

ISSUE 14

WEEK ENDING 26.01.2024

Longdon

Weekly Bulletin



LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

We've been delighted to welcome two more members of staff this week who have further strengthened our team. More colleagues are joining us over the next few weeks as we strive to bring the highest possible educational and pastoral experience to all our pupils. We hope you enjoy reading about some of the continued successes of our pupils.

Peter, Charlotte, Steph and Rob

CLINICAL TEAM UPDATE

Cloud dough is a simple and fun activity that you can make and play with at home. It's easy to make and only requires a few simple ingredients. Here's a recipe for making cloud dough:

Ingredients:

8 cups of flour

1 cup oil (vegetable or baby oil work well)

2 drops of your favourite scent



Instructions:

In a large mixing bowl, combine the flour, 2 drops of scent and oil. Mix well until the dough comes together and has a smooth texture.

Knead the dough with your hands for a few minutes to make sure it is well-mixed.

Once the dough is ready, you can add food colouring, glitter or any other small items to make it more fun and colourful.

Store the dough in an airtight container when not in use to keep it from drying out.

Have fun! Cloud dough can be used for moulding and shaping and makes a great sensory play material for kids. It can also be used for imaginary play, such as creating a "beach" scene and using toy beach-themed items.

Language and vocabulary: Playing with cloud dough can also help children develop language and vocabulary skills. Talking about the colours, shapes, and textures of the dough can help

NEW STAFF

This week we welcome 2 new staff to Longdon Hall. Sophie Vickery joins as TA in Key Stage 2. B'lanna has been with us on supply for several moths and has successfully secured a permanent position in Key Stage 3.

Hi! I'm Sophie and I'm a learning support assistant in primary. Outside of work I enjoy to spend time with my family, read new books and go to the gym. I'm looking forward to my future at Longdon hall and to see where my career takes me.



Hello, I am B'lanna, I often go by Bee. I look forward to being a part of the Longdon Hall school staff and sharing with students' ways that helped me get through school with my own experiences with autism.

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BUILDING SUCCESS

Year 11 student Rhys has been attending his practical element of BTEC construction at Wenlock school. He has been doing brick laying and has done several projects so far. His recent achievement has been to build an arch.

It has been a pleasure to take Rhys as he has engaged fully and is a completely different boy when in a change of environment.

He has taken pride in his work, making sure he does his best and listening and asking questions where relevant.

He has treated everyone with respect and has been a credit to Longdon Hall



CURRICULUM UPDATES- COOKING

This week KS3 have made the basic tomato sauce that they costed in their last lesson and have added some mincemeat to create a tasty spaghetti bolognese. There were lots of safe knife skills on show and everyone worked well to create the dish within the time.

KS4 have continued with their mock practical assessments or evaluated their performance and dishes. We have then edited and improved their time plans ready for their assessments next term. The pupils that have cooked this week have rightly been proud of the dishes they created.



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KEEPING SAFE AT HOME AND IN THE COMMUNITY

Continuing with last week's theme of keeping safe, today I would like to share some tips to help you talk to your young person about the risks of gangs and criminal exploitation.

There are things you can do to help prevent a young person getting involved with criminal exploitation and gangs.

Talk to them about the dangers and consequences of gangs, child criminal exploitation and county lines. They may think that these people are their friends and won't be aware they're caught up in something more sinister.

Be available and take an interest. Don't pile on the pressure for them to tell you exactly what they're up to, but encourage them to talk about how they feel and what's happening inside and outside of school.

Let your child know that you're there to listen to them, with no judgement. If they can come to you and talk without fear of being told off, they are more likely to open up.

Talk to their teachers and other parents, the more trusted people there are that can keep an eye on your child, the safer they may feel.

Let them know that gangs who undertake child criminal exploitation make young people feel like they have no choice, and will scare them into not speaking out about what is happening. But there is always a choice. <https://livesafe.org.uk/parents-and-carers/criminal-exploitation-and-gangs>

CURRICULUM UPDATES KS2

KTo class helped Isla celebrate Burns Night by taste testing traditional Scottish food - haggis, 'neeps and tatties' and cranachan (a mixture of oats, cream, raspberries, honey and traditionally a 'wee dram' of whiskey - but we didn't add that!)



In Maths we have been building 3D shapes and identifying angles. In geography we looked at an OS map of Cannock Chase identifying the symbols that were used and finding Longdon Hall. In Science we were exploring how to make a circuit to light a light bulb and then run a motor.

