

LMS Matters

Tel No: 01908 508678

Email address: office@longmeadow.milton-keynes.sch.uk

www.longmeadow.milton-keynes.sch.uk

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Dear Parents and Carers

As this half term draws to a close and the final half term of the year is on the horizon, the school is still buzzing with activity. As a school we are finalising our budget and it is with a heavy heart I need to share that we have seen HUGE cuts in our funding, in many areas. This means we have had to look very, very closely at how we operate in the short, medium and long term. This means, as parents and carers, you may start to hear of, and be part of, changes we have to make, so please keep this in mind. Some of the ways you can continue to support us are through **OPAL DONATIONS** – we are still looking for rugs and carpet, buckets, spades and beach items, kitchen utensils and bowls as well as dressing up clothes or suitcases. Did you also know that our **SCHOOL HALL** is available for **HIRE**? If you wish to know more about hiring it for birthdays and special occasions, please speak to the school office for further details.

We hope that you have all embraced **WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK** (EYFS will be completing their challenge next half term over a 2-4 week period). For the children, we hope it has set them up for a positive day in the classroom, but has also helped create healthy habits for life. The Great Space Walk encourages children to travel actively to school every day of the week. Meeting various colourful intergalactic friends along the way, pupils learn about the important reasons to walk or wheel and its benefits for individuals, communities and the planet! Thank you for making a difference.

Tom, a Producer on the **BBC ONE** renovation series **DIY SOS** made by South Shore Productions, has been in touch with the school as they are currently casting for a brand new series and are looking for deserving homeowners in the area who desperately need their help to transform their homes and lives. **DIY SOS** is back! Nick and his trusted team of Purple Shirts, along with an army of volunteers, are looking for deserving families, or individuals, who need their help, #diysos. To apply: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/showsandtours/take-part/diy-sos>. See the flyer further on.

HARRY'S RAINBOW facilitate connection with other children and young people in similar circumstances, to help relieve isolation and loneliness but also promote healthy living and wellbeing. Everything they do is age appropriate, and their Family Liaison Officers work to ensure all age groups are catered for. They also supported our well-being fair. Please see their newsletter further on.

WEEKEND PAVILION PARKING – Unfortunately, there have been a number of occasions when hirers of the pavilion have not been able to use the car park due to the number of parking spaces being occupied by football traffic from the school pitches at the weekend - if this is you, please be considerate when parking.

Next half term sees a large number of **RESIDENTIAL VISITS** taking place. As ever, we value these highly at LMS as we wish to give our children experiences they may not have had before. We continue to develop and tweak these, both by reducing cost, but also by making sure the visits are the best for each individual year group. I am always so **#PROUD** of our staff who give up their own personal time to run these trips, particularly overnight. This is not an expectation for our staff and comes with no extra pay. It is just another way we show just how committed we are to the children. I know you will join me in thanking them for giving up time away from their families to give your family the best experience possible.

I wish you all a peaceful and restful break and hope you make the most of every single second you have together as a family. See you all on the 2nd June

Mr Gray



EYFS/KS1

Newts

who achieved

100%

KS2

Hogweed & Hawthorn

who achieved

98.7%



TTROCK Stars

Weekly class champions!

KS1

Newts

KS2

Foxgloves



Check out some
FREE family
learning courses
further on in this
newsletter, as well
as the **SUNSHINE**
Family Centre
calendar.

D A T E S

FOR YOUR DIARY

School Term and Bank Holiday Dates 2024 / 2025

Term	Open morning of:	Close at the end of afternoon session of:
Autumn Term 2024	Thursday 5 September 2024	Friday 25 October 2024
	Monday 4 November 2024	Friday 20 December 2024
Spring Term 2025	Tuesday 7 January 2025	Friday 14 February 2025
	Monday 24 February 2025	Thursday 3 April 2025
Summer Term 2025	Tuesday 22 April 2025	Friday 23 May 2025
	Monday 2 June 2025	Tuesday 22 July 2025

Training days agreed to date: (on these days children do not come to school but staff do)

Tuesday 3 September 2024 / Wednesday 4 September 2024 / Monday 6 January 2025 / Friday 4 April 2025 / Wednesday 23 July 2025

