
LANGTREE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Fore Street

LANGTREE

Torrington

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LOTTERY FUNDED

18 November 2016

Dear Families

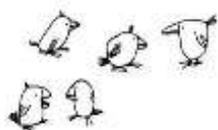
Measuring Height and Weight of Children in Reception and Year Six Families with children in either of these year groups should already have received a letter from Public Health Devon (via school) explaining about the School Health Team visiting to weigh and measure your child - unless you have indicated that you would prefer that not to happen. I am able to let you know that Sarah Adams will be visiting us next Thursday to collect this information. Plus remember that if you don't want your child's data included, you need to have returned a completed 'Opting Out' form to us no later than 9.05am on Thursday morning.

Hearing Tests Continuing on a health and medical theme, while Sarah is here with us next week, she is happy to do hearing checks on any child (free of charge). If this is something you think might be useful, or you have concerns about your child's hearing generally, please speak with his/her teacher, or leave some details at the School Office to be passed on to the Sarah when she visits.

School Photos: Individual and Family Photographs Thank you to everyone who visited us on Monday morning to have family photos taken by Emily from Tempest. She was amazingly busy until 11am that morning, and took over 110 family photos during the first hour of the day. Order forms, and proof mini-prints, should by now have reached you via pupil post. New this year is online ordering: visit www.tempest-schools.co.uk and use the web access code printed on the form to place your order. If you are a super-organised parent and have tried online ordering without success during the last couple of days, you may have received an 'Image Not Available' message. I can let you know that this is because those particular photos have yet to be uploaded to the Tempest site. They can take up to 5 days to reach the webpage, after they have been taken in school - so please don't give up. If you prefer to order using the paper forms, please make sure these are completed and returned to school no later than **WEDNESDAY 23 NOVEMBER** for them to be included with the school's collection.

Christmas Productions and Preparations All classes in the school are busy making plans for their Christmas productions. New families may be interested to know that Classes One, Two and Three join together to perform a nativity play especially written for us, with two performances: one in the afternoon (2pm) and one in the evening (6pm) so that as many families as possible can come to watch. We hope to have tickets for both performances ready to go on sale for you from the School Office from Monday 05 December and, as we are able to seat almost 200 festive spectators at each one, do not anticipate that we will have any problem with availability. This year, this will take place on Monday 12 December in Langtree Parish Hall. By that date, Class F will have already performed their very own nativity for families and friends to come and enjoy, again in Langtree Parish Hall, on Tuesday 06 December 2016. Look out for more details about both of these events coming out to you in our next Newsletter.

Christmas Dinner Wednesday 14 December I am pleased to be able to let you have details in advance of our scrumptious Christmas Dinner being planned by Jacky, our Kitchen Manager. For the usual cost of a school meal (£2.20), your child can enjoy roast turkey with a sausage and bacon roll plus all the usual festive trimmings, followed by Christmas Pudding and custard or jelly and ice-cream, or fresh fruit salad. The vegetarian alternative for that day will be a quorn fillet, plus of course roast potatoes and all the festive vegetables. On this day, there will be no jacket potato option. We will assume that everyone will choose the roast turkey option, UNLESS we hear from you that your child would prefer the vegetarian choice. Please use the reply slip at the end of this Newsletter if you this is something your child would prefer and make sure it's completed and returned to the school office no later than FRIDAY 02 DECEMBER for the order to be included. If, for whatever reason, your child will bring a packed lunch into school that day, please also let us know using the slip at the end of this letter, to help make sure we peel, chop and slice just the right amounts! Thank you in advance for your menu-planning help. **Nursery families** please note there will be **no Lunch Club** running on this day.



Start of the School Day and Early Bird Drop-In: Drop and Go! A quick reminder that for a cost of £1.00 each, you can leave your child with Miss Weeks in Class F from 8.30am any morning of the week - ideal for anyone who needs to be away from school slightly earlier than our staff are able to take responsibility for them in the playground.

Operation Christmas Child 2016 Thank you to everyone who has passed in donations for our Shoebox appeal. Mrs Mitchell was able to deliver ten boxes full with Christmas goodies to The Grosvenor Church in Barnstaple yesterday, ready for onward transport to children all over the world who might not otherwise receive any gifts. We hope to hear where our boxes have been delivered, and will of course let you know their destination. Thank you also to families who have donated towards the cost of transporting the boxes - always greatly appreciated.



Key Stage 2 Sport/PE : Thursday Afternoon Sport Sessions Mrs Heard and Mrs Mitchell have asked me to remind parents of children in Class 2 and Class 3 that, for a Thursday afternoon, they will need a complete change of kit in school. Our sport afternoons will continue into the Autumn Term, and with the weather turning more wintry, extra layers to combat mud and rain will definitely be needed (including socks and possibly underwear please!).



