

ISSUE 34

WEEK ENDING 19.07.2024



Longdon

Weekly Bulletin

LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

We have now reached the end of another busy year. This year has been another one of many challenges we are always very proud of how our school community pulls together to provide so many opportunities and experiences in and out of the classroom for our pupils. From academic to sporting successes to work experience and DofE expeditions. There are simply too many to mention but it is clear that these are only possible through the support of both parents/carers and our staff team and we would like to thank you for your continued support.

We look forward to the new challenges the new year will bring. We would like to wish you all a lovely summer break and look forward to seeing pupils all in September.

Peter, Charlotte, Rob, Steph and Siân

E-SAFETY TIP — STAYING SAFE

This week's online safety guide on 'How to stay safe online this summer'.

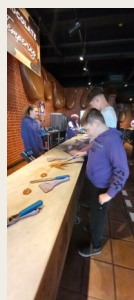
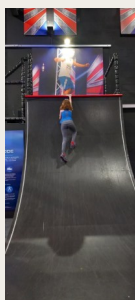
With the school summer holidays only a matter of days away, many parents and carers will already be planning outings and activities to keep their young ones entertained. In between those special summer moments, though, there are also likely to be occasions when children happily invest a whole afternoon in Among Us or spend most of their Monday on Minecraft.

As young people's screen time almost inevitably increases over the holidays, parents like to feel confident that their child will stay safe while they're exploring the digital world. So we've produced a #WakeUpWednesday poster with some simple solutions to help children avoid frequent online pitfalls and enjoy a more positive experience when they go online this summer.

Rachna

CURRICULUM UPDATE – PRIMARY B LAST WEEK!

This week some of the children in primary, year 7, year 8 and year 10 went on their end of year trip to Cadbury World and Ninja Warrior.



Karen

END OF YEAR TRIP— GAMING ARENA

The final set of trips had taken place this week, where pupils have had opportunities to take part in a choice of activities to complete whilst out.

Tristen and George had chosen gaming as their option. They visited an Esports gaming arena in Birmingham where tournaments are arranged. They were able to immerse themselves with being able to play on a number of different game consoles and games. They were able to sit and use actual gaming Headphones and chairs to get the full immersive experience.



Rachna

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PRIMARY B— THIS WEEK!

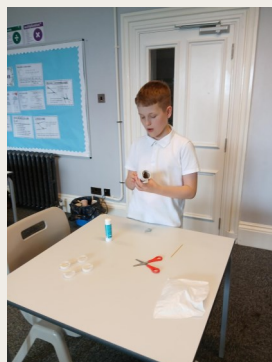
This week primary B have enjoyed a visit to Birches Valley where they enjoyed climbing and swinging on the apparatus. In sport, the boys enjoyed a game of cricket. In SMSC we learnt the dangers associated with railways and then became engineers to build their own track, complete with danger warning signs.



Tracey

BRIDGE BUILDING

In classroom 3 this week we have investigated wind powered cars. We made our cars from different materials and raced them using a fan! We discovered that our four wheeled car was more stable than the three wheeled car and they travelled further on the carpet than on a slippery smooth surface.



Louise

NEW YEAR, NEW START—UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS

Thank you for your ongoing support in upholding our school uniform expectations. The school will continually assess the quality and encourage pupils to develop a sense of pride in themselves. First impressions are important, and by continually reinforcing our high uniform and appearance standards, we strive to prepare our pupils for life after Longdon. We would like to use this opportunity to remind you that from September all pupils need to return to school wearing the correct uniform. Please contact the school if you have any queries or issues in regards to uniform.

Charlotte

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END OF YEAR TRIP—FISHING

Cameron went to Coppice Fishery on Monday the 15th July for his end of term trip. He taught Elia a lot of things regarding fishing, she has even told Cameron that Fishing may become her new hobby!

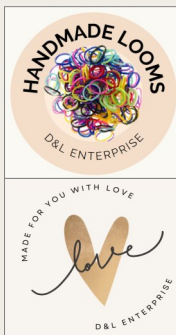


Elia

ENTERPRISE—LSO CLASS

As part of enterprise Leah and Daisy have designed their own logos as they are making loom bands and chocolate brownies to sale for our enterprise day.

