



Part of the Marches Academy Trust

Issue: 26

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

What a week of mixed weather. It certainly hasn't dampened the spirits of the staff and pupils at Longlands. The children that entered our bubbles this week have really settled well, and it is so nice to see more children in classes and longer queues of parents outside. Thank you to all pupils and parents for observing our social distancing procedures. We had an external audit of our COVID risk assessment and procedures last Friday and you will be reassured to know that the auditors were really impressed with the safety and efficiency of the school and how staff and particularly pupils were responding. Chris Burton, our new site staff member, has been busily painting the inside of the school and it looks so fresh and smart ready for our hopeful full return in September. He is also clearing the area where the large tree was on the KS1 playground to make way for an exciting mud kitchen area. All the new equipment is on order and we are just waiting for it to be fitted. EXCITING STUFF!

The goats will be making an appearance before the end of the summer and pupils and staff are looking forward to walking them twice daily on leads around the school field.

## SUCCESS

Longlands is the one of three primary schools across the country that has been selected as a case study for primary PE this year as a result of a recent national PE audit by the Youths Sports Trust. Next week, Mr Hounsell and I are speaking at a virtual national conference of more than 16,000 professionals about the success of our PE curriculum and the high standards of PE provision we offer across our school.

Mr Hounsell is very nervous! Wish him well.

Mrs Zillah Cope

Headteacher



Hope you all have a good weekend. Don't get too wet!

## Some of our amazing pupils



Evie winner of our key worker boccia competition.



Lucy has joined our key worker bubble this week and was so excited at being back in the school garden checking on the produce.



## Trust News

Operation Encompass is now up and running in Shropshire and The Marches Academy Trust is part of this fantastic scheme. The initiative will see West Mercia Police working closely with schools and Shropshire Council to ensure the welfare of children who may have witnessed domestic abuse incidents. Members of school staff will receive special training enabling them to provide emotional and practical support for students experiencing domestic abuse. Full information regarding the initiative can be read in this article compiled by West Mercia Police – [click here](#).

## Competitions & Challenges

**MAT competition:** Do you see yourself as a future leader – an MP, a member of local government or someone with world-shifting ideas that need to be shared? SJT have created a competition, inviting short video submissions from young people across the county on the topic of 'improving the lives of young people in Shropshire'. We want to hear your views. How can we make our county an even better place to be? The competition will be judged by Karen Bradshaw Acting Chief Executive of Shropshire Council. Guidelines:

- Videos should be one to two minutes long so think very carefully about the messages you want to share. Film in landscape if possible.
- We suggest you deliver your speech/presentation in a formal style.
- You could consider issues you are passionate about such as: the environment, education, health or facilities for young people.
- Videos should be emailed to [barnett.c@mmat.co.uk](mailto:barnett.c@mmat.co.uk) and [campbell.c@mmat.co.uk](mailto:campbell.c@mmat.co.uk)

Closing date: Monday 22 June.

**History competition:** The Historical Association are running a 'Write Your Own Historical Fiction Competition 2020'. Winning students will each receive a cash prize, engraved paperweight and a year's free subscription to the Historical Association for their school. Entries close Friday 26 June 2020, click [here](#) for more details.

**Geography competition:** The Royal Geographical Society are running their Young Geographer of the year competition, asking students to submit entries based around the theme of 'the world beyond my window', full competition details can be found [here](#). The deadline for receipt of all entries is Tuesday 30 June 2020 at 5.00pm.

**History competition:** Focus Games Ltd are challenging all age groups to create a unique piece of work, drawing, poster, short story, video or artwork in order to celebrate 100 Great Black Britons and their legacy. Entries close 30 September 2020, click [here](#) for more information.



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