

12<sup>th</sup> January 2018

**Badger Room:** Badger Class have started this term's space topic with great enthusiasm; they have made junk-model rockets and jet packs, painted planets and made a huge Luna landscape. We used the book *Whatever Next* as inspiration to write lists about what we would pack in a bag if we were planning a journey into space and have looked at a number of non-fiction books and websites to learn facts about our solar

system that many of us are enjoying sharing at home. In maths, we have been



comparing and ordering numbers to 20 and have been using Numicon to show an understanding of numbers that are 'more than' and 'less than'. We are pleased to welcome Mia Boyce into the class and the children have all been super kind showing their new friend around school and helping her to feel very welcome.

**Hedgehog Room:** We were very pleased to welcome all our little Hedgehogs back to nursery after the Christmas break, and it is exciting to have so many new Hedgehogs join us!

For our first full week back, our theme has been based around the police and other emergency services. We enjoyed our book of the week 'Cops and Robbers', have painted our own jail to play with in the garden, and made police helmets from very messy papier mache. We have focused too on other occupations like doctors and dentists, examining X-rays on our light box, painting pictures with toothbrushes and 'toothpaste' (shaving foam and food colouring!), and making collages of healthy food choices. The highlight was having a visit from two police officers on Wednesday. Earlier in the week we had thought about the questions we could ask them. The children were fascinated by this visit and the chance to sit inside a police van, and they were well behaved too; well done Hedgehogs!



Hopefully you will have noticed our new 'Families' board in the peg area. Please bring in family photos to help us fill this board, which will encourage the children to talk to each other and us about special people in their lives.

**Finally, a couple of quick reminders:**

Please note that we aim to have all the children on the carpet for a short welcome to the session, register and song time at 8.50am. Please help us to start our carpet time promptly in the mornings. The classroom doors open at 8.40am and the playground gate is locked at 8.50am.

We will continue to enjoy our wonderful garden throughout the winter; please ensure your child has a [named] warm winter coat, wellies, hat and gloves so they are comfortable outdoors.

**Head lice:** Please be aware that we have a case of head lice in the school. Please check your child's hair and treat accordingly. For advice and guidance: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/diagnosis/>

**SSB Parent Candidate Ballot:** You will have received an email from the school office regarding a ballot for the Longford Park SSB Parent Member. Thank you to everyone who put their names forward. As we have more than one candidate, we ask the parents to vote for the person that they would like to represent them. It only takes a moment to vote, so please do – every vote counts! The link to the online ballot was in the email. If you have any problems with this, please see Mrs Williams in the office.

**Hot lunches:** We are hoping to extend our hot lunches provision to the Hedgehog children from the week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> January. These will cost £2.20 per child per meal and we have attached the menu to the email for your information. We are looking at devising a booking system as currently some children are choosing a jacket potato every day, rather than even trying the main meal that is on offer. We would prefer our children to try the dish of the day, and so we may require parents to let us know in advance what they would like their children to have at least a week in advance. We will let you know ASAP when we have such a system in place.

**Census Day – Badger Class:** Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January it is Spring Census day. The data from attendance, how many pupils in total, as well as lots of other information sent to the government, is taken from this day. Following on from the letter home yesterday, we are making next Thursday 'Fish and Chips Day' – everybody's favourite! **We really do urge parents to book their child in for a hot dinner that day. This is because the more students having hot dinners, directly affects the funding the school receives from central Government.** This money has a huge impact throughout the school and on your children. The more money we get, the better resources we can provide.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE - PARTICULARLY FOR RECEPTION PARENTS** - Please be aware that the children should enter class at 8:40am when school officially starts. We strongly advise that you are in the car park/on the estate by 8:30am to ensure you are not late. We are launching an initiative where children can receive 'punctuality stickers' at the gate if they arrive by 8:40am on randomly selected days. Any arrival through the gate after 8:40am is late. Many parents arrive as late as 8:50am, please help us to ensure we are meeting statutory requirements for 'time in school' by making sure your child is in the playground and ready to go into class at 8:40am. If punctuality does not improve, then we may have to start shutting the side gate at 8:40am which would mean you would not be able to have the hand over you are used to in the morning and Mrs Williams would take your child down to class from the office. This is particularly relevant for reception parents i.e. Badger Class as your children are in statutory and full time education. Thank you in advance for your support.



**Big Longford Park welcome:** Shantelle Mellowship has joined the staff in Badger Class and has hit the ground running! Shantelle has lots of experience and is really looking forward to getting to know all the children. Please join us in welcoming her into our Longford Park family!



**Library books drive:** We are looking to fill our library a bit more. So, if you have any unwanted books that are in good condition and that would be suitable for our children, we would give them a lovely home.

**Resident kindness:** Roger Booth, a resident of Hobby Road, kindly donated a lovely pink guitar to the school this week. Thank you Mr Booth, it is very much appreciated and we will enjoy using it!

**Key Dates for your Diary:**

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2018 – Census day

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2018 – Break Up Day (normal finish at 3:15)

Monday 12<sup>th</sup>–Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February – HALF-TERM

Have a wonderful weekend

*Hiddleston*

*Julie Hiddleston and the school team*



# CLUBS

at Longford Park  
Primary School

Monday	Tuesday
<p><b>Sway Dance Club</b> - £3 (all years) led by Ms Whitehead 3:15-4:15pm</p> <p>Ms Whitehead will collect your child from their class, there is no need to come to school until 4:15pm for collection.</p> <p>If you haven't already, you can <a href="#">SIGN UP HERE</a></p>	<p><b>Stagecoach</b> - £165 (per term) (Ages 4+) Led by Melissa Lewis (Stagecoach Principal) 4:00-5:30pm (optional 3:15-4:00pm crèche led by Stagecoach prior the class starting - £3 per session)</p> <p>Stagecoach are offering a free trial to Longford Park pupils on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January. Please contact her directly to book - <a href="mailto:banbury@stagecoach.co.uk">banbury@stagecoach.co.uk</a></p>

## Coming soon...

### RugbyTots – Ages 3+

RugbyTots is a specific play programme for young children. It uses the multiple skills of rugby to create a fun and enjoyable environment whilst developing basic core motor skills. Each session aims to develop hand-eye co-ordination, balance and agility as well as enhancing social and psychological attributes through a series of games and exercises.

We are currently looking at a Friday session from 3:15-4:15, cost of £4 per session. If you are interested, please let the school office know. We are hoping to set up a free trial session soon, watch this space!