



The Acorn Partnership

Marston Montgomery Primary School
Lung Lane C of E Primary School

Newsletter – December 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

As we reach the end of the term, I want to take a moment to thank you for your continued support in school life. Your children arrive at school keen to learn, happy to take part in all parts of school life and pleased to see their friends. I would also like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the dedicated staff in both our schools for their continued commitment and teamwork, which ensures that our students receive fantastic support every day.

On behalf of all the staff and governors I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our children and their families a joyful Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year. May this festive season bring peace, laughter, and special moments together. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new year for another packed and exciting term.

Farewell to Mrs Lovett

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Lovett for her hard work and dedication over the years to both our schools, she will be greatly missed. I am sure you will all join me in wishing her a long and happy retirement.

School Business Officer (SBO)

We have appointed a new SBO who will take up their new post at some point during the spring term. Until then Miss Baldwin (formerly (Mrs Forman) and Mr Hopkinson (a member of the DDAT Central Team) will be helping out to make sure things run smoothly.

In January, please email any queries to me and I will pass them on to the appropriate person. Please understand that it may take longer for us to respond to queries in the initial weeks of the new year.

Attendance

As always, attendance continues to be a focus for schools. At both of our schools we have reviewed our target for overall attendance to 97%. This half-term we are achieving this target with the following overall attendance at each school, -

School	Autumn 1	Autumn 2 (to 10/12/25)
LLPS	97.4%	96.8%
MMPS	98.7%	97.8%



This is a great start to the year, well done.

Absence Procedures

If your child is too unwell to attend school, please contact school by telephone or email before 9.00am and inform us of the reason for their absence and when you expect them to return to school.

From January, if you are emailing to inform us of an absence please include ALL of the staff below, -

LLPS	Mrs Bosley: tbosley@acorn.derbyshire.sch.uk Mrs Norcross: lnorcross@acorn.derbyshire.sch.uk Mr Lovett: jlovett@acorn.derbyshire.sch.uk
MMPS	Mrs Bosley: tbosley@acorn.derbyshire.sch.uk Mrs Thomas: lthomas@acorn.derbyshire.sch.uk Mrs Sheen: nsheen@acorn.derbyshire.sch.uk

If telephoning, please leave a message on the school absence line, thank you.

Medical Appointments

If your child has a medical appointment please inform the class teacher so that they are aware. Staff in school are busy and easily forget (I am the worst at this!) so please also send an email (to the addresses above) to inform staff on the day / day before the appointment, thank you.

School Development Plan

English: This year one of the areas we are developing is writing. As part of this process we have introduced writing checklists to all year groups. The checklists make it clear what children are expected to include in their writing by the end of the academic year. In order to help the children to focus on particular areas to improve we have also introduced writing targets. All the children have a target, please ask them what their target is. You can also speak to the class teacher if you would like some ideas as to how to support this target at home.

Maths: In maths we have introduced daily fluency sessions. In the Garden Class this means that children spend the first part of the lesson revising number bonds (e.g. 1+9=10). In the Meadow Class they focus on a times table each week. This involves counting in steps of the times table (e.g. for the 6 times table – 6, 12, 18, 24, 30 etc); reciting the times tables (e.g. 1x6=6, 2x6=12 etc) and using the recordings of the times tables on the Supermovers section of the BBC website to sing along to.

Information



Community Flu Immunisation Clinics 

School Aged Immunisation Service

For children who are attending primary and secondary schools or electively home educated in the Derbyshire and Derby city areas.

Non-porcine flu vaccinations also available.

Monday 22nd December - Nottingham Road Fire Station, Chaddesden 10:00-15:00

Tuesday 23rd December - Genesis Enterprise Centre, Alfreton 9:30-15:25

Tuesday 23rd December - Standen Lane Fire Station, Buxton 10:15-12:40

Friday 2nd January - Genesis Enterprise Centre, Alfreton 10:00-14:05

Please note this is a free vaccination for any eligible child.

Call IntraHealth on 0333 3583 397 option 5 option 2 to book an appointment at the fore mentioned clinics.

www.intrahealth.co.uk

Service Provided By


Safeguarding Information

Another set of books has been compromised with links at the back taking children to inappropriate sites. We have been made aware that several titles in the '**According to Humphrey**' series contain a weblink at the back of the book that no longer directs people to information about the books. Instead, the link has been compromised and now leads to inappropriate and unsafe material that should not be accessed by children at any age.



Events

A list of events for the Spring term is at the end of this newsletter. Please note some dates may change or be added. During the first few weeks of term, these dates will be added to the website calendars.

Events in Marston Montgomery

Families from both schools are warmly invited to attend these events.

Join us for our Nativity Service

St Giles Church, Marston Montgomery

Christmas Eve 4pm

Carols and Refreshments

Angels and Shepherds and any other fancy dress very welcome

Wishing you all a Happy Christmas

Teresa Bosley
Executive Head Teacher

Long Lane C.E. Primary School



Long Lane – Events in Autumn 2 2025

Children in Need: 14/11/25

We had a non-uniform day for this event, thank you to everyone who donated for this worthy cause.