Good Friday: Friday 18 April 2025

Easter Monday: Monday 21 April 2025

May Day: Monday 5 May 2025

Summer Term 2025

Friday 16 May	Affect the Rules Day
Tuesday 20 May	EYFS Thrift Farm
Thursday 22 May	Year 1 Learning Fair (2.15pm Hall)
Friday 23 May	Year 2 Woburn Safari
26 - 30 May	HALF TERM
Monday 2 June	Year 3 Residential - Caldecotte
Monday 2 June	Year 4 Residential - Wilderhope
Monday 9 June	Year 5 Residential - National Forest
Tuesday 10 June	Theatre Production to Whole School - Jungle Book
Thursday 12 June	EYFS Learning Fair (2.15pm Hall)
Friday 13 June	Year 2 Evening Under the Stars
w/c Monday 16 June	National School Sports Week
Tuesday 17 June	Bucks CC Chance to Shine Cricket Engagement Day
Friday 20 June	PALMS Non Uniform Day
Monday 23 June	Year 6 Residential - Swanage
Monday 23 June	RWI Development Day
Saturday 28 June	PALMS School Fete
Friday 4 July	Food Fair
Friday 4 July	PALMS Frosty Friday
Tuesday 8 July	KS1 & EYFS Sports Day
Wednesday 9 July	KS2 Sports Day
Thursday 10 July	Year 6 Performance to KS2 & siblings (1.45pm)
Friday 11 July	Year 3 Learning Fair (2.15pm Hall)
Friday 11 July	PALMS Frosty Friday
Monday 14 July	Year 6 Performance to parents (6pm—drop off at 5.30pm)
Tuesday 15 July	EYFS & KS1 Awards Assembly (9.10-10.10am Hall)
Tuesday 15 July	Year 6 Performance to parents (1.45pm)
Wednesday 16 July	Year 3 & 4 Awards Assembly (9.10-10.10am Hall)
Wednesday 16 July	Year 5 & 6 Awards Assembly (2.15-3.15pm Hall)
Wednesday 16 July	Year 6 Leavers' Disco (6-8pm)
Friday 18 July	PALMS Frosty Friday
Tuesday 22 July	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly (9am)
Tuesday 22 July	Last Day of Term

Stay & Play Dates	
Wednesday 21 May	Food
Wednesday 4 June	Weather
Wednesday 18 June	Summer
Wednesday 2 July	Sports

LMS Safeguarding

The Hidden Dangers of scanning QR Codes - Action Fraud and Sky News

Cyber criminals are increasingly exploiting QR technology to direct people to malicious websites designed to steal people's personal and financial information.

QR codes have become a convenient part of everyday life—but they also carry hidden risks. A recent Sky News investigation revealed that organised crime groups are using QR code stickers across UK streets, including near schools, to promote illegal online cannabis delivery services. These links lead to slick websites offering next-day delivery, with transactions handled through banks and cryptocurrency. The products are often unregulated and potentially dangerous.

<https://news.sky.com/story/the-online-drug-trade-behind-qr-code-stickers-plastered-on-streets-across-the-uk-13365660>

Meanwhile, Action Fraud warns that criminals are also using fake QR codes to trick people into giving away personal or financial information. Some replace legitimate QR codes in car parks with scam versions, while others send malicious codes via email in phishing attacks known as 'quishing'.

To stay safe, only scan QR codes from trusted sources, avoid using third-party scanning apps, and double-check links before following them. Suspicious QR code activity should be reported to Action Fraud at <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/a-z-of-fraud/qr-codes>

LMS Well-being

Hope as an antidote to stress, overwhelm and apathy.

"To hope is to give yourself to the future – and that commitment to the future is what makes the present inhabitable." Rebecca Solnit

Many of today's challenges can be traced to a loss of meaning. And before you can have meaning, you need hope. Because, as Viktor Frankl said, without hope, nothing truly matters.

