



Longhill High School

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# Longhill News



## May/June 2016

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### Meet Our New Headteacher

Longhill's new Headteacher, Kate Williams, will be joining us after the half term holiday on 6<sup>th</sup> June. We thought that our readers would like to know a little about her impressions of Brighton and of Longhill itself.

*What attracted you to Longhill and made you want to apply for the Headship?*



"I was attracted to apply for the job at Longhill because I could see that it is a school with huge potential. I believe that it can be a great school for the community. I believe that it can deliver high quality education to the local young people. I have visited the school many times and have enjoyed the students' warm welcome and I look forward to working with them all and supporting them in their achievements."

*What are your first impressions of Brighton itself?*

"I can see that Brighton is a fantastic, creative and vibrant area to live in and be part of. I'm currently buying a house in the City and am really looking forward to becoming part of the community."

*Have you found teaching to be a satisfying career so far?*

"I enjoy teaching and working with young people. I have the best job in the world and I have spent all of my teaching career challenging and supporting students to be the best they can be. No two days are the same and the joy of seeing students happy is the best reward that anyone could receive."

*What are your plans for your first few weeks at Longhill?*

"My immediate and most important plan is to get to know the students, staff, parents, governors and community at Longhill. I will be spending time in lessons, meeting students and staff and planning for the future of Longhill."



## Thank you and goodbye

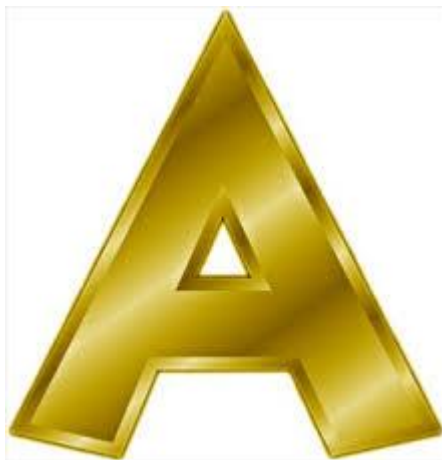
The whole-school community is very much looking forward to welcoming Ms Williams and is delighted that she will be able to spend the second half of the summer term with us.

Richard Bradford, who has been Executive Headteacher at Longhill since last November, will be leaving Longhill and returning to his role as Headteacher at Dorothy Stringer.

On behalf of the Governing Board and the whole-school community, everyone at Longhill would like to thank Mr Bradford for his invaluable support to the school during this period.

In addition, acting Headteacher Ms Jo Cassidy will be resuming her role as Deputy Headteacher for the remainder of the term. We would all like to express our thanks and gratitude to her for all her hard work and excellent guidance over the past seven months.

## It's an "A" for Attendance at Longhill!



### **Longhill High School celebrates the lowest Secondary Persistent Absence rate in the City of Brighton & Hove!**

As you may be aware, the Department of Education gathers data on school attendance, but also on "Persistent Absence". The current definition means that any student whose attendance is below 90% for the year is classified as a "persistent absentee"; students and schools are required to give detailed explanations of any absences from school to the Local Authority.

Brighton & Hove City Council Behaviour & Attendance Team have just released the citywide data for this year on persistent absence across the city and we are delighted to report that Longhill has the lowest persistent absence rate across all Brighton & Hove secondary schools!

We are so pleased to get this recognition and it is a credit to Longhill students and their parents/carers who recognise the value of each school day. Once again, we would like to pass on our sincere thanks to students and their parents/carers for this amazing achievement and we are looking forward to another half term of excellent attendance!



## Peer Mentors Attend Final Workshop

Every year, a group of Year 8 students apply to become part of Longhill's Peer Mentor Programme, which aims to help nominated primary school children with their transition into life at senior school. After a 6-week training programme, the Peer Mentors consolidate everything they've learnt by going away for a whole-day workshop at the Woodingdean Youth Centre. There they practise active listening, talk about diversity and difference, act out various *what you would do if* scenarios, understand the difference between mentors and friends and learn about confidentiality. Jill Robson, who runs the Peer Mentor Programme, explained, "They work so hard. I am so proud of them, really proud of them; some of them are only 12 years old and have such a level of emotional literacy and emotional intelligence which is higher than a lot of adults. They are so committed to the Programme."

