



Longcot and Fernham Church of England Primary School

Our Value the Term: Thankfulness

I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart;

I will tell of all your wonderful deeds- Psalm 9.1

Friday 4th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our first newsletter of the 2026-2027 academic year! What a great start to term we have had. It has been a real joy to see the children back at school and hear all their news. The first term is always such a special time as children begins new journeys. So many children have already stood out in their effort and attitude as they transitioned to new year groups and new challenges. We hope that parents and carers of children in Years 1-6 enjoyed the chance to come and meet your child's new teacher and see their classroom in the first week of term and that new Reception parents enjoyed the chance to speak with staff at home visits.



Please check the dates section at the end of this letter for forthcoming dates this term!

Staffing

A warm welcome has been given this week to our two new staff members: Mr Ashbee-Dobbins and Mrs Nicholls. We hope many of you will have had the opportunity to come and meet them during the 'Meet the Teacher' sessions this week.

A reminder about the change to the school's leadership structure. There will now be a Co-Headship between Mrs Robins and Mrs McCluskey-Hornbuckle. Please be mindful of their Headteacher days so if contact is needed emails are sent to the correct person.

- Mrs McCluskey-Hornbuckle: Monday-Wednesday
- Mrs Robins: Thursday-Friday

Please check the school webpage for contact details of all members of staff that you might need:

<https://www.longcotandfernham.school.co.uk/contact-details>

Site Works

You may have noticed that we have had a busy summer in terms of work on site to ensure that Blackbird Class and Little Wrens were finished and ready for children to settle into this week. We are delighted that the classrooms are complete and the feedback from children is that they are very happy with the new rooms!

Longcot, Faringdon, Oxfordshire SN7 7SY
Tel: 01793 782381

Headteacher: Mrs Sally Robins and Mrs Carmel McCluskey-Hornbuckle

Chair of Governors: Sue Hunter

office@laf.cambrianlt.org

www.longcotandfernham.school.uk

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Attendance

Thank you to all our families for supporting us to continue to have good school attendance. Please remember that we are unable to authorise absence in term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Birthdays and holidays do not constitute exceptional circumstances.

Attendance target:	96%
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Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to the next few weeks of term!

Mrs Robins, Mrs McCluskey-Hornbuckle and the Longcot Team

Dates for the diary

Monday 7 th September	Nursery and Reception children start.
Wednesday 16 th September	School Photos
Thursday 1 st October	Parent Coffee Morning
Thursday 15 th October	Harvest Services at St Mary's Church: Lower School: 1:15 Upper School: 2:10
Thursday 22 nd October	SEND parent meetings
Thursday 22 rd October	Last Day of Term 1 (3pm finish)
Friday 23 rd October	INSET Day – school closed to children
26 th – 30 st October	Half Term
Monday 2 nd November	INSET Day – school closed to children
Tuesday 3 rd November	Start of Term 2
Tuesday 3 rd November	Parents Evening
Thursday 5 th November	Parents Evening
Wednesday 11 th November	Service Families Remembrance Service 10.45am
Monday 16 th November	Odd Socks Day
Monday 16 th - Friday 20 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Monday 7 th December	EYFS Nativity: 9:30
Wednesday 9 th December	KS1 Nativity: 1:45
Thursday 10 th December	KS1 Nativity: 9:15
Thursday 17 th December	Christmas Services at St Mary's Church: Lower School: 1:15 Upper School: 2:10
Friday 18 th December	End of Term 2 1.15pm
Monday 4 th January	INSET Day – school closed to children
Tuesday 5 th January	Start of Term 3

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Jigsaw PSHE



Many of you will know that Jigsaw is a significant part of our curriculum for PSHE and contributes to children's development and understanding of self and relationships with others. It has a strong focus on being mindful and sessions always start with our Jigsaw chime and some calming breathing and time for mindfulness. This term, our 'puzzle piece' is called 'Being Me in My World' and children will be learning about belonging, being proud of who they are, recognising feelings, setting personal goals and

feeling safe and special. You can see an overview of the content for this term and future terms on the PSHE page of our website (under Curriculum). Here is a link:

<https://jigsawlivesitcmsuk.blob.core.windows.net/umbraco-media/vlepknpa/pshe-3-11-knowledge-content-snapshot-overview.pdf>

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

Our School Designated Safeguarding Leads are

Mrs Sally Robins – DSL

Mrs Kent and 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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