



Longcot and Fernham Church of England Primary School

Our Value this Term: Courage

*'Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed,
for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go' – Joshua 1:9*

Monday 26th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

The long month of January is almost over and there are some definite signs of the return of the light, despite some rather miserable weather! At school, the first few weeks of term have already been packed with activity and learning and we have been so proud of the way in which our children have all managed the changes resulting from our premises challenges and the closure of Robins classroom.



On the 16th January, we celebrated World Religions Day, with each class delving deeper into the beliefs and practices of a different faith and sharing their learning with the rest of the school. Wrens and Sparrows have been enjoying Forest School and, in some cases, taking the opportunity to get thoroughly wet and muddy as they explore the Forest School area in winter, and Year 5 did brilliantly with their Bikeability course 2 weeks ago, cycling as far as Watchfield and back!

We are looking ahead to NSPCC Number Day, the Cambrian Learning Trust Swimming Gala, specific activities for our Service Pupils and Young Carers Group, Screen Free Day and Internet Safety Day, all before half term!

Site News

As some of you are aware, the water damage to Robins Classroom is significant and the water has caused further damage to the flooring in the corridor and cloakroom space between Robins and Blackbirds classes and into Little Wrens Nursery. In order to minimise disruption to the rest of the school and to carry out stripping, drying and repair work safely, remedial work may take many months.

In the meantime, we are working hard towards a solution by trying to secure a temporary classroom for Robins Class to be located on site. This requires sourcing a suitable structure, securing planning permission, electrical connection via generator and a secure surround, all of which means it takes some time and preparation work. A rough estimate for this is February half term but we will, of course, keep you informed as work towards this outcome progresses.

Coffee Morning



We apologise for the cancellation of our Coffee Morning planned for this Wednesday. We don't currently have space to go ahead with this but will set a new date as soon as we have our school hall space restored to normal usage!

Longcot, Faringdon, Oxfordshire SN7 7SY

Tel: 01793 782381

Headteacher: Mrs Sally Robins

Chair of Governors: Sue Hunter

office@laf.cambrianlt.org

www.longcotandfernhamschool.uk

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We are With You



We are With You is an NHS led community for parents and carers of children and young people who are experiencing emotional or mental health difficulties. It brings together peer support and professional guidance with the aim to help you feel informed, connected and supported. A referral is not needed to access the service.

Their upcoming webinars include:

Thursday 26th February - Sleep & Mental Health. 5pm – 6pm, Online

Friday 13th March 2026 – Unmet Needs or Emotional Avoidance? Understanding the Difference in School Non-Attendance. 1.30pm – 2.30pm. Online



For more information and to register for one of their webinars, please visit the We are With You webpage via the QR code here.

Parents Evenings



Please note, in the dates section, the dates for our next Parents Evenings in March. These dates will come around very quickly, with half term week in the meantime!

Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd March

3.15 – 7.00pm

Booking information and more detail to follow in a separate letter!

Jigsaw PSHE – Dreams and Goals

This term, in our Jigsaw PSHE work, we are focusing on the 'Dreams and Goals' puzzle piece. In this unit, we look at setting goals for ourselves, overcoming challenges, persevering, the feelings associated with challenge and success, motivation and small steps towards an end, recognising and being proud of self and others.



You can find information about this, and other Jigsaw PSHE learning, on our school website under Curriculum>PSHE, or by following this link:

<https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/longcot-and-fernham-church-of-england-primary-school/UploadedDocument/bf310e5c-6129-4885-a03e-6b56d1e8ddc7/jigsaw-snapshot-overview-map.pdf>

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Author of the Term

This term, our Author of the Term is Stewart Foster
- author of Bubble Boy, The Perfect Parent Project, Check Mates and We Used to Be Kings, along with others. Stewart's books are best suited to KS2 children. Stewart's books always feature a diverse main character. They include children who have OCD and ADHD, as well as children who have foster parents or varied family situations. You can find out more about Stewart on his website, here:

<https://www.stewartfoster.co.uk/>



New School Website!

We are looking forward to our new school website going live next week. The site is under development and content from the existing site is being copied across. We will confirm when the site is live and hope you will enjoy the new layout and look. Please be patient with us as we ensure all information is in place and don't hesitate to let us know if you find anything missing.

Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) Policy

We are consulting on our Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) policy. Please have a look at the attached document which includes our specific school provision in the appendix. If you have any questions about our approach, please ask. Your feedback is important so that we help our pupils navigate this crucial area effectively. The deadline for feedback is the end of this Spring term, Friday 27th March. The policy will be amended in the light of feedback, will be discussed and approved by Trustees and published by 22nd May in preparation for delivery from September 2026.

Attendance

As you know, we place great importance on school attendance and recognise how quickly it impacts a child's learning, wellbeing, confidence and peer relationships when they miss school. Our target attendance is 96% and we need all families to work with us to support is in achieving this.

Current attendance: XXX	Attendance target: 96%
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We look forward to all that lies ahead across the rest of the term. Don't forget to take note of the dates below!

Best wishes,

Mrs Robins and the Longcot team

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Dates for the diary

Thursday 29 th January	PTA Committee Meeting 7.30pm
Tuesday 3 rd February	Selected Y6 pupils CLT Swimming Gala
Friday 6 th February	NSPCC Number Day
Monday 9 th February	Screen Free Day in School (feel free to participate at home too!)
Wednesday 11 th February	Internet Safety Day
Thursday 12 th February	PTA Valentine Disco TBC
Friday 13 th February	End of Term 3 (3.00pm)
Monday 23 rd February	Term 4 begins (8.30am)
Monday 2 nd March	Parent Evenings 3.15 – 7pm
Tuesday 3 rd March	Parent Evenings 3.15 – 7pm
W/C 9 th March	British Science Week
Thursday 19 th March	CLT Performing Arts Festival 4pm
Friday 20 th March	Rocksteady Music Concert 2.30pm
Monday 23 rd March	PTA Easter Coin Trail
Friday 27 th March	End of Term 4 (1.15pm)
Monday 13 th April	Term 5 begins (8.30am)
Tuesday 14 th April	Blackbirds weekly Swimming lessons start
Thursday 23 rd April	PTA Film Night
Wednesday 29 th April	Class Photographs
Monday 4 th May	Bank Holiday
W/C 11 th May	Year 6 SATS week
Friday 15 th May	PTA Colour Run
Tuesday 19 th May	Sports Day
Friday 22 nd May	End of Term 5 (3.00pm)
Monday 1 st June	Term 6 begins (8.30am)

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Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

Our School Designated Safeguarding Leads are

Mrs Sally Robins – DSL

Mrs Kent & Mrs McCluskey-Hornbuckle - Deputy DSLs

What to do if you think a child is at risk of abuse or neglect:

Immediate danger- call the police on 999

Immediate concern- If you have a concern about a child, please call
MASH on 0345 050 7666

A special helpline is available if you are concerned that a child you
know is being **sexually exploited**. Contact the Kingfisher Team on
01865 309196

[What to do if you think a child is at risk of abuse or neglect -
Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board \(oscb.org.uk\)](#)

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