Mentors will have one or two primary children paired with them, depending on the mentors themselves and the children who need assistance. Jill went on, "Some of the mentors are the high flyers who have lots of support at home, but some of my mentors don't. They have made their own decision that they would like to help someone else and that is their motivation - it's a real desire to help others."

"At first I thought they might just be motivated by going bowling, but actually that's just one day and the training level is so full on that if you're not committed to it then you won't make it.", she said.



When the new children start at Longhill, some of them may only need help for a few weeks, some for much longer. The Peer Mentors will be working with them in the summer term before they join us at Longhill, in conjunction with the Transition Team, who are practised at picking up on anyone who needs help. Each primary school can refer up to 6 children to us for peer mentoring. Some have more children needing help, so we have a 'reserve' list; people who are flagged up, but that we can't accommodate on the Programme, are notified to the Transition Team who work in close collaboration with the Peer Mentor Programme.

There are now 17 newly-trained mentors and by half term they will have met up with the Year 6 students who they have been matched with for lunch and an informal chat here at Longhill. The second meeting involves taking the mentors and the primary children for bowling and ice cream, which is a longer session. Finally the primary children will come over for a tour of the school after Year 11 has gone and before they come in again on New Intake Day.

"Being a Peer mentor is like a job." Jill explained. "They have to fill in an application form, then be interviewed by the current peer mentors and we all decide together. The current peer mentors are very stringent in their requirements, as they know first-hand what the position entails."

How does Jill see the Programme progressing in future? "Some of last year's mentors are still with us. I have four from last year that can help the new Peer Mentors. They have been supporting the new group and eventually I see the students themselves running the programme with me just advising, supporting and facilitating. This Programme is of so much value to all the students involved in it and I see it as self-perpetuating."



*Longhill Drama Club  
proudly presents*

**Tickets from Cashier's  
Office £4.50 adult  
£3.50 child or senior**

# **Diver!**

**Wed 22 & Thurs 23 June**

*Music, lyrics & book by Lionel Bart*

*Produced for Broadway stage  
by David Merricka & Donald Albery*

**PICCOLLAGE**

## House News



### THE KING'S MESSENGER

Faith is taking the first step, even when you don't see the whole staircase.  
-Martin Luther King Jr

This term has seen King House join forces with Spencer House in preparation for the 50th Woodingdean Carnival. This year at the Carnival, JLT members will be helping with the setting up of tents and stalls on the Friday night, helping with the running of the actual carnival and assisting with the tidying up the next day. This is just one of the things that KJLT are doing to give something back to the community.

Preparation for this year's Rainbow Day is well underway and we are looking forward to merging all the houses and working as one big team for a day of charity fundraising.

Unfortunately, this term we also have to say goodbye to our House Captains, Josh White and Rebecca Bridges and to our Senior Leaders, Scarlett Keely and Elizabeth Lawson. They have been valued members of King House since 2011 and we all wish them the very best of luck with their exams and for whatever they go on to do in the future. We would also like to thank them for all of the support they have given us over the years and they will be missed. I would also like to take this opportunity to wish all of the year 11s the very best of luck over the next few weeks and for the future. You will be sorely missed by all. Good luck!

I would also like to thank all the KJLT members and everyone else in King House, for your continued support and effort this term. Have a well-rested half term break and I will see you after the half term for more exciting things that will be happening in King House. Have a fantastic half term!

Ms Rhodes  
King House Co-ordinator



### Mandela House News

"It always seems impossible until it's done" Nelson Mandela

Mandela have been working closely with Nightingale House over the last couple of weeks discussing plans for a visit to Ireland Lodge in Woodingdean and organising a fun run for charity. These events will be taking place in June.