When you feel adrift, nurturing hope first is a smart approach. Because it's often at this deeper level where the real work needs to be done. If you want to use hope-based interventions in your life, remember that hope isn't about certainty; it's sparked by action. And focus on Snyder's big three: helping yourself to **set goals, believe in what's possible, and identify real pathways forward.**

"What matters most to you right now, even if it feels out of reach?." Use this question to connect to your core values, encourage meaningful goal-setting, and shift their attention from current struggles to a more positive, future-oriented outlook.



Congratulations to our Top Doodlers...

**These will be announced after
half term.**



doodle



Long Meadow Legends

These will return after half term!



**Meet Peppa Pig at the
Leighton Buzzard Railway
at intervals on Sunday May 25th**

For details and to book train tickets go to
www.buzzrail.uk



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Milton
Keynes
Arts
Centre

We Live Here



BUGS





Join us for a day exploring the
nature that surrounds us!

SATURDAY 24 MAY | 11AM - 4PM

LEON RECREATION GROUND, BLETCHLEY

[///bats.ages.curving](http://bats.ages.curving)

Bug Walks | Build a Bug Hotel
Drop in and Draw | Art Activities
Nature Surveys | Mini Beast Trail
Meet an Entomologist | Plant a Seed



Let us know you're coming by
booking a ticket!





Nurture

Long Meadow Primary School

Thursdays 12:30 –15:00

24 Apr – 3 July

Children are rewarding, stimulating and fun, but looking after them can be stressful and challenging!

These 10 sessions fit together like a puzzle to help deal with the challenges so you can have a calmer, happier life.

The nurture programme uses these four building blocks of emotionally healthy relationships.

- Self-awareness
- Appropriate expectations
- Empathy
- Positive discipline

**Please contact Emma Seaton
to book your space .**

MK Milton Keynes
City Council

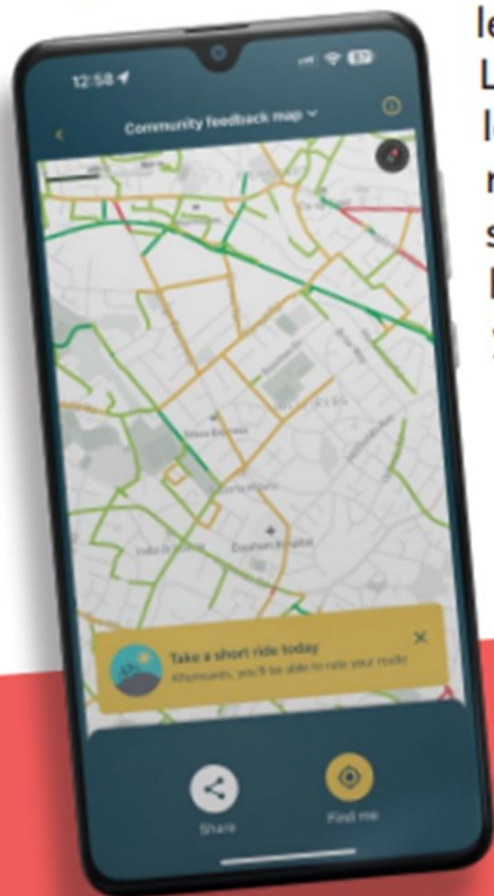
BIKE MONTH CHALLENGE RIDE 5

DESIGNED FOR
BEGINNER &
EXPERIENCED
CYCLISTS

Hi there! Your challenge is simple:
ride 5 miles this May!

Take on a fun, friendly challenge this **Bike Month**. Once you've ridden your 5 miles, you can then choose your next challenge - ride further, more often, or for transportation - you're free to create your own adventure!

Workplaces can compete with each other to see which can get the most people to ride 5 miles and top the leaderboards. And with the Love to Ride App, you can log your rides, check street ratings, see your carbon savings, set goals, and find help and support to ride your bike more often.



LOVE TO RIDE

TATTENHOE YOUTH FC LIONESSES



GIRLS FOOTBALL SESSIONS TUESDAY EVENINGS 5:30PM - 6:30PM



4 - 11 YEARS OLD



GIRLS ONLY



£3.50 PER SESSION
(FIRST SESSION FREE)

SCAN ME



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

**WE MAKE
FOOTBALLERS**
MILTON KEYNES



FIND US ON FACEBOOK OR SCAN THE QR
CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION



**DIY SOS IS BACK!
AND WE ARE ON THE
LOOKOUT FOR
NEW PROJECTS**

ARE YOU A HOMEOWNER IN
DESPERATE NEED OF OUR HELP?
OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHOSE
LIFE COULD BE TRANSFORMED WITH
A BIG-BUILD?

