



Week One Newsletter

A Message From The Headteacher

Wow! What an incredible first week back to school. I have been blown away by how well the pupils have transitioned back, slotted straight back into their routines and been so determined in all that they do. It has been great to still have use of the school field (who knows how long for?!) and pupils have enjoyed playing together at social learning times.

Thank you so much to all of the parents that attended our 'Meet the Team' events. It has been great to see you following the summer holidays, as well as have you involved in the writing of PDP targets for your child. I have also really appreciated all of your kind and encouraging comments as I have completed my first week as Headteacher at Longcause - you are great!

I am looking forward to what we have planned for this term - our first cultural day, an English open session for families to take part in an English lesson, our Harvest event and of course, our spooky disco! I have popped key dates in the table below for you to put in your diaries.

Today we had our first assembly of the year where we looked at our school values and rules, and introduced our new 'show and tell' element of assembly. We saw sea shells found in Cyprus, starfish and shells bought when at a caravan holiday, hand made cereal packets from Spongebob and lovely photos from adventures during the summer holidays. If your child would like to show something at one of our following assemblies, please let their teacher know.

We also got to celebrate our 'pupils of the week' where pupils were recognised for displaying our school values of 'respect, determination, friendship'. It was not easy for teachers to decide this after the incredible week all pupils have had!

Before the summer, some of our pupils entered a drawing competition. Today they were awarded with a certificate in assembly alongside a sticker and a bookmark. They have also been told that their drawings are going to be put into a book! I can't wait for these to be printed so I can buy my copy.

I hope you have a great weekend - I'm sure after a whole week back to school you may have tired children - I know I have!

Take care,

Faye



The first assembly of the year





Some of our Pupils of the Week



Show and Tell





Drawing certificates!



Key Dates

30th September - 9:30 - 11am - English open session for families followed by a cup of tea with the Family Team! 📖

7th October - Cultural Day for pupils - Italy 🍕

21st October (after school) - Spooky disco! 🎃

23rd October (morning) - Church harvest event - **pupils only**

23rd October 12:30-2pm - Family Harvest activities in school 🍇

23rd October - Last day of term

4th November - First day back to school 🦋



Free School Meals

From September 2026, families receiving Universal Credit may qualify for Free School Meals for their children, regardless of household earnings. This represents an important expansion of the program, so even if your family was previously deemed ineligible, it is worth reviewing your circumstances again.

Children in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 already receive Universal Infant Free School Meals. However, if your family receives Universal Credit, we encourage you to check your eligibility for Targeted Free School Meals, as this can unlock additional Pupil Premium funding that supports our school in providing enhanced resources and opportunities for all students.

If your Universal Credit earnings are £7,400 or less, your child may qualify for Targeted Free School Meals, which can include access to holiday food and activity programs depending on your circumstances.

To apply, visit Plymouth City Council's website at:

plymouth.gov.uk/free-school-meals

or contact the Free School Meals Team at 01752 307410. The council will assess your eligibility and notify both you and your child's school of the outcome.

We encourage all families receiving Universal Credit to complete an application or verify their eligibility. This simple step ensures your child receives the support available to them.

If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact Jade or Kelly in the family team.

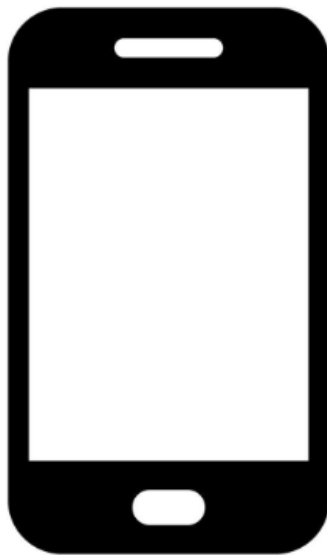


Mobile Phones

Pupils may bring mobile devices into school, but are not permitted to use them during the school day (unless specifically agreed in consultation with SLT and families). As a rule we encourage pupils to use the school office phones to call home when they require parent/carer support for emotional regulation.

Pupils who do bring their mobile phones in to school can arrange with their teacher to do one of the following to keep their device safe:

- locked away in the teacher's 'lock box'
- handed to a senior member of staff



Absence Procedure

If your son/daughter is not in school due to illness then please contact the school office by 9am. It is ok to leave a message if phoning outside of school hours. If pupils do not require school transport, please ensure you inform them of this by contacting 01752 308770 (Plymouth City Council).



Governors

Our school governors play a vital role in shaping the strategic direction of Longcause School, ensuring accountability, supporting leadership and championing the best outcomes for pupils, staff and the wider school community.

				
Faye James Headteacher	Fred Jenkins Chair of Governors	Alan Charlick Vice Chair of Governors	Colette Forsyth Co-opted Governor	Lucy Noble Co-opted Governor
				
Grace Sanders Co-opted Governor	Trudi Skinner Co-opted Governor	Ian Fleming Staff Governor	Barney West Parent Governor	Nick Rich Parent Governor

The Safeguarding Team

				
Faye James Headteacher DSL	Grace Sanders Deputy Headteacher DDSL	Trudi Skinner Deputy Headteacher DDSL	Jade Johnson-Sweet Family Team Lead DDSL	Kelly Shaw Family Support Advisor DDSL