I asked Baelie, a Year 7 student to write something about her experience with JLT.

*'JLT (Junior Leadership Team) is a happy organised group here at Longhill. We focus on making upcoming events more exciting and amazing for us, our fellow students and staff. We have been discussing our trip to Ireland Lodge and I am sure the visit will be extremely enjoyable and such a great experience. I am part of JLT and I love it! We meet every Thursday and Friday during mentor time and I enjoy being part of something special. Another good thing about it is you meet more people from school in a wonderful environment.'*

**Baelie, Year 7**

I would like to thank all Mandela students and staff for their continued support. I hope you all have a relaxing break.



Mrs Noble  
Mandela House Co-ordinator



## **NIGHTINGALE – LIGHT THE WAY**

It has been an exciting term with a number of Nightingale students taking part in Sport, Drama and Music extra-curricular clubs. A big thank you to all the students, staff and parents who have supported these activities. All the staff in Nightingale House believe sport is transformational and support promoting our after-school programme. There is a belief that sport develops values that shape lives - teamwork, respect, enjoyment, discipline and sportsmanship. Sport is extraordinarily engaging. Nightingale students and staff will be pivotal in supporting the Year 7 charity fun run for the Royal Sussex heart, stroke and kidney departments this term.

It has been fantastic working with the Nightingale Junior Leadership Team during Thursday and Friday mentor time. Our senior students have been mentoring our Key Stage 3 students in their academic studies, setting targets to support their learning and progress. A particular thanks to Eddy Stevens, Jessica Wootten, Lucy Rose, Tom Drury, Bryony Southwell, Harrison Parker and Kyle Crooks. Our House Captains have also been brilliant, a big thanks must go to Amy Banks, Lily Waller and senior leader Shannon Gambardella. I also wish every success to our year 11 students who are working hard to complete their GCSE exams.

We have a number of exciting events this term where Longhill Sports Leaders will be promoting sport in the community. They will be running competitions at Yellow Wave Beach sports day, Years 5 and 6 competitive tag rugby, football and volleyball. Leadership qualities will be developed taking part in an Olympic torch run over the Sussex Downs and a Key Stage 2 tennis tournament at Longhill. Finally, on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June, our Year 11 students will be involved in a great night at the Brighton Hilton Metropole, collecting their Community Gold, Silver and Bronze Rotary Club Young Citizens Awards from the Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex.

Mr N J Rolf  
House Co-ordinator

## Pankhurst News!

A sunny welcome to you! This half term we have been busy planning and organising our volunteering session at the Whitehawk Food Bank. Groups of Pankhurst students will be visiting next half term to give up their time to help those in need in our local community. I was overwhelmed with the response from the students signing up to take part; it was wonderful to see so many of our students wanting to donate their time and energy to help others. I feel so proud that we are always so true to our motto, 'rooted in deeds, not words'.

Next half term will see the first ever Rainbow Day! This will see all 5 houses come together to celebrate together and raise money for Allsorts, a fantastic LGBTU charity that our students have had the pleasure of working with over the last few terms here at Longhill. The plans for the day are still under wraps, but it looks set to be very colourful and exciting!

The circle of life in Pankhurst continues as we begin to say goodbye to our incredible Year 11 house captains and senior leaders and allow the Year 10 students across the house to start thinking about applying for these important and prominent roles. All students in Year 10 will be given the opportunity to apply and I encourage as many as possible to do so.

Finally the Pankhurst JLT and I would like to wish you all a lovely half term, hopefully filled with lots of sunshine and, as always, thank you for all of your support.

Mrs Jones

Pankhurst House Co-ordinator



All Spencer House students would like to say a huge 'thank you' to Mr Clacher who has been a fantastic House Co-ordinator. I have taken over the role from this term and we have been working hard on helping with the preparations for this year's Woodingdean Carnival. We have joined forces with King House and hope to help raise much needed funds for youth groups.