Lizzie



BRIDGE BUILDING

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Louise

END OF YEAR TRIP—DRAYTON MANOR

Leah and Daisy had a great time at Drayton Manor with Lizzie and Nicky. Both girls were super brave and enjoyed scaring Lizzie on the accelerator.



Lizzie

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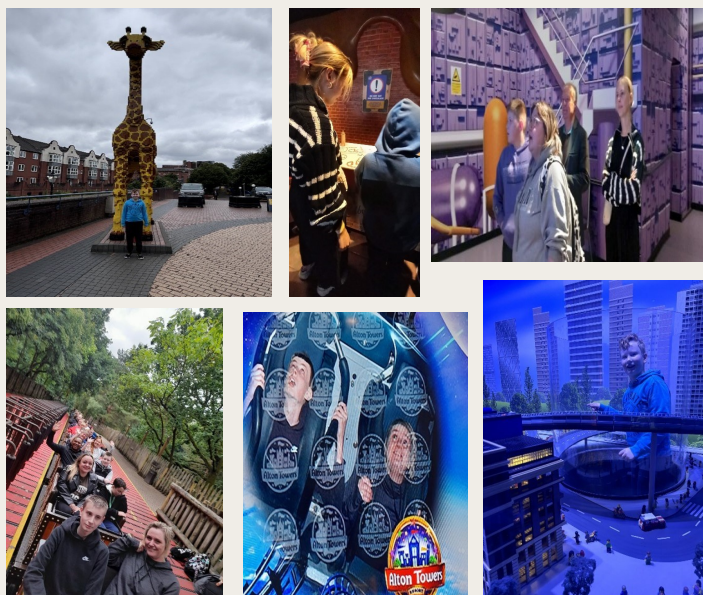


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CLINICAL UPDATE—TRIPS

During the past few weeks a number of trips have taken place. Please take a look at the fun we have had whilst joining these trips. The Occupational Therapist Assistant Amanda, joined The Ferns on a visit to Alton towers. We had a great time and Max's favourite was Galactica, but we all loved the run away train, choo choo. The Speech and Language Therapy Assistant Emma, joined Elliott on a visit to Legoland Discovery centre in Birmingham. We had a great time and explored each area thoroughly. A favourite was the Merlin's hat ride! The Assistant Psychologist Jada, joined a visit to Cadburys world in Birmingham. We had a great time and explored each area thoroughly. A favourite part was the 4D cinema and the ride. Sarah Speech and Language therapist joined a visit to a gaming arena in Birmingham where she was able to play some classics.



The Clinical Team

END OF YEAR TRIP— BLAST OFF!

As part of the end of year trips, Rico had chosen to visit the national space centre in Leicester, he had explored many different parts of the space centre and even enjoyed a show in the planetarium.



Leah

CLINICAL UPDATE — SUMMER HOLIDAYS

We hope you have a lovely summer rest over the next few weeks. We look forward to seeing all your pictures, so please send them in. Please take a look below at the attached information below of activities ideas that you may like to do with your Young person over the summer.

The Clinical Team

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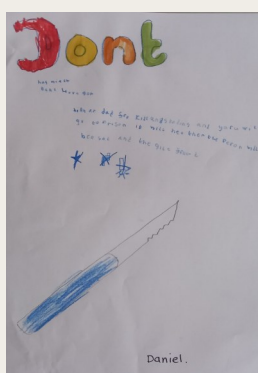
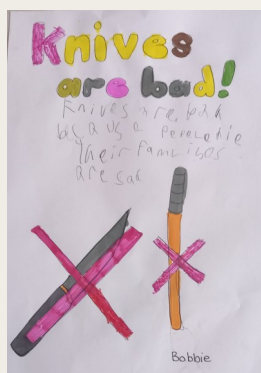
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SMSC FOCUS



Over the past two weeks our pupils have started to get ready for Enterprise week in their class groups. Each class had £10 to spend on resources and they have to work together to source, design and create something they can sell to visiting parents/carers on the last day of term so please be prepared for the hard sell! Any profit they make will be spent on a class reward / activity / item for the classroom.

