

# LMS Matters

Tel No: 01908 508678

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

www.longmeadow.milton-keynes.sch.uk

Issue: 17

Date: 16.01.26



Dear Parents and Carers

As usual, the great British Weather is as unpredictable as ever. This has meant a huge cold snap was no fun for anyone connected to LMS. As you may be aware, the school has been working with the Local Authority to replace the school boilers which are now 25 years old. This project is extremely costly but was essential to ensure the school is heated cost effectively and provides an environment conducive to teaching and learning. However, as with all projects, we have hit a number of stumbling blocks, mainly now due to the integrity of the underfloor heating system which is also 25 years old. For those of you who don't know, our school was completely flooded at the end of the first year of opening and we still see the effects of this 25 years on! As ever though, the Legend of Long Meadow, AKA Mr Bourke, is working tirelessly with the LA to finalise this; we thank him for all his continued time and effort.

As parents, I'm sure you share my concern about what the online landscape means for those growing up today. While rapidly changing technology has created many exciting opportunities, it has also introduced new risks, including increased exposure to harmful or inappropriate content online. To help better understand these challenges and support families navigating the digital world, **EMILY DARLINGTON MP** is holding a parents' forum on online safety on Thursday 29 January 2026 at 7:00 pm. This will be an open conversation where parents, carers and local people can discuss their experiences, share their views, and help shape recommendations that she will be taking forward to Government on issues including social media age limits, online harms, and protecting children online. Your insight and experience are vital as we work together to promote online safety for all children. Anyone interested in attending should email her office at [Emily.darlington.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:Emily.darlington.mp@parliament.uk) and they will provide details.

Unfortunately, following surgery, **MRS SEATON** is currently off school in recovery. I know you will join me in wishing her a speedy recovery. We are of course aware that a large number of children and parents work with her on a wide range of issues and we are keen to ensure this does not stop during her absence. In school, staff will be checking in with the children but if any parents need support advice or anything else, please contact the school office and someone will get back to you.

As part of our continued focus on **SCIENCE** across the school we wanted to let you know about a free, family-friendly science festival taking place at Oxford Brookes University. The Oxford Brookes Science Bazaar will be held on Friday 21st February, 9:30am-4:00pm, at their Headington Campus (OX3 0BP). The event is designed to inspire curiosity and excitement around science through hands-on, interactive activities, and is most suitable for children aged 5-12, though all ages are welcome. With over 70 drop-in activities, families can explore science together in a relaxed and engaging environment. On the day, visitors can enjoy: Hands-on science activities led by real scientists, researchers, and students; live science shows and demonstrations throughout the day; interactive workshops covering topics such as psychology, medicine, engineering, robotics, coding, nutrition, and more; STEM games and challenges, with prizes to be won. The Science Bazaar is a great opportunity for children to experience science outside the classroom, ask questions, and see how science connects to everyday life and future careers. Event details Date: Friday 21st February 2026, Time: 9:30am-4:00pm Location: Oxford Brookes University, Headington Campus, OX3 0BP Cost: Free. Booking is required and you can do that [HERE](#). You can also see a video about the event [HERE](#).

Today we also wish all the children and staff that are off to **YOUNG VOICES** all the very best and we can't wait to hear about this amazing experience. We know you will all have an amazing time and do LMS #PROUD. We also can't wait to see the annual Tweet of Mr Bourke Dad Dancing!

Mr Gray



## EYFS/KS1

### **Sticklebacks**

**who achieved**

**97.5%**

### **KS2**

### **Hogweed**

**who achieved**

**98%**



### **TTROCK Stars**

**Weekly class champions!**

#### **KS1**

#### **Frogs**

#### **KS2**

#### **Teasels**



We are looking for some more **MIDDAY SUPERVISORS** to work with and support our children over lunchtimes – if this is of interest to you, or you know someone who might be interested, please contact Mrs Franklin, School Business Manager, via the school office. Come and join Team LMS!



