
LANGTREE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

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09 November 2018

Dear Families

A very warm welcome back to the second half of the Autumn Term. I hope you enjoyed your Half Term holiday, and are ready for lots of exciting news and events taking place during the next few weeks. I am pleased to have been able to include a full list of festive dates for your diaries as part of our 'Diary Dates' section at the end of this Newsletter and hope you find it useful to help you plan ahead.

Teaching Staff Appointment: Part-Time in Class Three: Welcome Mr Hoskin! Just in case you missed my letter out to families just before the Half-Term holiday, I am pleased to repeat my news that we shall shortly be welcoming Mr Jonathan Hoskin to Langtree School to teach on two days a week in Class Three - from January 2019. I am hopeful that Mr Hoskin will be able to visit before the end of term to say 'hello' to everyone, ahead of being here regularly during the Spring and Summer Terms, and will let families know when that will be as soon as a date has been agreed so that you can, if you wish, pop in to welcome him. As always, please come and chat to me if you have any questions or queries about the above appointment, or future staffing arrangements across the school.

Application for Reception School Places We have been asked to let you know that if your child was born between the 1 September 2014 and 31 August 2015, you will be able to apply for your child's school place from the 15 November 2018 until 15 January 2019. You will be able to log in and make your application at any point after this date by visiting this page: <https://new.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/>. If you cannot apply online, you will be able to apply using a hard copy of the common application form. If you require a hard copy of the application form please contact our Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019 from the 15 November. Please note that it will not be possible to make an Application by e-mail.

School Photos: Individual and Family Photographs: Tuesday 13 November 2018 A final reminder that Emily from Tempest Photography will be visiting us from 8am on the above date to take family portrait and individual photos. The early start is an open session for any family, and we are pleased to be able to welcome lots of visitors from the village and further afield, to have photos taken - just in time for Christmas! Please don't forget that if you would prefer that your child's photo is not taken, to let us know as soon as possible so that we can make sure they are not included as part of the photoshoot.

Christmas Productions and Preparations Main School: Monday 10 December: Class F: Monday 17 December 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, 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 03 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. Class F's festive production will take place on Monday 17 December, again in the Parish Hall. Look out for more details about both of these events coming out to you in our next Newsletter. **Christmas Costume Spruce-Up!** As is usual at this time of year, Mrs Mitchell is busy with her tape-measure and needle and thread making sure all our costumes fit perfectly. She is again keen to give them all a bit of a freshen-up but is struggling to work her way through almost 80 costume combinations in her washing machine at home. As last year, we would be really grateful for your help with this task, so if you are able to offer some gentle laundering assistance, please let us know by either speaking to Mrs Mitchell or leaving your name at the School Office. Thank you in advance for your help keeping our Christmas Play sparkling to its usual high standard!

Message from the PTA: Kaye French Thank you to everyone who attended the Halloween Parties on Friday 02 November. We hope everyone had a great time. Mrs Heard, Ellie and Poppy Heard and Alice Hunkin all did a fantastic job providing wonderful games and fantastic entertainment and all of the children seemed to have a great time and behaved brilliantly, with a wonderful 88 tickets sold. Thank you also to everyone who offered to help either set-up or to stay and attend the parties; your help is appreciated.



The next PTA event is the Christmas Fayre; this will be held on Friday 14 December at the Parish Hall from 3.30 – 5pm. If you would like to be involved, have a stall or can donate a raffle prize, all help would be appreciated. Please e-mail: kaye.french@icloud.com

Thank you to everyone who has got involved with the Christmas Cards schemes. Just a reminder that the final day for payments is Friday 9th November. Please make any cheques payable to 'Langtree PTA'.



The next PTA meeting will be on Thursday 23rd November in the Green Dragon, Langtree.



Operation Christmas Child 2018 Lists of suitable donations are now available - thanks to Mrs Mitchell - outside each classroom. Thank you to everyone who has already donated towards this year's appeal and helped get our boxes off to a good start. We are happy to accept donations of items up until Monday 19 November, ahead of transporting them across to The Grosvenor Church, Barnstaple. Please remember we are always happy to accept donations of money to help towards postage costs, passed into the School Office.

Sports Round-Up
Reports, latest news, updates and scores



**High5 Netball Match/
 Football Match
 Beford Primary
 School (local league)**

Clare Heard/Jill Mitchell
 Netball team
 Adrian Folland
 Football team

The first match of the term in this newly established League will be played afterschool on Thursday 08 November at Beaford Primary School - after this Newsletter has been printed. A full report of each match will be included in our next Newsletter.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and Remembrance Day Commemoration We are pleased to be able to offer poppies and wrist bands in exchange for a donation to the Royal British Legion from the School Office and are looking forward to welcoming Mr and Mrs Gilbert (Martha, Poppy and Leo's

Mum and Dad) into school this Friday, 09 November, to join with us to lay our poppy wreath at the Parish Hall Memorial, and tell us a little bit more about the Armed Forces and the part they played in both the First and Second World Wars. Thank you to them for helping us make sure we know just a little bit extra about our country's history and the role played by our service personnel in both World Wars.

School Diary Dates

23 Nov Fri PTA Committee meeting: 7.30pm The Green Dragon, Langtree.

26 Nov Mon Film Club: from 3.30pm in school

27 Nov Tues School Health Team visiting: weighing and measuring Reception and Yr6 children (opt-out available).

7 Dec Friday Class F 'Stay and Play' session

10 Dec Mon Main School Christmas Play: Langtree Parish Hall: afternoon and evening performances.

13 Dec Thurs Christmas Dinner followed by traditional Carol Service, Langtree Methodist Chapel

14 Dec Fri PTA Christmas Fair

17 Dec Mon Class F Christmas Production: Langtree Parish Hall

20 Dec Thurs Autumn Term: last day for children and staff.

Film Club

Monday after school: 26 November 2018.

Foundation Stage 'Stay and Play' Sessions:

Friday: Friday 07 December 2018

Community News

LEAP into a Cosy Winter! Vulnerable and fuel-poor residents across Devon are being encouraged to apply for expert help to keep warm and cosy this Winter, and reduce energy bills by up to £300 per year. 'Cosy Devon' and the 'Local Energy Advice Programme' (LEAP) is a free advice service supported by Devon County Council and funded by energy suppliers. It helps households with energy saving measures and, once an application is accepted, advisors will visit and look at current heating and warmth levels in your home. They can install a range of simple measures, provide energy efficiency advice and help look for better deals on energy bills. They might even be able to offer help to repair or replace a boiler that's not working or is very old and doesn't meet current standards. For more information, please visit www.applyforleap.org.uk.

Devon County Council are searching for more home care workers across Devon as there is currently a lot of demand in the county for care and support for people living in their own homes. This is called 'domiciliary', or home care. There are too few people working in the profession, which means that meeting demand is really difficult at times, especially during the Winter when demand for care tends to increase. Concerns about staffing levels have led to a need to ask people to consider careers in care, especially in the domiciliary care section. If this is something which might be of interest to you, please visit www.proudtocaredevon.org.uk for more information.

Yours sincerely

Nigel Smale
Joint Headteacher.