Garden Class: Cross Country Event: 18/11/25

The Garden Class enthusiastically took part in the Cross-Country event, running super-fast! One of our Year 1 children came 6th and one of our Year 2 children came 7th – well done.

FOLL Stall at Mickleover Christmas Fair

FOLL had a very successful stall at the Mickleover Christmas Fair, they raised an amazing £314.60 for FOLL funds.

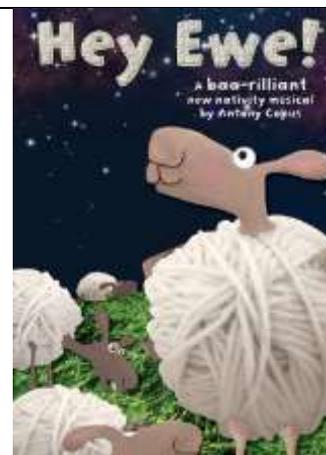
Nativity: 10/12/25

Wow! The children put on a super performance of our nativity 'Hey Ewe!' Everyone had a speaking part, some children sang solo and some in a duet. A few children had more than one part!

Well done to all our budding actors!

Nativity at a Care Home: 11/12/25

Our children gave a second amazing performance at Bearwardcote Care Home – a super way for our school to spread some Christmas joy in the local community.



Pantomime 17/12/25

The children enjoyed the pantomime at Derby Arena. One of the ways we help to develop their cultural capital.

Christmas Dinner & Party 18/12/25

Huge thanks to Mrs Shaw for our delicious Christmas dinner.

The children enjoyed the Christmas party, playing games and having fun together. They even had a visit from Father Christmas, thank you to FOLL for helping Father Christmas with his gifts.

Christingle Service 19/12/25

Our Christingle Service was a lovely reminder of the true meaning of Christmas and an opportunity to reflect on this. Thank you to everyone who joined us for the service.



Long Lane Church of England Primary School

Little Monkeys

All parents, grandparents, child minders and pre-school children are invited to come along to our Little Monkeys sessions.

Place:

Long Lane Church of England Primary School,
Long Lane,
Dalbury Lees,
Ashbourne,
DE6 5BJ



Free Toddler Sessions

There is no need to book, just pop along.

Sessions are free and drinks and snacks are provided.

Sessions run from 1:30pm to 3:15pm

End of Autumn Term Sessions	
Spring Term Sessions	
Stay and Play Sessions	Outdoor Sessions
12/12/25	21/11/25
09/01/26	05/12/25
23/01/26	16/01/26
06/02/26	30/01/26
06/03/26	13/02/26
20/03/26	27/02/26
	13/03/26



Long Lane – Events in Spring 2026

Date	Event	Time	Where
22/12/25 to 02/01/26		Christmas Holiday	
05/01/26	School reopens	8:55am	
07/01/26	Meadow Class – Outdoor Adventurous Activities	1:15pm	At school – The children will need clothing suitable for being outside and on the field, warm and waterproof. Please ensure they have wellies / walking boots in school
22/01/26	FOLL: Coffee and Cake	3:30pm	Family and friends are welcome to join us. Donations of cakes are gratefully received.
30/01/26	INSET day	All day	School closed to children
03/02/26	Meadow Class trip to Cadbury World	All day	Look out for information soon from Mrs Thomas and Mr Lovett
11/02/26	Parents' Evening	3:30pm to 6:00pm	Parents and carers are invited to come to school to discuss their child's progress, both academic and social.
13/02/26	Joint Day – Sports Focus	All day	More details to follow
16/02/26 to 20/02/26		Half Term Holiday	
23/02/26	School reopens	8:55am	
05/03/26	World Book Day		Look out for a letter inviting parents to join us for the morning.
13/03/26	Mother's Day Service	2:45pm	Families and friends are welcome to join us in church as we celebrate our wonderful mums
17/03/26	Balance Ability for EYFS	1:00pm	All children in EYFS will take part in this at Long Lane
19/03/26	FOLL Movie Night	3:30pm	Look out for more information closer to the time
23 & 24/03/26	DT Days	All day	
27/03/26	Easter Service	2:30pm	Families and friends are welcome to join us in church as we celebrate Easter
30/03/26 to 10/04/26		Easter Holiday	
13/04/26	School reopens	8:55am	

Long Lane – Events in Spring 2026: Regular Events

Date	Event	Time	Where
08/01/26 15/01/26 22/01/26 29/01/26 05/02/26	Primary Stars – lunchtime PE	12:30pm	Children will need their PE kits in school
12/02/26 26/02/26 05/03/26 12/03/26 19/03/26 26/03/26	Primary Stars – PE lesson	1:15pm	
16/01/26 30/01/26 13/02/26 27/02/06 13/03/26	Little Monkeys	1:30pm to 3:15pm	Outdoor Learning Session – all families with pre-school children are welcome to come along
14/01/26 28/01/26 11/02/26 04/03/26 18/03/26	Meadow Class Forest School	1:15pm	<p>During the Spring term our Meadow Class children will participate in a series of Forest School sessions.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Pre-school children are welcome to join the sessions.</p>
09/01/26 23/01/26 06/02/26 06/03/26 20/03/26	Little Monkeys	1:30pm to 3:15pm	Stay and Play Session – all families with pre-school children are welcome to come along