



# LONG MEADOW SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr Philip Gray BEd (Hons) CANTAB, NPQH

Friday 26 June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

It's been nice to have some warm weather this week and makes being at home or in school, when things are a bit different, that little bit more bearable.

This week has seen the start of teachers using **Google Meets** to have social contact with those children not in school. So far it has been a huge success, with teachers getting to see children and vice versa. This will continue next week so all classes have the opportunity to take part. Please bear with us as we try to work through any technical blips that might occur. I would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge well done to Miss Devlin who this week became an accredited Level 1 Google Educator after passing her exam.

As part of our preparation for next year we have now finalised our **staffing for September**. As you are aware we are continuing to keep the classes the same as we did last year.

Current class	New class	Teacher
	<b>Early years</b> Tadpoles	Mrs Wright (Phase Leader)
	<b>Early years</b> Minnows	Mrs Frost
Early Years Tadpoles	<b>Year 1</b> Pondskaters	Miss Grout
Early Years Minnows	<b>Year 1</b> Sticklebacks	Mrs King and Mrs Armstrong
Year 1 Sticklebacks	<b>Year 2</b> Frogs	Miss Salter and Mrs Bhogal
Year 1 Pondskaters	<b>Year 2</b> Newts	Miss Tofani (Phase Leader)

Year 2 Newts	<b>Year 3</b> Hogweed	Mrs Mitchell (Phase Leader)
Year 2 Frogs	<b>Year 3</b> Bracken	Mrs Owen
Year 3 Bracken	<b>Year 4</b> Hawthorn	Mrs Dangerfield and Mrs Hargreaves
Year 3 Hogweed	<b>Year 4</b> Foxgloves	Miss Surgett
Year 4 Foxgloves	<b>Year 5</b> Ferns	Mr Summers
Year 4 Hawthorn	<b>Year 5</b> Thistles	Miss Devlin
Year 5 Thistles	<b>Year 6</b> Brambles	Miss Cockroft
Year 5 Ferns	<b>Year 6</b> Teasels	Miss Furneaux (Phase Leader)

I am also pleased to announce that Mr Hobley will be joining us as our new Head of Sport and PE and we look forward to him building on the success that Mr Steel has had at LMS.

We are currently finalising our **transition** procedures for the new classes (including those children starting our school in EYFS) and will be able to share those with you next week. However, please understand that these will be very different to previous years as we await further guidance from the Government. We may need to move some items into September.

All of the staff got a big boost this week as we received a delivery. Angel and Felicia's mum is part of a group of over 300 amateur bakers and pastry chefs in different areas of the UK (**@yourcakesuk**). Every week they deliver homemade sweet and savoury cakes to key workers like NHS hospitals and The Henry Allen Trust and this week we were the lucky recipients! ALL of our staff loved them and wanted to say a huge thank you to all the bakers who made this happen.

Thank you to those parents who have returned **books**, please continue to do this (even more so with any RWInc book you have) either outside the library or in the foyer. We would like as many back before the end of term as possible please.

You will of course have heard the news about the reduction in **social distancing measures** which come into force from the 4th July. For some establishments, the government has reduced this to 1m+. However the advice still stands at 2m for social distancing unless you are unable to. As a school we will continue to operate on a 2m distance in and out of the classrooms. We are now also full in our Year 6 and Year 1 bubbles and will not be accepting new children into those bubbles until the end of term. Our

Key Worker and vulnerable group also has only certain days available, and EYFS has a small number of places available. You may also be aware of a local outbreak of the virus which has hit the news this week. This must act as a reminder to us all about how easily and quickly things can change. Please remember that if you, your child or any member of your family is exhibiting COVID 19 symptoms then you must not send your child to school, should request a test and most importantly let us know.

**Tweaks of the week.** Just a few minor tweaks needed this week to ensure the safety of all our children and staff;

- Please do not arrive too early for your allocated slot. Some parents are arriving up to 15 minutes before they should. The staggered starts allows a smaller number of people on site at once. By coming early you increase the number and thus increase the risk.
- Mobile phones. Please may parents not use mobile phones whilst on the school site. Using your phone is a safeguarding risk to the children, but also means that you are not fully concentrating on your child and ensuring social distancing.
- If someone different is picking up your child, please ensure you ring the school office to let us know. Safeguarding remains our top priority.

**Helping with home learning.** Please find below some links to English and Maths resources (for all ages) to help/supplement home learning:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-online-education-resources/english-resources>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-online-education-resources/list-of-online-maths-resources-for-home-education-during-coronavirus-outbreak>

There is also an updated list of top tips for parents if (like my family are) you are beginning to struggle with home learning:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-online-education-resources/home-education-tips-for-parents>

There are also some new apps to support your children with **online safety**. The BBC have a website and app called [Own It](#). The website has a lot of content for children to help them navigate their online lives, and the free smartphone app comes with a special keyboard which can intervene with help and support in the moments that children need it the most. It can be downloaded for free in the Google Play Store and Apple App Store. [SafeToNet](#) is an app for parents to help them safeguard their children from online risks like cyberbullying and sexting, whilst respecting their child's rights to privacy. The SafeToNet Foundation is providing UK families with free access to 1 million licences during coronavirus.

Finally this week, thank you for the extra arms around LMS pictures but we didn't receive any rainbows for the main gate, can you help?

Yours sincerely

Philip Gray  
Headteacher