

# Long Meadow Matters

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to start this week's newsletter with a couple of thank yous. Firstly a huge thank you to all our parent volunteer readers that have been coming into school. Your time, effort and commitment has meant that we have been able to hear soooooo many more readers each week than we have ever been able to before! Working as a school community, supporting each other, makes such a difference. Want to help us? We would love some more volunteer readers (full training and support given), so if you think you can help us out, please contact Mrs Evans through the school office.

Secondly a huge thank you to PALS for another amazing event this week. The Magic and Munchies evening was a huge success and, as ever, has raised an amazing amount of money for the school. Some parents may not realise that as a school, this money allows us to do and provide things for your children that we would never ever be able to do without PALS. So, by supporting the events (PALS always need more help) you are making things better for every child in the school. Thank you also to all the staff who were able to support the event.

As a school, we believe in high quality assessment of your children. This means that teachers know where your children are, what they can and can't do, and what the teachers then needs to do to get them to the next step in their learning. This is regardless of age group. Unfortunately, in Year 6, SATs are a requirement that they have to complete. This week has seen the whole year group completing some practice tests. Although we don't hammer the children just to pass a test, we still want to give them the best shot at achieving the best they can. Practice tests in test conditions is one way we do this. I have been so proud of this year group with their attitude to the tests this week and their total commitment and focus to doing their best. All we ever ask is for them to give their best and whatever result comes out is what it is. I have seen a whole year group give their best this week – well done!

EYFS had some visitors this week. The children were visited by some of their grandparents! The children have been reading and learning about Grandpa Aldo (Elmer the Elephant's grandad!) as part of learning about things from the past. Grandparents are an amazing resource. Taking the time to share and talk with different generations is a really special thing. It helps us learn, helps us understand and is the perfect time to pass on stories from generation to generation. Thanks to everyone who could come and be part of this.

Next week sees our Awards Assemblies in school. This is a chance to celebrate success across the term. Bright lights, loud music, high fives and the Golden Finger are part of the celebrations!. I look forward to seeing some of you there. Have your clapping hands ready!

Fingers crossed for continued sunshine and enjoy your family time together this weekend

Mr Philip Gray  
Head Teacher



Congratulations to

**Brambles**

who achieved **98.1%**

attendance this week!

**Well done  
everybody!**

## COMING SOON!

We are pleased to inform you that we will begin using ParentPay at Long Meadow after the Easter break. This online payment facility will give parents the option of paying for school trips and events, including PALS activities, all in one place and for all of their children, including those at other schools that also use ParentPay.

The school meal ordering process will also move to ParentPay after the May half term break, cancelling the need for paper order forms. Parents in all year groups will be able to make the meal choices for their children online and pay for them if applicable.

ParentPay should save parents (and office staff!) a lot of time and we look forward to hearing your comments when it is up and running.

## **Gentle reminders page**

(Thank you in advance)

### **Children supervised before school**

Unfortunately, school staff are unable to supervise children on the playgrounds before school. Children should not be on the school site without parental supervision. If something should happen to a child, school staff would not be aware of this. Thank you for your support in this matter.

### **Year One outside area**

We have been very lucky to have some different equipment installed in our outside area. Please may I remind parents that children should not be using this equipment before or after school and most certainly should not be climbing on it. Please can parents ensure that their children are not using this. Thank you

### **KS2 Outside 'Runs'**

Please note that the 'Runs' in the KS2 playground are still closed until after the Easter break. This will allow them to recover from overuse and poor weather, ready for the summer term. These areas should not be used before and after school and trees should not be climbed on. Thank you for your cooperation

### **Heelys**

Please note that Heelys are not to be worn in school on any occasion. We are unable to let children wheel around the school and they are unsuitable for normal everyday walking use. Please can parents ensure that they do not come into school. Thank you.