In form time we have acknowledged Thank You and World Population Day as well as Plastic Free July which looks at ways we can eliminate single-use plastic. Pupils have also engaged with activities on Emmeline Pankhurst, the Olympics and Nelson Mandela day along with celebrating the Festival of Archaeology. We have also spent time this week looking at Knife Crime and its consequences alongside anti-social behaviour to help with keeping safe over the summer break. A special mention to Zendon on creating such an amazing poster on knife crime.



TERM DATES 2024– 2025

Please find attached a copy of our term dates for next academic year starting in September. We have highlighted our staff only Inset days in yellow. Pupils will return on Wednesday 4th September.

ENTERPRISE

This week students have worked incredibly hard to create products for sale at our Summer Fayre on Friday 19th July. As class groups they have planned and resourced their products, even writing letters to companies to get prizes to offer on their stalls. We will have a variety of stalls including wood crafts, cakes and brownies, loom bands, jewellery, raffles, clay models, tombola and many others. Please try to support all students in celebrating their hard work.



CLINICAL UPDATE — SUMMER HOLIDAYS

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ENTERPRISE - COOKING

LWa class have enjoyed baking this for their enterprise project. Baking some sweet treats!



Leah

Primary B class have also enjoyed their time in the cooking room baking for their enterprise. Here are some photos of their enterprise cooking. Can you take a guess as to what we have made?



Tracey

SMSC—KNIFE CRIME

As part of our Knife Crime SMSC lessons Ashton visited the Lichfield knife amnesty bin. We discussed the work of the Ben Kinsella Trust and the importance of choices and consequences of events.

Dave



CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES

On the last day of term parents and carers were invited in to take part in our celebration assemblies. These events were a wonderful opportunity to congratulate our pupils on all of their success, progress and achievement throughout the year! Well done everyone! You make us all very proud!



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SAFEGUARDING UPDATE — DITCH THE BLADE

Staffordshire Police - Ditch the blade:

Are you a parent, carer or teacher?

We need your help to encourage young people to make the right choice and to Ditch the Blade. Some young people carry because they feel worried so it's really important that we tackle the reasons behind this together, and provide support to reassure our young people that knives are not the answer.

To bring communities together to tackle knife crime, we're supporting the Ditch the Blade campaign in Staffordshire. Through education and prevention work, the campaign aims to encourage community conversations about knife crime to show our young people that carrying a knife isn't ok. By bringing this topic into the spotlight we hope to make our young people aware of the risks and consequences they face if they decide to carry a knife.

The Ditch the Blade campaign supports Operation Sceptre, two national weeks of dedicated activity against knife crime. These weeks are an opportunity for us to highlight everything we're doing as a partnership to tackle knife crime in Staffordshire, but our work continues all year round.

Advice for parent and carers

What are the signs to look out for?

When someone becomes involved with knife crime or drugs they often change their behaviour. As a parent or carer, it is important to know what to look for. Common warning signals may indicate a young person is involved in something untoward, such as if they:

- become withdrawn from family and school
- change their behaviour and/or are skipping school
- have lost interest in hobbies and old friends, and now hang around with a new group, staying out late
- they're vague about where they're going or where they've been
- become secretive and defensive easily, particularly about what's in their bag and might even have told you that they need to carry a knife for protection take kitchen knives from home, hiding them in their bag or coat.

What are the consequences?

More often than not, people carry knives or weapons because they think other people are and that the knife or weapon will provide protection. However, statistics show that 99 per cent of young people don't carry knives and carrying a knife means you're more likely to end up getting hurt. It could mean an argument escalating to a point of life or death.

Please explain to your child that the consequences of carrying a knife include:

- Being arrested - police can stop and search someone if they believe a weapon is being carried
- Prosecution - regardless of whether your child says it was for their own protection or they were carrying it for someone else
- Prison - sentences of up to four years are given for possession of a knife OR if you stab someone and they die then a life sentence means 25 years inside
- A criminal record – this can stop them getting in to college, university, getting a job or travelling to countries like the USA or Australia
- Death - they could get seriously injured or even killed

For further information please visit - <https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/ditchtheblade>

Steph

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SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS - BEHAVIOUR POLICY

At Longdon Hall School we work together to achieve the following Values, Rights and Expectations in line with the “Rights Respecting School” award we are working towards.