# DATES

FOR YOUR DIARY

## School Term and Bank Holiday Dates 2025 / 2026

Term	Open morning of:	Close at the end of afternoon session of:
Autumn Term 2025	Wednesday 3 September 2025	Friday 24 October 2025
	Monday 3 November 2025	Friday 19 December 2025
Spring Term 2026	Tuesday 6 January 2026	Friday 13 February 2026
	Monday 23 February 2026	Friday 27 March 2026
Summer Term 2026	Tuesday 14 April 2026	Friday 22 May 2026
	Monday 1 June 2026	Friday 17 July 2026

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

Monday 1 September 2025 / Tuesday 2 September 2025 / Monday 5 January 2026 / Monday 13 April 2026 / Monday 20 July 2026

**Good Friday: Friday 3 April 2026**

**Easter Monday: Monday 6 April 2026**

**May Day: Monday 4 May 2026**

### Spring Term 2026

w/c 19 January	Year 6 Mock SATs
Friday 23 January	Year 5 National Space Centre
Tuesday 27 January	Year 4 Stone Age Day
w/c 9 February	Children's Mental Health Week
w/c 9 February	Parent Consultations
Tuesday 10 February	Safer Internet Day
Friday 13 February	Last day of half term
16-20 February	Half Term
Monday 23 February	Spring Term 2 begins
Thursday 5 March	World Book Day
Friday 13 March	Year 5 West Ashland Fire Station visiting
w/c 16 March	Year 6 Mock SATs
Tuesday 17 March	Year 3 Residential Parent Meeting (5-6pm)
Thursday 19 March	Year 3 Brioche Pasquier
Friday 20 March	Comic Relief
Monday 23 March	Year 6 Bletchley Park
Tuesday 24 March	Year 6 Bletchley Park
Wednesday 25 March	EYFS & KS1 Awards Assembly (9.10am)
Wednesday 25 March	Year 3 & 4 Awards Assembly (2.15pm)
Thursday 26 March	Class Photos
Thursday 26 March	Year 5 & 6 Awards Assembly (2.15pm)
Friday 27 March	Last day of Spring Term
30 March - 10 April	Easter Holidays
Monday 13 April	INSET Day
Tuesday 14 April	Summer Term 1 begins

## LMS Safeguarding

### Your child tells you they love playing Roblox, and another parent's only advice to you is "just tell them to be sensible." What might we want to explore further?

Roblox is used by children from a very young age, with many starting in primary school and a particularly large number of players aged around 8 - 12. There is no fixed minimum age to play, and children often share games and social spaces with much older users. This mix of ages, combined with user-generated content and social features such as chat and voice chat, means children's experiences can vary widely. As a result, generic advice like "just be sensible" gives us very little insight into what a child is actually seeing, doing, or who they are interacting with.

Helpful lines of curiosity include:

- What games are they accessing, and are they age-appropriate?
- Is chat enabled, and who can message them?
- Have they come across anything violent, hateful or worrying?
- Are they using private servers or public spaces?
- Are parental controls or age settings in place and actively used?
- Do you feel confident managing the platform?

We want to help children talk openly about what they encounter and support parents to move beyond "just be sensible".

What helps most in practice includes:

- Regular, interested conversations about what your child enjoys playing, who they play with, and what they notice online
- Parents showing curiosity, including watching or playing alongside children, so games are not treated as a secret or separate world
- A clear understanding of personal information, including why chats should stay about the game and when to tell an adult
- Agreed rules around spending, with children knowing when real money is involved and when permission is needed
- Reassurance that worries should be shared, including exposure to upsetting content, mean behaviour or hate-based language
- Confidence using block and report tools, so concerns can be addressed calmly and practically
- Active use of safety settings, including age-appropriate controls, chat restrictions and parent account oversight

More information can be found here: <https://corp.roblox.com/safety-by-age>

## LMS Well-being

Humans have a habit of drifting down the accountability ladder. Listen closely and you'll hear the soundtrack of waiting... "I can't.", "It's not my fault.", "Once things calm down..." "When they finally sort it out..." Here's the awkward truth: the world doesn't care how you feel. It's not cruel, it's just doing its thing. Algorithms will keep nudging. Inboxes will keep filling. News cycles will keep cycling. And many people will spend their entire lives waiting for something to change before they give themselves permission to act. Some will literally die waiting. That sounds stark, but it's also oddly liberating. Because the moment you really accept it, something shifts. Accountability isn't about blame or boot-camp toughness. It's about agency. It's the moment you stop asking, "Why is this happening to me?" and start asking, "What can I do with what's here?" However, "Make it happen" means you stop hoping life will change and start changing how you show up inside it. You make small, deliberate choices and then embed them so they don't rely on motivation or mood. That's where momentum lives. So instead of same old same old, here's a quiet challenge: Don't make this your year of better intentions. Make it your year of higher accountability.

