



NEWS & VIEWS

Achievement & Enjoyment

Headteacher Mr S Bowsher



Headteacher Comment:

Over the last few weeks I have been busy calling all our new Reception parents who have children starting with us in September. This will be the first News and Views that they will be receiving so welcome. Speaking to all of them I was struck with what a great group of children we have joining us once again. Time will fly and they will be with us in no time.

I have written before about how the summer term is my favourite of the three. I'm sure it is partly because the weather is generally sunnier and definitely warmer. It means we spend more time outside and this can be seen in school. On Wednesday I was doing my usual walk around the school and found Year 6 practising their relay skills on the running track in PE with Mr Duncan, Year 1 developing their rounders skills with Mrs Pirie on another part of the field, while Reception were out on the adventure playground developing their gross motor skills. The sun was out and lots of learning was taking place inside and outside the school – it was great.

The better weather also means there is time after school to get out and about. This week I managed a walk and a run after work. It also means that the children are going to want to go to the park more. I know that with some of our older children this may mean they are allowed to go out with their friends without an adult. It is worth reminding everyone about being safe and making the right choices in this instance.

We have done work with the children about making sure they are behaving if they are out and about and not getting involved in any antisocial behaviour that older children, not from Larchwood, might be involved in. Similarly, we have reminded children about keeping safe while out and staying with their friends. As much as we want to start encouraging children to be independent, I think they should still be being supervised by an adult while still at primary school.

Finally, some general summer housekeeping. As the sun has now joined us, please make sure your child has a water bottle in school every day. As well as wearing hats outside at break and lunchtime children should be wearing sunscreen. This helps protect against the damaging effects of the sun.

Sunscreen should be applied before school and should ideally be one of the long lasting (8 hour+) types. This will then last for the whole school day and is what the huge majority of our children do.

If your child has particularly fair skin and needs to have sunscreen applied later in the day they will be allowed a roll-on sunscreen in their bag if they can apply this themselves. Children will be allowed to reapply this at the start of lunchtime. If they are unable to reapply this, then a parent / carer can come to the school office at lunchtime to reapply it – preferably at the start of lunchtime (12.30pm)

For those classes going swimming at the moment (Year 2), they can have a roll-on sunscreen in their bag that they can reapply after swimming.

Assessments

Next week is a very important week for Year 6. They will be sitting their Standard Assessment Tests (SATs) all week like every other Year 6 child in the country. This is their opportunity to show how much they have learnt at Larchwood and how they are ready for secondary school. I've no doubt they will do well and will try their best – we are proud of them.



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It isn't just Year 6 that have assessments at this time of year. Year 1 have a phonics screening check in June and Year 4 have a multiplication tables check as well. I'm also fully aware that there will be former Larchwood students taking their GCSEs, A'Levels or higher education exams at the moment. May and June are busy months for all, so I'm sure you will join me in wishing everyone connected with Larchwood who are taking exams good luck.

Have a great weekend and enjoy the sun – my barbeque will be out!

Word of the Week

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|----------|--------|-------------|---------|------------|--------|
| Reception | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
| Assist | Estimate | Energy | Alternative | Version | Accumulate | Deduce |



Mr Bowsher's Superstar Award

Alla for demonstrating the value of responsibility.



Stars of the Week

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|-------------|------------|--------|-------|-------|-----------|
| RM | RT | 1A | 1P | 2C | 2G | 3B |
| Malik | Lennon | Briar-Rose | Eliza | Caleb | Reese | All of 3B |
| 3C | 4LC | 4T | 5L | 5P | 6C | 6R |
| All of 3C | Teigan-Rose | Charles | Samuel | Ava | Ellis | Sonny |



Reading at Home

Another improvement on our reading numbers. Fingers crossed for even better next week.

| Class | Table shows numbers of children and percentages who read from Tuesday 7th May to Friday 10th May | | | Percentage Read 3 & 4 times % |
|-------|--|---------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| | Less than 3 | 3 | 4 | |
| RM | 5 (17%) | 4 (13%) | 21 (70%) | 25 (83%) |
| RT | 5 (17%) | 7 (24%) | 17 (59%) | 24 (83%) |
| 1A | 3 (11%) | 4 (14%) | 21 (75%) | 25 (89%) |
| 1P | 2 (7%) | 9 (30%) | 19 (63%) | 28 (93%) |
| 2C | 1 (4%) | 7 (26%) | 19 (70%) | 26 (96%) |
| 2G | 3 (12%) | 5 (19%) | 18 (69%) | 23 (88%) |
| 3B | 2 (6%) | 3 (11%) | 24 (83%) | 27 (94%) |
| 3C | 3 (10%) | 8 (28%) | 18 (62%) | 26 (90%) |
| 4LC | 0 (0%) | 4 (13%) | 26 (87%) | 30 (100%) |
| 4T | 0 (0%) | 0 (0%) | 30 (100%) | 30 (100%) |
| 5L | 0 (0%) | 5 (19%) | 21 (81%) | 26 (100%) |
| 5P | 0 (0%) | 0 (0%) | 29 (100%) | 29 (100%) |
| 6C | 1 (4%) | 0 (0%) | 27 (96%) | 27 (96%) |
| 6R | 0 (0%) | 2 (7%) | 26 (93%) | 28 (100%) |
| Total | | | | 94% |



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Diary Dates

Below are some of the important dates coming up this term:

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Friday 10 th May | LPPA donut sale |
| Monday 13 th May | Year 6 SATs week |
| Thursday 6 th June | Year 5 Trip – Colchester Zoo |
| Monday 17 th June | Reception, Year 1 and 2 sports day (am) |
| Wednesday 19 th June | Year 3 – 6 sports day (am) |
| Thursday 20 th June | LPPA Bingo Night |
| Thursday 27 th June | Year 3 Trip – Chelmsford Museum |
| Friday 28 th June | Year 1 Trip – Barleylands |
| Friday 5 th July | LPPA Big Barbeque and Bounce (after school) |
| Wednesday 10 th July | Year 2 Trip – Thorndon Country Park |
| Monday 15 th July | Year 6 Residential Trip – Mersea Outdoors |
| Wednesday 17 th July | Reception Trip – Boydells Dairy Farm |
| Monday 22 nd July | Celebration Evening |
| Thursday 25 th July | Last day of term |



Weekly Attendance

Well done to 4LC this week for the highest attendance.

Weekly Attendance – week commencing Tuesday 7th May 2024

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|
| Class | RM | RT | 1A | 1P | 2C | 2G | 3B | Whole school |
| Attendance | 97.5% | 95.8% | 95% | 94.6% | 93.8% | 93.1% | 96.7% | |
| Class | 3C | 4LC | 4T | 5L | 5P | 6C | 6R | 96.4% |
| Attendance | 97.1% | 99.2% | 98.8% | 97.8% | 95.7% | 99.1% | 95.3% | |

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd |
| 4LC | 6C | 4T |



Yearly Attendance

Yearly Attendance – from 6th September 2023

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|
| Class | RM | RT | 1A | 1P | 2C | 2G | 3B | Whole school |
| Attendance | 95.7% | 92.9% | 95.7% | 95.7% | 96.2% | 95.2% | 96.1% | |
| Class | 3C | 4LC | 4T | 5L | 5P | 6C | 6R | 95.3% |
| Attendance | 95.9% | 95.4% | 94.7% | 95% | 95.7% | 96.6% | 93.4% | |

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd |
| 6C | 2G | 3B |



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