NICK KNOWLES AND THE PURPLE
SHIRTS ARE ON THE HUNT - SO IF
YOUR HOME ISN'T FIT FOR PURPOSE
THEN WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM

PLEASE APPLY ONLINE:

**WWW.BBC.CO.UK/SHOWSANDTOURS
/TAKE-PART/DIY-SOS**

B B C South Shore

We welcome applications from people of all backgrounds and would particularly encourage applications from those who are from under-represented groups. We are happy to consider any health-related reasonable adjustments you might require to facilitate the completion of your application. Please let us know by sending an email with details to diysos@southshore.uk

Any personal information you provide us will be used in accordance with our privacy policy. For further information on our privacy policy for programme applicants and to find out more about the rights in relation to your personal data please see the Applicant Privacy Notice: <https://www.southshore.uk/policies>.



<http://www.bbc.co.uk/showsandtours/take-part/diy-sos>



MK Schools' Newsletter

Issue 1: Summer 2025

Did you know:

'A parent with a child under 18 dies every 20 minutes in the UK'

Mark Creasy:

Education Liaison Development Officer



With 28 years experience as a teacher across secondary, primary and special schools, as well as 12 years as a teacher trainer, education presenter and author Mark's aim is to ensure that every school in Milton Keynes is 'bereavement informed' and prepared to support every learner and their family, should they ever need it.

Supporting Schools:

- Bespoke staff training.
- Book donations.
- Delivering Assemblies.
- Policy reviews.
- Policy writing.
- Lesson planning.
- Lesson delivery.
- Providing resources.
- Support and guidance.

What can you do?

- Book bereavement training.
- Signpost our services to your families.
- Post a link to our website on your website.
- Make us your school's designated charity.



What we do

"We aim to give bereaved children a brighter tomorrow."

- **Rainbow groups** various group types for children and young people up to 25.
- **Memory boxes** offered to every bereaved child registered with us.
- **Therapeutic mentoring** available to any adult or child in the family home.
- **Rainbow retreats** short, free breaks.
- **Trips** annually in Summer and Christmas.
- **Rainbow tools** provided to supporting mental health & wellbeing.



Saturday 7th June 2025

Join us for Harry's Rainbow annual Colour Run and Family Fun Day 2025 at Wolverton Rec! Get ready for a day filled with vibrant colors, exciting activities, and tons of fun for the whole family.

Set up by Harry's twin sister Jessica as a memorial day to mark Harry's Anniversary, it has become very popular with children, adults and families of all abilities.

Not only is there the colour run but we will also have games, stalls, food and refreshments and many more activities, it's a not to be missed community event and family fun day out!

The route is on grass as the course takes place on a field, which will be marked out and marshalled. Participants can run/walk/hop/skip/jump the course and there is a choice of 1/2 mile or 1 mile colour run (although there will be a non colour option).

To book follow the link: [Colour Run 2025](#)



Get in touch:

📞 01908 061676

✉ mark.c@harrysrainbow.co.uk

🌐 www.harrysrainbow.co.uk

Search 'Harry's Rainbow'



#HarrysRainbow



Sunshine Half Term Calendar

We welcome families who live in Furzton, Emerson Valley, Shenley Lodge, Shenley Church End, Shenley Wood, Tattenhoe, Tattenhoe Park, Loughton and Loughton Lodge, Crownhill, Kingsmead, Whitehouse, Grange Farm, Oxley Park, Westcroft, Oakhill and Medbourne