These values are:

- Respect for ourselves and everyone around us
- Self-awareness and Resilience
- Honesty and fairness
- Consideration and Cooperation
- Reparation and moving on
- Equality of opportunity and Adaptability

Our Rights

Everyone in the school community has rights based on our aims and ethos and these have been further informed through the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. (UNCRC)

These rights are:

- To be safe
- To be heard
- To have beliefs
- To receive support
- To be treated with respect and dignity
- To learn/teach

Our School Expectations

1. We respect that everyone has the right to feel safe emotionally and physically.
2. We treat others kindly and with respect
3. We take care of property and the school building.
4. We enable everyone to learn, including ourselves.
5. We are always in the right place at the right time.

Longdon Merit Point System

- Each pupil can received 5 merit points for each lesson and 4 for each tutorial/social time based on achievement against the school expectations. For pupils where this is not yet accessible, due to EHC or SEND based need, alternative rewards and incentives will be in place, agreed on a multi-professional basis and centred around pupil need.
- Pupils are informed of their merits individually, away from their peers.
- Merit points cannot be taken away.
- Merit points can be spent in the pastoral shop to access individual rewards, and are also celebrated with certificates.
- For exceptional work pupils can receive a WOW moment, these are the equivalent of 5 merit points and are collated on Sleuth, Like wise Good Citizen awards are available for exemplary acts that support the school community, and Pastoral Team/Headteachers Awards to celebrate positive progress.

Charlotte

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Longdon Hall School Merit Points



Longdon Merit Points-Lessons

1 point for each school expectation

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Longdon Merit Points -Social Times

1 point for each school expectation

1. We respect that everyone has the right to feel safe emotionally and physically.
2. We treat others kindly and with respect
3. We take care of property and the school building
4. We are always in the right place at the right time.



Longdon Merit Points -Special Awards

5- Merit Points-Good Citizen Award-You have been spotted showing brilliant citizenship as part of our school community

5 -Merit Points-Wow Moment-You have been spotted completing exceptional work, or

5- Merit Points-Pastoral and Senior leadership Award-Your conduct or work has been noted by the Pastoral or Senior leadership Team as deserving recognition.

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School Terms and Holiday Dates 2024/25

Autumn Term

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Term Starts | Monday 2 nd September |
| Inset Days | Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd September |
| Term Starts for Pupils | Wednesday 4 th September 2024 |
| Half Term Closure | Monday 28 th October – Friday 1 st November 2024 |
| Inset Day | Friday 28th November 2024 |
| End of Term | Friday 20 th December 2024 |

Autumn Term 1st Half Term 40 days 2nd Half Term 35 days = 75 days

Spring Term

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Term Starts | Monday 6 th January 2025 |
| Half Term Closure | Monday 17 th February – Friday 21 st February 2025 |
| End of Term | Friday 11 th April 2025 |
| Holiday | Monday 14 th April 2025 – Friday 25 th April 2025 |

Spring Term 1st Half Term 30 days 2nd Half Term 35 days = 65 days

Summer Term

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Term Starts | Monday 28 th April 2025 |
| May Day Bank Holiday | Monday 5 th May 2025 |
| Half Term Closure | Monday 26 th May 2025 - Friday 30 th May 2025 |
| Students Return | Monday 2 nd June 2025 |
| Inset Day | Friday 27th June 2025 |
| Last Day of School for Pupils | Friday 18 th July 2025 |
| End of Term | Monday 21 st July 2025 |
| Inset Day | Monday 21st July 2025 |

Summer Term 1st Half Term 19 days 2nd Half Term 36 days = 55 days

Total number of teaching days 190 + 5 inset days

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|  <div> August 2024 Activity Calendar </div> | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|--|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| | | | | 1 Cloud Dough  | 2 Bubble Volcanos  | 3 Woodlands  |
| 4 Picnic  | 5 Shaving foam  | 6 Cotton Ball Painting  | 7 Football at the park  | 8 Spaghetti bridges  | 9 Pet rock art  | 10 Car wash  |
| 11 DIY Pizza  | 12 Origami  | 13 Bingo  | 14 Cookies  | 15 Ice Painting  | 16 Rainbow spaghetti  | 17 Face masks  |
| 18 Make slime  | 19 Cardboard castles  | 20 Write a story Write a story about something that you have done during the summer holidays.  | 21 Moon sand  | 22 Bubble snake  | 23 Bare feet walk  | 24 Den making  |
| 25 Friendship  | 26 Pom poms  | 27 Daisy chains  | 28 Twig mobile  | 29 Gods eye  | 30 Mud Play  | 31 Leaf mandala  |