The world isn't going to pause – it never has. But you can decide how you respond to it.

# Congratulations to our Top Doodlers...

TO BE ANNOUNCED NEXT WEEK



doodle



## Long Meadow Legends

Tadpoles –

Minnows –

Sticklebacks –

Frogs –

Newts –

Hogweed –

Bracken –

Hawthorn –

Foxgloves –

Ferns –

Thistles –

Brambles –

Teasels –

## Sports Person of the Week

#PROUD

THESE WILL RETURN NEXT WEEK



THE  
TOMMY  
FLOWERS  
SCITT

# TRAIN TO TEACH

## Primary & Secondary



**Bursaries for EVERY tuition-fee course  
ONLY with the Tommy Flowers SCITT**



**Qualified Teacher Status with PGCE**



**Teacher Apprenticeships**

**Information events every month. Book online**

**[tommyflowersscitt.co.uk](http://tommyflowersscitt.co.uk)**





The perfect way for  
girls aged 5-11 to  
get involved with  
football

# Play Football

**FIRST TWO SESSIONS FREE**

\*booking & confirmation required

# Have Fun!



#LET  
GIRLS  
PLAY



**TIME AND DATE**

10am - 11am | SUNDAYS



**LOCATION**

Two Mile Ash School, Two Mile Ash

SCAN THE QR CODE  
FOR MORE  
INFORMATION

**WHO WE ARE**

TATTENHOE YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB



**NEXT STEPS**

scan the QR code on the right register your interest & book  
your first taster session, or contact us to find out more

[girls@tattenhoeyleouthfc.co.uk](mailto:girls@tattenhoeyleouthfc.co.uk)





FREE FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY!  
MOST SUITABLE FOR 5-16 YRS

# SCIENCE BAZAAR

OXFORD  
BROOKES  
UNIVERSITY

## Saturday 21 February 2026

9:30am - 11:30am Relaxed autism-friendly early opening  
11:30am-4pm Open to all

Fun activities, hands-on workshops, experiments, talks, show, competitions and cafe



BOOK  
TICKETS



[www.brookes.ac.uk/sciencebazaar](http://www.brookes.ac.uk/sciencebazaar)  
[sciencebazaar@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:sciencebazaar@brookes.ac.uk)



@OxfordBrookesPublicEngagementResearch



@oburesearchpublicengagement

Oxford Brookes University, Headington Campus, OX3 0BP

**MORGAN  
SINDALL**  
CONSTRUCTION

**NO PARKING ON SITE EXCEPT FOR ACCESS NEEDS**



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.



## **LONG MEADOW SCHOOL**

Garthwaite Crescent, Shenley Brook End,  
Milton Keynes MK5 7XX

Tel: 01908 508678

e-mail: [gemmafranklin@longmeadow.milton-keynes.sch.uk](mailto:gemmafranklin@longmeadow.milton-keynes.sch.uk)

NOR: 390

Headteacher: Philip Gray

## **Midday Supervisor (Part of our OPAL Play Team)**

**Permanent  
GRADE A (£25,185 FTE)**

**5 hours per week 12pm – 1pm Monday to Friday  
Term time only plus inset, paid 38 weeks per year**

We are looking for someone who:

- is sensitive to the needs of individual children
- has high expectations
- encourages children in relation to healthy eating practices and appropriate behaviour and engages in their play
- is a good 'team player'
- has good communication and organisational skills
- is reliable, trustworthy and can work within schools' policies, including safeguarding

For further details please contact the school office or visit our website

<https://www.longmeadow.milton-keynes.sch.uk>

This post requires a Disclosure and Barring Service check.

**Numerous roles needed ASAP**

*The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff to share this commitment. We are an equal opportunities employer.*