The Carnival date is Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June and will give an opportunity for us to show the local community how cohesive we are. If anyone would like to donate a prize for the tombola or raffle it would be very much appreciated. We look forward to seeing you there enjoying the day and evening entertainment.

We would like to thank all who donated a chocolate Easter egg for the Royal Alex. In total Longhill donated 173 eggs and our Spencer students came 2<sup>nd</sup> with an 'egg'cellent amount of 51 eggs. THANKYOU!!!

Good luck to all houses for the House Cup Flag Event. Watch this space for the results.

We are going to be looking for new Senior Leaders and House Captains. If you are in Years 9 or 10 and have the mind-set of being a leader and would be interested in any of these positions, come and show your interest to Mrs Barnard in the Year 7 Office. We want you to lead us. Become a House Captain or Senior Leader.

**WE WANT YOU  
AS OUR LEADER**



**Also good luck to all our Year 11s who are starting their exams.**

Mrs Barnard  
Spencer House Co-ordinator

## Sports News

### Athletics

The summer term means athletics! Longhill has already been busy with athletes performing at the Brighton Schools' Trials. Jhaheem Kiambi just nipped ahead of Majed Maatugh to win the 100m in 12.7 seconds. Wilson Miller still in the same age group next year came third in an impressive 12.7 seconds. Also a year younger was Jacob Campbell who ran a strong 1500m and finished a fantastic second in the discus to secure his place on the Brighton team. Also gaining a place was Frankie White in the long jump, who finished second in her event, but unfortunately cannot compete at the Sussex event.

Also making the Brighton Schools' team is Sam Wilkinson who is changing events and competing in the 1500m steeplechase. The county event takes place on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June at K2, Crawley.

The Year 7 athletes have been training hard and have been able to experience an athletics competition on home soil. 33 Year 7 students took part in the competition on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May. The track events were very popular, especially with the girls, as 15 of the 20 took part in the 75m!!

There were some excellent performances by Amy Serednicki and Dylan Simpkin, who were the fastest Longhill students over 75m; Matt Marshall dominated the middle distance for Longhill, completing both the 600m and 1000m; Josh Tyler Dibley must have been extremely tired after competing in every single race! Charlie Dykes and Nicole Robb were the leading shot putters, Owen Brown in the javelin and many great performances by the boys in the long jump. Well done to everyone who took part.



**The next event is on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June.**



# The Learning Resource Centre

## AKA—the Library



Borrow Books \* Type up work \* Print Homework  
Collect Rewards \* Work Experience Office

At the end of last term we had a huge book sale and sold over 500 books, every book bought gave the new owner a free raffle ticket to our mega chocolate tower prize. Congratulations to the winners; all were from Year 7 and chosen randomly from our lucky dip box at the last Golden Ticket Assembly.

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	Lois Long
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	Alex Mason-Thompson
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	Ellie Carney



### Rewards – Year 11s

Students are rewarded with Achievement points for good effort, participation, progress and achievement in class, homework, good attendance and service to the school. Some year 11 students have been able to use their points to purchase a Prom Ticket or Year Book. To see what is available to buy and to check their balance students can email or come and speak to Mrs Denyer. The reward store can be found via our website and the following link <http://rewards.longhill.org.uk/>

### Reading in the Summer Holidays

Summer reading is a holiday essential no matter what your age; we want to encourage students to make it part of their plans as we limber up for the holiday period. A list of recommended books to read over the summer holidays will be going up in the library this coming half term, giving students something nice to do while sitting in the park, on the beach, or in the back garden. Here are some reasons why reading is important...