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[@natonlineafety](https://twitter.com/natonlineafety)

[/NationalOnlineSafety](https://facebook.com/NationalOnlineSafety)

[@nationalonlinesafety](https://instagram.com/nationalonlinesafety)

[@national_online_safety](https://tiktok.com/@national_online_safety)

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#WakeUpWednesday

Longdon

Weekly Bulletin



10 Top Tips for Helping Children

STAY SAFE ONLINE THIS SUMMER

Over the summer our children will, of course, have significantly more spare time now they are out of school. For many youngsters, it may be that a considerable amount of this extra freedom is spent online, using social media apps, video games, streaming services and other digital tech to have fun. For that reason, it's even more important for trusted adults to focus on online safety during the summer break—ensuring that our children are not only aware of the most common threats but also know what to do if they encounter something in the digital world that upsets or disturbs them.

1 ENGAGE WITH THEIR ACTIVITIES

It might not always be convenient, but try to make time to show interest in what your child's doing online. Ideally, get involved – by joining in with video gaming and discussing the apps they're using. It will make your child more likely to come to you with any future online worries or concerns.

2 FOSTER CRITICAL THINKING

Teach your child to question what they see in the digital world. As fake news increasingly uses AI to create believable audio, video and images, it will become even more important in future years to question the content that we see – and to know how to confirm it as true.

3 BE A DIGITAL ROLE MODEL

Take opportunities to demonstrate your empathy and understanding of others online, giving your child a positive template to follow. Watching you being a good digital citizen will help your child to learn an appropriate level of respect for the feelings, thoughts and privacy of other internet users.

4 EMPHASISE THE SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Among the internet's oceans of content, of course, are things which can be upsetting and concerning for young ones. There's always a chance that your child could stumble across inappropriate material, so it's wise to discuss in advance what they should do if this happens. Underline that they can always come to you if something online has worried them.

5 FIND A BALANCE

Communicating and competing online is fun, but shouldn't replace in-person socialising, exercise or being outdoors. Work with your child to find a healthy balance between their online and offline activities. Take into account what they're actually doing online: researching something or cooperating in a game, for example, is more valuable than simply browsing TikTok.

6 STAY AWARE

Keep an eye on your child's online activity and regularly check in with what they're doing. If you have serious concerns, you could discreetly view their browser history. The extent of monitoring should correspond to your child's age and maturity: younger children are likely to need closer observation.

10 REMEMBER TO HAVE FUN

Obviously, the digital world isn't without its dangers – but, when navigated safely, it remains an exciting, engaging and educational place. Be mindful of the many risks, of course, but don't let them discourage you from supporting your child to explore and enjoy themselves in the online space.

9 KEEP DEVICES UPDATED

Ensuring any devices that your child uses to go online have the most up-to-date firmware and software installed is hugely beneficial. Many people put off downloading these regular updates, but very often they contain vital software patches which help to keep your devices and data secure.

8 TEACH BASIC SECURITY

It's important that children learn to keep their personal data safe, and understand how strong passwords can help with that. Explain the basics of digital security (showing them examples, if possible) and when they're a little older you could move on to more advanced methods like multi-factor authentication.

7 TAKE (PARENTAL) CONTROL

It's wise to capitalise on the parental controls offered by most internet service providers and the devices and software that children use. These controls allow you to manage the kind of content your child is able to access, and they can usually be adjusted to reflect your child's specific age.

Meet Our Expert

A Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at a large boarding school in the UK, having previously taught in schools and colleges in Britain and the Middle East. With a particular interest in digital citizenship and cyber security, he believes it is essential that we become more aware of the risks around technology, as well as the benefits.



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#WakeUpWednesday