



THE
ACORN FEDERATION
LONG LANE CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL
MARSTON MONTGOMERY SCHOOL

Newsletter – February 2023 – Spring 4

Dear Parents / Carers,

February half term is here, the days are starting to get longer and there is a hint of spring in the air! I hope you all have a wonderful half term, spending time with family and friends and having a slower pace of life!

Online Safety:

I have been made aware that some of our children may be playing Grand Theft Auto. Grand Theft Auto is rated as 18+ because it has crime, violence, sex, drugs, and alcohol, all of which make it unsuitable for children.

'Common Sense Media' says, -

'What Parents Need to Know

Parents need to know that Grand Theft Auto V is an adult action game for Xbox 360, Xbox One, Xbox Series X/S, PlayStation 3, PlayStation 4, PlayStation 5, and Windows platforms. It brims with gang violence, nudity, extremely coarse language, and drug and alcohol abuse.

Playing as hardened criminals, players kill not only fellow gangsters but also police officers and innocent civilians using both weapons and vehicles while conducting premeditated crimes, including a particularly disturbing scene involving torture. Women are frequently depicted as sexual objects, with a strip club mini-game allowing players to fondle dancers' bodies, which are nude from the waist up.

Players also have the opportunity to make characters use marijuana and drink alcohol, both of which impact their perception of the world. All of the main characters are criminals who think of themselves first and others rarely at all. Online modes allow players to create their own avatar and embark on a criminal career that includes armed robberies, corruption, and murder. There's some diversity within the cast, including people of varying skin colours, backgrounds, and sexual orientation, but virtually no characters here could be considered appropriate role models. Few games are more clearly targeted to an adult audience.'

For more information from Common Sense Media please click [HERE](#)

Protected Characteristics

In school we have started to introduce the nine protected characteristics, in an age appropriate way, to the children. The protected characteristics are part of the Equality Act which became law in 2010. It covers everyone in Britain and protects people from discrimination, harassment and victimisation. Everyone in Britain is protected. This is because the Equality Act protects people against discrimination because of the protected characteristics that we all have. The Protected Characteristics are:

1. Age
2. Disability
3. Gender reassignment
4. Race

5. Religion or belief
6. Marriage or civil partnership
7. Sex
8. Sexual orientation
9. Pregnancy and maternity

Reminders about Attendance

Attendance

Attendance continues to be important, particularly following the closure of schools last year. We will be closely monitoring attendance and supporting families where pupils have attendance below 90%.

Attending school regularly is key to your child doing well at school and will set them up with good routines for later life and the working world.

95% Attendance – This is the equivalent of having half a day off every other week.

90% Attendance – This is the equivalent of having half a day off every week.

80% Attendance – This is the equivalent of having a day off every week.

When children are unwell, they should not attend school. However, I would ask you to consider if they are too ill to attend school, or if they will perk up once they see their friends. Please remember and adhere to the 48-hour rule. Children must not be in school for 48 hours after their last incident of sickness or diarrhoea.

Any children displaying symptoms of Coronavirus should not attend school (a high temperature or a continuous cough or a loss of taste / smell).

As part of our policy on attendance, if your child's attendance falls below 90% we will inform you by letter.

Absence Procedures

If your child is too unwell to attend school, please contact school by phone before 9.10am and inform us of the reason for their absence and when you expect them to return to school. Thank you.

Holidays

“Family Holidays and Other Absences

Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006, which came into force on 1st September 2013. State that Head teachers may not grant any leave of absence for holidays during the term time unless there are exceptional circumstances; in these cases it is the Head teacher who determines the number of days a child can be away from school if the leave is granted.

Parents needing leave of absence for **exceptional circumstances** should speak to the headteacher as soon as possible and, when possible, at least two weeks before the anticipated start date.

Parents who take their children on holiday without permission will incur an unauthorised absence for their child. These remain on the child's record and will be monitored for further action by the Education Welfare Service.”

Derbyshire County Council may issue a fine to parents who take their children out of school for an unauthorised holiday; this can be one day or two weeks.

Events from Spring 3 2023

FUNdamentals Festival (27/01/23)

Children from the Garden Class took part in a carousel of activities – street dance, tennis coaching and cricket coaching. Leaders for each activity were from local clubs. The children thoroughly enjoyed the activities and participated well in them. Well done to them all!