Monday 26 th May	Tuesday 27 th May	Wednesday 28 th May	Thursday 29 th May	Friday 30 th May
Bank Holiday Centre Closed	9:30-11:00 Family Walk to Furzton Lake Meet at Sunshine at 9:30.	10:00-11:30 Family Play Come along for a fun indoor and outdoor play session.	9:30-10:45 Baby Group For non-walkers	9:30 - 11:00 Family Walk Shenley Wood. Meet at the car park MK5 6GG.
	 1:30-3:00 Family Games, jigsaw puzzles & Lego session.	9:30-11:30 Westcroft Pavilion MKPA Free activities age 4+ Sports, games, bouncy castles and arts & crafts.	 10-12 Table Tennis sessions Contact the centre to book	 1:30-3:00 Drop in Café Join us for a cuppa and play.
	  1:30-3:30 Table Tennis sessions Contact the centre to book.	12:00-1:00 Family Lunch Jacket potatoes. Contact the centre to book.		1:30-3:30 Garthwaite Pavilion MKPA Free activities age 4+ Sports, games, bouncy castles and arts & crafts. Sensory room available call the centre to book today.

Sunshine Family Centre, Merebrook Infant School, Furzton. MK4 1EZ. Tel: 01908 508566



Family Corner: helping families to develop positive home learning environments

On Family Corner, the Alliance's family arm, we offer a wide range of exciting sessions for parents and carers who would like to learn more about supporting their children's learning. See if there is a session that catches your eye.

Exploring schemas

Monday 16 June, 6pm - 7pm

Have you noticed your child likes to throw food from their high chair at mealtimes? Or separate the different foods on their plate? Or maybe they like to move things from one place to another? It could be that your child is exploring a schema. Schemas are repeated patterns of play which help children to learn and make sense of the world. This session will explore what schemas are and the things you may observe in your children, as well as consider ways that you can support your child with simple activities you can do in the home.

[Book now!](#)

Moving on up to school

Monday 23 June, 1pm - 2pm

Join us for this family connect session where we will share tips and ideas to support you and your child in preparing for school. We'll explore fun learning activities that can be easily replicated at home to support your child's learning and development, and discuss top tips to help your child's transition to school to run smoothly.

[Book now!](#)

Understanding how your child learns through play

Thursday 3 July, 10am - 11am

Children learn by exploring the world around them through their play. Play offers opportunities for children to try new skills as well as develop existing ones. During this session, we will consider why play is so important and how you can support your child's play in the home and how this will then help their learning and development.

[Book now!](#)

Supporting children's learning

Tuesday 8 July, 1pm - 2pm

Join us as we discuss how you can support your child's development within the home learning environment. During this Family Connect, we will explain what the home learning environment is and why it is so important. We will also share ideas about how you can use everyday objects and experiences to enhance your child's learning.

[Book now!](#)

Process over product - simple low cost activities to support children's learning

Wednesday 16 July, 1pm - 2pm

Children learn through play, but they learn best through the kind of play that allows them to explore and experiment, where 'it's not about the destination, but the glory of the ride'. Join us for this Family Connect session where we will explore ways to let children's imaginations run wild, using free and found resources from around the home.

[Book now!](#)

Fabricated loose parts e.g.

Astro turf off-cuts

Boards, old cabinet doors, panels

Bread, milk, bottle and grocery crates

Briefcases

Buggies, pushchairs

Cable drums

Carpet samples/squares

Fabrics – all shapes and sizes

Foam pipe covers and noodles

Guttering

Hoses

Keyboards

Metal pots, pans, trays etc, especially catering sizes

Nets: fishing, cargo, football

Office removal crates Tea Crates

Old clothes, jackets, overalls, hats, bags

Old household appliances, hoovers, fax machines, microwaves etc

One-ton dumpy bags

Pallets

Phones

Piping, gas, water and drainage

Planks – decking

Plastic road barriers

Small wheelie bins

Steering wheels

Suitcases

Tarps

Traffic Cones

Tubes of all kinds

Wooden block and off-cuts Carpenters, builders





And Natural loose parts such as:

Branches and sticks

Fruit trees

Grass Plants

Leaves

Logs

Mud

Pea gravel

Peat

Pinecones

Play bark/woodchip

Sand (washed dredged not 'sharp')

Sea pebbles

Shells

Varied aggregates, slate, flint, clay

Wood off-cuts

If you have or can help with any of these, please put them in the **OPAL DONATION STATION** in the main foyer, or speak to the school office.