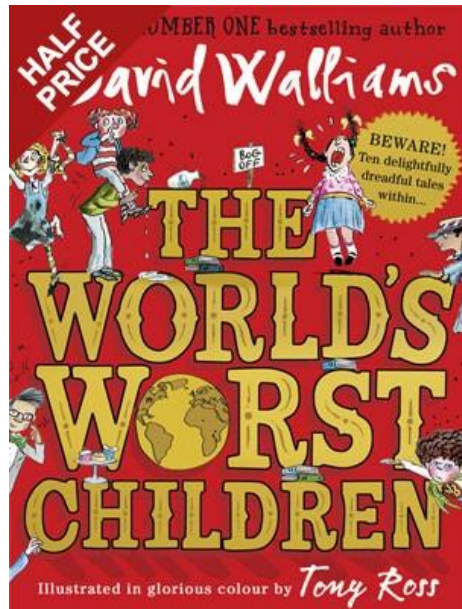
1.	Reading develops your verbal abilities
2.	Improves focus, concentration & imagination
3.	Increases academic achievement
4.	Reduces stress and improves memory
5.	Reading can encourage life goals



# Meet David Walliams



**Monday 30th May 10:30 at Waterstones Book Shop, Brighton.**



## **New Book: The World's Worst Children (Hardback)**

On the 19th May, the Number One bestselling author released 'The World's Worst Children', a collection of ten short stories about five beastly boys and five gruesome girls.

Meet TV super-fan, Sofia Sofa, so stuck to the sofa that she's turning into one; Dribbling Drew, a boy whose drool gets him into trouble; and Blubbering Bertha, a girl who bawls and tells terrible tales. Plus expect an appearance from everyone's favourite character: Raj!

'The World's Worst Children' may be Walliams' most devious, mischievous and devilishly delightful book yet. Available to pre-order half-price now.

**The number one best-selling children's author will be signing copies of his brilliant new book *The World's Worst Children*.**

**Due to time limitations access to this event will be by ticket only.**

**Ticket Price: £7.49, inc a copy of *The World's Worst Children* (RRP £14.99)**

**Please note: booking fees apply.**

# Forget Cash – Remember sQuid



## What is sQuid and why should you be using it?

sQuid is a secure online payment system that eliminates the need for your son or daughter to bring cash into school. It can be used to pay for school trips, lunches and any other expenses that may be incurred at school.

## International payment network

sQuid is a pre-paid online account with cleared funds; where you never get in to debt. sQuid is a pre-pay network where funds are pre-loaded on to a secure online account and then spent via the sQuid network using a contactless smart card, an online account or unique biometric identifier, enabling digital stored value to be securely transferred

## eMoney

As such sQuid is electronic money (or eMoney) a new kind of cash that can be used to pay for the little things in life: coffees, school dinners, snacks, all the things you keep cash for.

## More than just a payment partner

sQuid is used across many different sectors and is already widely used across the UK as well as internationally. sQuid work with local Councils, Transit operators, Schools, Colleges, Universities, and International Aid agencies. Uniquely offering a multi-wallet account, sQuid also offer cashless payments with integrated loyalty.

## Where will I find sQuid?

On the front page of the Longhill High School website

<http://www.longhill.org.uk/>

You can easily set up your account – just follow the instructions. If you already have an account, but have forgotten your login details, please email

[studentservicesstaff@longhill.org.uk](mailto:studentservicesstaff@longhill.org.uk) and we will help you get back into your account.

We would like to encourage you to use sQuid whenever possible – it is easy, safe and avoids the need to bring cash to school.





## **TERM DATES 2015-2016**

### **SUMMER TERM 2015**

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**

### **Half Term**

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June**

## **TERM DATES 2016-2017**

### **AUTUMN TERM 2016**

**Wed 7<sup>th</sup> September to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December**

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September – INSET Day**

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September – Year 7 Only**

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September – Whole School**

### **Half Term**

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October**

### **SPRING TERM 2017**

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January to Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April**

### **Half Term**

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February**

### **SUMMER TERM 2017**

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April to Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July**