Maths Open Morning (02/02/23)

We enjoyed welcoming parents into school to join a Maths lesson. We hope you found it useful to see what the type of things the children do during maths.

Sportshall Athletics Y5/6 (02/02/23)

A very busy and hectic afternoon, but full of fun and support for one another. The girls started with individual and team relay races, fortunately there were four girls in our team, which worked well for the 4x1 and 2x1 events.

The boys proceeded to the old sports hall to complete speed bounce, vertical jump, triple jump and many more events swapping over into the main sports hall to do several more competitive relays where they came first and second. The boys were very strong and used tactics between themselves to give the team more chance of winning.

A super afternoon of sportsmanship! 😊

Sportshall Athletics Y3/4 (16/02/23)

All the children arrived with a great attitude into QEGs very large sports hall! After a brief introduction we split into two teams girls and boys. The girls started with track events, the relays and obstacle course. The boys started with field events which included soft javelin, speed jumps, standing jumps and long jump. All the children were willing to give it a go and the staff who attended were very proud of them! Well done everyone who took part - they worked very well as team!

Joint Day (17/02/23)

The focus of our joint day was Online Safety. The children worked in four groups so that learning could be tailored to their age. The most important thing to remember with online safety is that we talk regularly in school to the children about how to stay safe online and what to do if something happens that we are not comfortable with.

At home you can reinforce this by also talking to your children about their online activity and even sitting next to them while they are online to share in what they are doing.

Dates for your Diary

Year Six SATs Booster

Our SATs Booster sessions for Year Six pupils will continue in March.

For pupils at LLPS these will be on a Tuesday.

For pupils at MMPS these will be on a Monday.

February Half Term Holiday

School closes for half term at 3:30pm on Friday 17th February.

School will reopen to children on Monday 27th February at 8:55am.

World Book Day (02/03/23)

A letter with more information has been sent to parents.

Netball Y5/6 (09/03/23)

A letter with more information will be sent to parents.

Netball Y3/4 (16/03/23)

A letter with more information will be sent to parents.

Show and Share (24/03/23)

Parents are invited to come and share their children's books from 8:45am until 9:10am.

Joint Day (31/03/23)

The children will participate in a joint day on Friday 31st March. A letter with more information will be sent to parents.

Easter Holiday

School closes for half term at 3:30pm on Friday 31st March.
School will reopen to children on Monday 17th April at 8:55am.

Mrs Bosley's Plan

I aim to spend every other day at each school. Sometimes I am unable to do this due to calendar commitments. Please refer to the weekly update to find out where I am. If you would like to speak to me but I am at the other school please do contact me by telephone or email.

Long Lane C.E. Primary School



Events from Spring 3 2023

After School Clubs

This half term the children have enjoyed taking part in three clubs – an impromptu games night, Jumping Clay and Valentine's Day crafts.

Huge thanks to the parents who have organised these clubs, they are great fun and enjoyed by the children.

Little Monkeys

As always, the Garden Class have enjoyed welcoming the Little Monkeys to their classroom for the afternoon.

Long Lane – Events in Spring 4 2023

After School Clubs

Our additional ASC run by parents will continue on a Monday. Sessions must be booked in advance.

27th February – Animal handling

6th March – Lego / Games

13th March – St Patrick's Day

27th March – Easter Crafts / Chocolate making

Little Monkeys

Little Monkeys will take place on a Friday afternoon from 1:30pm until 3:15pm. Pre-school children and a parent / carer are welcome to join our Garden Class for the afternoon.

March – 17th

Parents' Evening

This term parents' evening at LLPS will take place on the following dates, -

Wednesday 8th March 2023 and Thursday 9th March 2023

A letter with more details has been sent to parents.

Forest School

During Spring 4 2023 (March) our Garden Class children will participate in a series of Forest School sessions. The Garden Class will have their Forest School sessions on a Tuesday afternoon.

When the children are taking part in Forest School they will need to bring suitable clothing, e.g. wellington boots, raincoats, gloves, hats etc. Forest School sessions happen whatever the weather is like so children MUST be appropriately dressed! Please take clothing home after each session.

Session dates

February – 27th

March – 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th

Easter Service (29/03/23)

Please join us at 9:15am the Church to celebrate Easter.

FOLL: Easter Egg Hunt (30/03/23)

More information to follow.