



## The Acorn Partnership

Marston Montgomery Primary School  
Lung Lane C of E Primary School

### Newsletter – December 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

As always it has been another busy term for both our schools. The children have worked hard in class and taken part in lots of Christmas themed activities.

As Christmas is fast approaching, on behalf of staff and Governors I would like to wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year.

#### **Attendance**

##### **Absence**

Attendance remains a high priority for all schools. Often, we give a percentage to children's attendance, which can be deceiving. For example, I would be delighted if I scored 92% in an exam. However, 92% attendance over the school year is equivalent to 15 days absent from school which is a lot of missed learning.

Days Absent	Percentage Attendance
0	100%
1	
2	
3	
4	98%
5	
6	
7	96%
8	
9	95%
10	
11	94%
12	
13	
14	
15	92%
16	
17	
18	
19	90%

##### **Prompt arrival at school**

Our school gates open at 8:45am and children should be in school, ready to learn by 8:55am. If they are late children miss learning time and this can quickly add up to days being missed over the academic year. Please make sure children arrive in school promptly for the start of the school day. Thank you

<b>Daily lateness equates to...</b>	<b>5 minutes per day</b> 3 days of lost learning over the year	<b>10 minutes per day</b> 6 days of lost learning over the year	<b>15 minutes per day</b> 10 days of lost learning over the year
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### **Reporting Absence**

If your child is too unwell to attend school, please contact school by phone or email before 9.10am and inform us of the reason for their absence and when you expect them to return to school. If emailing, please include Mrs Lovett, Mrs Murby, Mrs Bosley and the class teacher. If telephoning please leave a message if no-one answers as it is not always possible for someone to answer the phone. Thank you.

### **Safety at Christmas**

Attached to the email is a poster with suggestions for keeping safe at Christmas.

### **Breakfast and After School Clubs (BC & ASC)**

Please remember to book sessions for BC and ASC on the Parent Pay app. Please also email Mrs Murby and Mrs Lovett with the dates / times you have booked so that they can ensure staff know the sessions that have been booked. If you are having difficulty using Parent Pay please contact Mrs Murby and she will get back to you.

Please remember that **places need to be booked seven days in advance**, so that we can ensure we have staff for each session, for example if you need a session on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> it needs to be booked on Monday 7<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

### **Lots for Tots Awards**

We are delighted that both Long Lane Church of England Primary School and Marston Montgomery Primary School have been nominated for the 2025 Lots for Tots Awards! Voting is now open, please vote for us and ask other family members and friends to vote for us as well.

Voting is available on the Lots for Tots website: [www.lotsfortots.co.uk/vote](http://www.lotsfortots.co.uk/vote)

You can vote more than once so you can vote for each school.

Voting will close on **17th January at 12pm**.

### **Information from Boots Pharmacy: NHS Pharmacy First Service**

Did you know that the NHS Pharmacy First Service enables children and adults to get convenient access to healthcare advice and treatment where appropriate, for seven common conditions without the potential delay of having to wait for a GP appointment? Accessing the service may mean that they can help children feel better and get back to school as quickly as possible, as well as supporting parents/carers to also get better if they are unwell with one of the conditions covered under the service.

There is no need to make an appointment; parents or carers can pop into their local Boots pharmacy with their child and ask for help under the service. Support for the following conditions can be accessed under the service, free of charge (unless NHS prescription charges apply):

<b>Common condition</b>	<b>Patient eligibility</b>
Earache	1 to 17 years
Impetigo	1 year and over
Infected insect bites and stings	1 year and over
Sore throats	5 years and over
Sinusitis	12 years and over
Uncomplicated urinary tract	Women 16 to 64 years
Shingles	18 years and over

## **Staffing**

In January Mrs Blurton will be leaving us to take up a position at another school. I would like to thank Mrs Blurton for all her hard work during her time at both our schools and wish her luck for the future. Mrs Blurton's last day with us will be 10<sup>th</sup> January.

In January Miss Walters will support learning in the Garden Class at Long Lane. Mrs Coppen will support learning in both our Meadow Classes.

## **Partnership – Events in Autumn 2 2024**

### **Children in Need - 15/11/24**

We raised money for Children in Need this year. We had a fantastic day in non-uniform. Our activities included making spotty biscuits, bringing teddies from home, colouring and using our computer skills to create our own Pudsey bears. Across the partnership we raised an amazing £129.85 for this worthy cause.



### **DT Day 1 and 2: 16/12/24 and 17/12/24**

**EYFS:** The theme for our DT day in reception was the Julia Donaldson story – Stick Man. We started the first day listening to the story and then shared various challenges that were to be completed. Our challenges included, -

- Using a saw, sawing willow and making a stickman which was decorated with wool
- Exploring painting with sticks,
- Ordering the story by practising our use of scissors to cut out pictures
- Making a boat out of plasticine and testing if it would float - well done Hannah for building the only boat which floated on the first attempt.