Karate Training with Sensei Peter Hill Devon Wado-Ryu Karate-Do Kai was established in 1984 by the late Sensei T. Takamizawa 7th Dan Kyoshi Shihan and his student Sensei Peter Hill 6th Dan, visited us last Friday to lead two workshops for our Key Stage 2 children in 'the most honourable and correct way'. Although he said our children were 'a pleasure to teach and spend time with', we enjoyed his visit equally as much. For more details about the club, please visit: www.devonwado-ryu.co.uk/1.htm. Thank you to him for an amazing afternoon when we learnt not just some karate moves, but also some of the history and understanding behind the sport.

MTA Vacancy Due to the retirement at Christmas of a long-standing member of our lunchtime team, we shall shortly be advertising a lunchtime MTA vacancy. If this is something which might be of interest to you, please pop into the school office to leave your details or collect more information.



PTA News, from Clare Heard: Thank you to everyone who came to last night's PTA meeting and helped to make plans for our Christmas fundraising. Our next fundraising event is the **Christmas Fair** which is on **Friday 9 December 3pm – 5pm** in the Parish Hall, so pop the date in your diaries.

There will be games to play, competitions to enter, Hamper raffle (Which will be drawn at the evening performance of the Christmas Play), and refreshments and of course Father Christmas will be attending. We are on the lookout for bottles (alcohol, bathroom smellies, soft drinks etc.) for our adult game, unwanted and in good condition soft toys and sweet and savoury food for the refreshments. If this is anything you can help with please pass your donations into the school office and thank you in advance.

Thank you to everyone who took part in our Halloween Non-Uniform day and attended our Halloween Parties. With your support we have raised a fantastic £250 for our school. Also a huge 'thank you' to everyone who has ordered their child's Christmas card design. By doing so, you have helped to raise £120 for the PTA funds. The cards are due to return to school at the beginning of December ready for you to send for Christmas.

Thank you to everyone who has recently signed up to our online shopping scheme – 'easyfundraising'. We now have 20 supporters and have raised just under £175 simply by logging onto 'Easyfundraising' before shopping online.

If this is something that you would like to help us with too, please visit: easyfundraising.org.uk/langtreecommunityschool and add Langtree Community School as your cause. Easypeasy!

School Diary Dates

Tues 06/12 Class F Christmas Play: Langtree Parish Hall: 9.30am plus refreshments
Boots the Chemist: 'Flu Vaccinations: Years 1,2 & 3 children.
Fri 09/12 PTA Christmas Fair 3-5pm
Mon 12/12 Main School: Christmas Play: afternoon and evening performances.
Weds 14/12 Christmas Dinner followed by Carol Service
Thurs 15/12 Class Christmas Parties
Fri 16/12 Last day of Autumn Term.

Film Club: Mondays: 28 November: 'The Muppets': please book at the School Office before Friday 25 November; first Film Club of the New Year will be 30 January 2017.

Stay and Play: Fridays: 02 December 2016.

Community News

Posada in Langtree During Advent - the lead up to Christmas - wooden figures of Mary and Joseph travel around the area from house to house. They finally arrive at Langtree Church, for our service on Christmas day.

It's a custom that started in Mexico, when two real people would travel around the village, going from house to house to tell people of the coming of Jesus, and would ask if they had a room to give him.

Today it's the crib figures. One household passes the figures on to the next.

Would you like to join in? It's a lovely way to prepare for Christmas. Most people put them in a special place (in a window, on a mantel piece, on the table) where all the family can see them. Sometimes they light a candle by them. If you would, then please sign up at the school, or phone Revd Martin Warren (01409 281424)

TGiF

This month will be on Friday November 25th, when we will be sending the figures of Mary and Joseph off, on their travels around our neighbourhood - with a bit of fun! We would be very pleased if you would like to join us. After school, in the church. There will be no TGiF next month.

Revd. Martin Warren

Monkleigh Primary School have asked us to let you know that they are trying hard to raise funds to build a 'Quiet Room' for a ten year old pupil from that village who recently collapsed at home suffering from a bleed on the brain. After being in a coma for a long time, and undergoing several operations, she is now back at school but needs the benefit of having a quiet room away from the hustle and bustle of the classroom to rest and recover. Fundraising has started and people have been very generous, but they are still some way off their target. To read more about this appeal, please visit: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/SupportingJuliaGrigg>.

Yours sincerely

Helen Mellody,
Head Teacher

LANGTREE COMMUNITY SCHOOL
Christmas Dinner
Wednesday 14 December 2016

My child..... would prefer the vegetarian option (Quorn fillet) for their Christmas Dinner on the above date.

My child will bring a packed lunch to eat on the above day.

Signed: **Parent/Carer/Guardian**