

# Long Mead Newsletter



Eagle Class visited the Royal Institution and made their own .

## Email addresses

In common with most schools now we would like to move to sending letters and information out by email. This reduces the chance of letters going missing or being unread in the bottom of bags. You are currently checking the data collection sheet that has a space to add email addresses. If you have not currently given this information to us please do so before returning the sheet.

We have also put lots of information on our web site [www.long-mead.kent](http://www.long-mead.kent)



## Regional strike action

You may be aware that there is a regional strike day for teachers on Thursday this week the 17<sup>th</sup> October.

I am letting you know that Long Mead will be **OPEN**. Please ensure that ALL pupils attend school on that day.

## Consultations

Parent consultations will be shortly after half term **12th and 13th November**. Letters to book appointments will be coming home. Please ensure that you book to see your child's class teacher who will update you on how well they are progressing and what they will need to target next.






Please could I remind you all that pupils should only be off school when they are exceedingly unwell. Coughs and colds are not normally sufficient reasons to miss days. Whilst I know the office staff are very good at calling you when your child is not in, it is really YOUR LEGAL responsibility to inform the school on the first day of pupil absence.

Punctuality at school is exceedingly important if you do not wish your child to be feeling uncomfortable or disadvantaged having missed the beginning of lessons. I realise on the rare occasions lateness cannot be avoided but excuses like 'running late' or 'alarm didn't go off' are NOT acceptable reasons for lateness.



## Spelling B and Children in Need

As you will have read in yesterday's letter we are really pushing the boat out this year to support Children in Need. There are several events,

-  firstly the sponsored spell -proceeds to be split between school funds and Children in Need
-  secondly the opportunity to dress as a bee and receive a Children in Need wrist band -donation of £ 2 on the day Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November and
-  finally the opportunity for the best speller in each key stage to win an e-reader equipped with a first book. I hope you will all join in the spirit of things and help your child with their spellings.



## Autumn showcase

Our annual joint event with Hugh Christie is on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> November. This is a fantastic opportunity to celebrate pupil's diverse talents. It is held at Hugh Christie commencing at 6.30pm. Tickets are available through the office.



## Open day

We have decided that we will be holding a whole school Open Morning **on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 9.30-12.00.**

We are keen to raise the profile of the school and have visitors to the school who may not know about us.

If you know anyone who is in need of a school place in any year group please can you alert them to this chance to see the school in operation and extend an invitation to them to attend on my behalf.

## School results

Finally I can't finish without bringing to your attention the exceedingly pleasing results that pupils at this school have achieved.

Reception has continued to succeed well and this year their results were one of the highest in the area, much higher than the Kent averages and hugely higher than National averages.

Year 1 phonics test results this year exceed the national's by approximately 30%

Key stage 2 results show that in the local area pupils at Long Mead make the biggest amount of progress in English and Maths.

If your child is in Year 6 don't forget to apply for a secondary school place before the final closing date on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2013. You can apply online at:

[www.kent.gov.uk/ola](http://www.kent.gov.uk/ola)

or ask for help at the school office.

## Uniform and Equipment

Please can you note that we do have a uniform policy which all pupils are expected to comply with. (Policy available from the office or via the website) In addition ALL pupils should have PE clothes and plimsolls in school at ALL times. We have a number of children who regularly expect the school to provide spares which we simply can't do and as a result YOUR child misses out on the PE they are entitled to. All pupils have a reading book and school contact book, this must be bought in with them daily and you should use it to communicate with teachers and record when they have read to you EACH NIGHT.



## Driveway and Health and Safety

We have again developed a problem with parents driving down the drive to drop off or pick up pupils. This is NOT ALLOWED due to health and safety reasons.

Parents doing this will be challenged by members of staff and could be reported to the police for trespassing.

This may seem harsh but it MUST stop before a pupil is injured or far worse!

## Governor Vacancies

The Governing body of the Tonbridge Federation (Long Mead and Hugh Christie) currently has a number of vacancies. If any parents are interested in becoming a school governor please contact the office who will provide more information. Should we be inundated by requests we may need to arrange an election but should the need arise we will contact you about this again.

## Events:

Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct – Football match vs St Margaret Clitherow  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> Oct- Last day of Term 1  
Half term School Hall being painted

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> Nov – First day term 2  
Tues 12<sup>th</sup> /Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Nov - Parent- Teacher Consultations  
FRIDAY 15<sup>th</sup> Nov – Children in Need – Spelling Spectacular  
Wed 20 Nov – OPEN DAY for new parents  
22<sup>nd</sup> Nov – Own Clothes Day gifts for Christmas Fete  
WED 27<sup>th</sup> /THUR 28<sup>th</sup> Nov – Autumn Showcase  
FRIDAY 29<sup>th</sup> Nov – Own Clothes day – sweets/ choc

FRIDAY 6<sup>th</sup> DEC- Own Clothes day – bottles  
FRIDAY 6<sup>th</sup> DEC – CHRISTMAS FETE – 3PM IN THE SCHOOL HALL  
WED 18<sup>th</sup> DEC – CHRISTMAS DINNER  
19<sup>th</sup> DEC – NATIVITY AND CAROLS AT TONBRIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH 2PM  
20<sup>th</sup> DEC – LAST DAY OF TERM 2



