerned about the welfare and safety of the children at our school and also, quite understandably, about their inability to access their own driveways due to inconsiderate drivers parking across the entrances.

I have drawn parents' attention to the parking issue through the newsletter on a number of occasions and whilst I do not have any powers to prevent people parking in particular areas, I do write to try and appeal to parents' better nature and common sense.

We are a community school who try to maintain good relations with our neighbours, both on Myrtle Ave and also Parkways. However parents parking inconsiderately, and in some cases illegally, is resulting in an increased number of complaints to the school.

More importantly, parents parking close to the school gates (on the zig zag area in some cases which is illegal) or up on the pavement makes the journey to school more hazardous for our children, many of whom walk to school alone in KS2. The law states 'parking a vehicle on the pavement could lead to an offence of obstruction being committed. This could result in a fixed penalty notice being issued to offending vehicles. It can also cause danger/nuisance for pedestrians and wheelchair users'. Children are being forced to cross the road between many parked cars close to the school entrance OR leave the safety of the pavement to walk in the road because pavements have vehicles parked on them.

So far, Longman's Hill has an excellent safety record and every single one of our children arrive safely, in one piece every day. I urge parents to park safely, legally and considerately before we have a dreadful accident involving one of our children.

WORLD BOOK DAY- MARCH 2<sup>nd</sup>- ADVANCE WARNING!

This year, world book day takes place on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. We have arranged for the children in FS2/ Y1 and Y2 to celebrate this special day with a visit to The Rainbow Factory, an interactive storytelling wonderland which draws on the themes of well-known children's stories. I am sure they will have a fantastic time; please ensure these children wear school uniform on this day so we can easily identify them whilst out and about!

For the children in Y3 to Y6, we are inviting them to dress up as a book character of their choice. This is usually lots of fun but we do appreciate that not all children enjoy these events. Therefore dressing up as a book character is purely voluntary; however children will be expected to come in school uniform if they choose not to come in fancy dress as a character from a book.

BAGS2SCHOOL

Many thanks to those of you who donated unwanted shoes and clothing in the Bags2school scheme.

COMIC RELIEF 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017- Advance warning

On the 24<sup>th</sup> March, we are inviting children to bring a donation and wear something red in return. The school council will also be having a bun sale during the day so children can bring an extra donation to buy buns or biscuits. Once again, we would welcome any donations of individual small buns or biscuits which we can sell to raise money for the charity, which can be brought into school in a named tub on the morning of the event. Many thanks in advance.

Reminder about dogs on the school site

May I just give a polite reminder that dogs are NOT allowed on the school site for health and safety reasons? Most parents and visitors do adhere to this rule. However, we also have dogs being tied up on the school gates and left unattended and whilst the dogs are certainly not ON the school site, they are still causing one or two issues as small children are coming into very close proximity of these animals. Whilst many of these lovely dogs are incredibly well behaved and friendly, dogs can sometimes behave unpredictably, especially around noisy children! Please be aware and try to leave dogs as far from the gate entrances as possible. Many thanks.

Dates for your diary

20-24<sup>th</sup> Feb- half term

27/2/17- school resumes

2/3/17- world book day- KS2 dress up as book character/ FS2 & KS1 trip to Rainbow factory

7/3/17- parents of YEAR ONE children - phonics workshop- 2.30pm

16/3/17- Class photos

24/3/17- Comic relief- wear something red, bring donation plus bun sale

27<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> March parents' evenings

30/3/17- maths parent drop in morning

7/4/17- last day of term before Easter

**PLEASE REMEMBER THE ANNUAL LIST OF DATES CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM THE SCHOOL WEBSITE- Look under 'News, Events and Recruitment' - 'Term dates'- 'For parents school diary dates 16/17'**