**Year 1 and 2:** The children showed off some impressive skills with prepping, making and cooking a variety of food for their joint design and technology days. Years 1 and 2 had the challenge to safely peel, grate and chop food. They then used these skills to create their own sandwiches which they had designed. Mrs Sheen and Mrs Blurton were impressed with each and every child and their enthusiasm to the task. They all had a different sandwich design and were able to show their chopping, grating and cutting skills using bridge and claw grips as appropriate. Well done to all!



### **Year 3 and 4:**

Year 3/4 designed, cooked, and evaluated a vegetable curry, which, they cooked in the village hall at Marston in the brand-new kitchen. They learnt how to use the bridge and claw techniques for chopping and use a hob safely.



### **Year 5 and 6:**

Years 5 and 6 enjoyed two wonderful DT days, where they tasted, planned and made their own salsa and flatbreads! They tried out many different spices, flavours and ingredients, and planned their recipes based on what everyone liked the most! The results were brilliant and not a shred of flatbread was left at the end!

### **Joint Sports Day: 18/19/24**

Children had a great day partaking in laser tag activities. They also had great fun using Zorb balls bouncing around the hall.



Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year

Teresa Bosley  
Executive Head Teacher

# Long Lane C.E. Primary School



## Long Lane – Events in Autumn 1 2024

### Wreath making – 22/11/24

FOLL organised a wreath making event. This was a great event which raised £149 and everyone who attended had lots of fun and laughter and went home with a beautiful wreath.



### Mickleover: Christmas Festival – 24/11/24

Despite the weather, FOLL's stall at the Christmas Festival in Mickleover was as popular as ever. Thank you to everyone who donated for the stall and a huge thanks to those who braved the weather and manned the stall! FOLL raised £338.59 at this event.

### FOLL: Christmas Party – 06/12/24

The children thoroughly enjoyed the entertainer at the Christmas Party, his games were great fun and his magic was a fabulous. Thank you to FOLL for organising and funding this event for our children.

### Nativity - 11/12/23

The children were amazing in their Nativity 'Prickly Hay'. They acted and sang brilliantly while reminding us of the true meaning of Christmas.

FOLL also raised £183.44 at the Nativity, thank you to all who donated and to FOLL for organising.



### Nativity at Wheathills House Care Home – 13/12/24

Prickly Hay on tour!

We were delighted to be invited to Wheathills Care Home to share a scaled down performance of our nativity production 'Prickly Hay'. We were well practised in the church but the space we had to perform in was much smaller, however the children did an absolutely amazing job adapting their roles and produced a faultless performance. The residents loved the singing and the children were met with great applause.



### Little Monkeys – Christmas Theme - 13/12/24

We had a fabulous Christmas themed Little Monkeys session where we were delighted to welcome some new families alongside our current Garden class parents. We all enjoyed exploring different activities including a trainset in the snow, wrapping presents ready for Santa,

playing with green playdough which became Christmas day sprouts and decorating iced Christmas trees.



### **Celebration Assembly - 19/12/24**

It was lovely to welcome our families to join us in celebrating the many achievements we have had within our school community this term. Well done to all the children for their hard work and the progress they have made this term.

### **Christmas Activities Day - 19/12/24**

The children enjoyed making cards and calendars this morning, at lunch time we ate a delicious Christmas dinner (thank you Mrs Shaw) and during the afternoon they enjoyed playing games together at the Christmas Party.

### **Christingle Service - 20/12/24**

Our Christingle Service is a wonderful way to end the term.



**Long Lane – Events in Spring 1 2025**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Where / Who</b>
<b>Christmas Holiday – 23/12/24 to 03/01/25 – School Closed</b>			
06/01/25	School reopens to children	8:55am	School
07/01/25 14/01/25 21/01/25 28/01/25	Forest School	1:15pm – 3:30pm	Meadow Class
17/01/25	FOLL: Coffee and Cake	3:30pm	Meadow Class
23/01/25	Maths Workshop	9:00am – 9:45am	School
24/01/24	Garden Class RDSSP - FUNdamentals	9:00am – 11:00am	Ashbourne LC
07/02/25	Little Monkeys – Chinese New Year Theme	1:30pm – 3:15pm	Garden Class
12/02/25	Animal ASC	3:30pm – 5:00pm	Whole school
13/02/25 14/02/25	DT Day 1 and 2	All day	Whole Partnership
21/02/25	Celebration Assembly	9:00am – 9:30am	Meadow Class Whole school
26/02/25	Parents' Evening		Both classrooms Whole school
27/02/25	World Book Day	9:00am – 1:00pm	Both classrooms Whole school
28/02/25	Joint Day – Sports Focus	All day	Marston Whole Partnership
<b>Half Term – 03/03/25 to 07/03/25</b>			
10/03/25	School reopens to children	8:55am	School
25/03/25	Primary Stars – Team Challenge	9:30am – 11:30am	Ashbourne Rec Garden Class
28/03/25	Mother's Day Service	9:00am – 9:30am	Church Whole school
02/04/25	Little Monkeys – Easter Theme	1:30pm – 3:15pm	Garden Class
04/04/25	Easter Service	9:00am – 10:00am	Whole school Church
<b>Easter – 07/04/25 to 21/04/25</b>			
22/04/25	School reopens to children	8:55am	Whole school