



Week Three Newsletter

A Message From The Headteacher

I have seen and heard of many successes this week. Pupils continue to enjoy the projector in reception and it has been a joy to see such fabulous interactions between the older and younger pupils as they play. Berry squash has been a firm favourite!

In Assembly today we heard about a holiday to Belgium, visits to London Pixar and The Weeknd, seeing dolphins in Scarborough and successful trips to the Circus. These are all such achievements for our pupils and we were so proud to hear about these. A reminder, if there are any other successes you want to share with us, please send them to your child's class teacher on Dojo.

Today I joined two other Special School Headteachers in interviewing for a Speech and Language therapist. We successfully appointed a lovely therapist to the role and I am really excited that we will be welcoming her to Longcause at Christmas.

On the 9th of October we will be taking part in 'Hello Yellow for Mental Health Awareness'. All pupils are invited to wear yellow on this day and we will be learning more about things that can support our mental wellbeing. On the 16th October we are looking forward to supporting 'Wear Red for Racism' day. All pupils are invited to wear red in support of this.

Some families have expressed an interest in having school uniform with our Longcause logo on. I have contacted a local business who is well recommended by other schools and will have samples available soon for those who wish to buy these.

A reminder that on Wednesday families are welcome to come join their children in school for their Read, Write, Inc session. Myself and the family team would love for you to stay for a coffee afterwards in the staffroom. If you can make it, please can you let your child's class teacher know via Dojo.

I hope you have a great weekend. If you complete any of the 'Have a Go at Home' activities - we would love to see them!

Faye 😊



School Council

We are at the time of year where we are looking for new school council members. Pupils have heard about this today in assembly. These are the instructions that they were given:

- 1) You will need to tell your teacher if you are interested.
- 2) You will need to create a short video saying why you would be good for the role.
Videos must be completed by Friday 2nd October
- 3) There will be a vote from Monday 5th October- Wednesday 7th October
- 4) You will find out if you have been elected as a school council member in the assembly on Friday 9th October.

The 10 pupils with the most votes will be our new school council members.

Not everyone who does a video will be successful, you will have a chance to try again next year.



Assembly and Show & Tell





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 🍕

9th October - 'Hello Yellow' Mental Health Awareness Day

16th October - Wear Red for Racism

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.

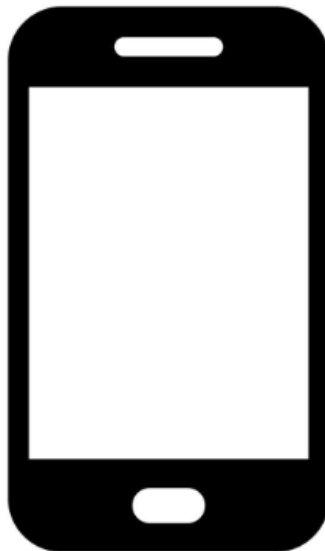


Mobile Phones

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

We are looking for enthusiastic and committed individuals to join our Governing Board and help shape the future of Longcause Community Special School. If you would like to use your skills and experience to support our school and make a positive difference, we would love to hear from you. To find out more about the role and the commitment involved, please contact the school.

				
Faye James Headteacher	Fred Jenkins Chair of Governors	Alan Charlick Vice Chair of Governors	Colette Forsyth Co-opted Governor	Lucy Noble Co-opted Governor
				
Vacancy Co-opted Governor	Vacancy 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