### **Half Term**

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June**



## DIARY DATES

### Year 7

**Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> June      Parents' Evening      5.00 – 8.00pm**

### Year 8

**Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> June      Parents' Evening      5.00-8.00pm**

### Year 9

### Year 10

### Year 11

**Fri 24<sup>th</sup> June      Leavers' Barbecue**

**Wed 6<sup>th</sup> July      Leavers' Prom**

### Whole School

**Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> June      Drama Production 'Oliver!' 7.00pm**

**Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> June      Drama Production 'Oliver!' 7.00pm**

**Sat 16<sup>th</sup> July      School Uniform Suppliers 11-3.00pm**

**Sat 30<sup>th</sup> July      School Uniform Suppliers 11-3.00pm**

**Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> Sept      Open Evening**



**School Uniform Suppliers will be in  
school on**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July  
for any parents to purchase**

**Longhill uniform. They will be offering a  
5% discount on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July only**



# Holiday Activities Club

Tuesday 31st May - Friday 3rd June  
**MAY / JUNE 2016**

**EVERYDAY IS FILLED WITH  
FUN GAMES, INDOOR SPORTS,  
ACTIVITIES, ARTS & CRAFTS.**

**"The Best Way To Keep Your Kids Active"**

The **ACTIVITY TIMETABLE** Will Be On Our Website Soon!

**PRICE LIST:** For ages 5-12yrs, 8am - 3.30pm (Extra hours till 6pm - £6.50)

Full Day £22.50 (8am-3.30pm), Half Day £12.50 8am-12pm or 12pm-4pm

**Sibling Saver** - TWO Family members for a Full Day for just **£38**

**BOOK NOW!** Tel: 01273 391 683

[www.longhillsportscentre.co.uk](http://www.longhillsportscentre.co.uk)



# ACADEMIES

**19TH APRIL - 15TH JULY 2016**

**£4** per session or **£40** for 12 weeks, *saving you £8*

## TUESDAYS

**FOOTBALL** 4.00-5.00pm for ages 5 - 8yrs

## WEDNESDAYS

**TRAMPOLINING** 4.00-5.00pm school years 1, 2 & 3

5.00-6.00pm school years 4, 5 & 6

20th Apr - 25th May **£33** & 8th June - 13th July **£33**

## THURSDAYS

**TENNIS** 4.00-5.00pm for ages 6 - 11yrs

**CRICKET** 5.00-6.00pm for ages 6 - 11yrs

## FRIDAYS

**ATHLETICS** 6.00-7.00pm for ages 6 - 11yrs

**Our academies DO NOT take place during half terms.**



For more information or to book your child/children on to our academies please contact us on **01273 391 683**,

Falmer Road, Rottingdean, BN2 7FR

[www.longhillsportscentre.co.uk](http://www.longhillsportscentre.co.uk)



# GYMNASTICS CLUB

APRIL - JULY 2016

## MONDAY

18th April - 6th June - £33 & 13th June - 18th July - £33

4 - 5pm school years reception, 1 & 2, 5 - 6pm school years 3-6

6 - 7pm secondary school years 7-11

**NOT** taking place on **Monday 2nd May**

## THURSDAY

21st April - 26th May - £33 & 9th June - 14th July - £33

4.30 - 5.30pm school years reception, 1,2 & 3

## FRIDAY

29th April - 10th June - £33 & 17th June - 22nd July - £33

4.30 - 5.30pm school years reception, 1 & 2

5.30 - 6.30pm school years 3-6

29th April - 10th June - £18 & 17th June - 22nd July - £18

4 - 4.30pm ages 3 & 4 years (*pre-school*)

## SATURDAY

23rd April - 28th May - £33 & 11th June - 16th July - £33

9.30 - 10.30am school years 3-6, 10.30 - 11.30am school years reception, 1 & 2

Our Gymnastics Club does **NOT** take place during half terms.

For more information or to book your child/children on to our academies please contact us on **01273 391 683**,

Falmer Road, Rottingdean, BN2 7FR

[www.longhillsportscentre.co.uk](http://www.longhillsportscentre.co.uk)



**British  
Gymnastics**  
More than a sport