



# NEWS & VIEWS

Achievement & Enjoyment

Headteacher Mr S Bowsher



## Headteacher's Comment:

Today marks the start of the Christmas period in school. This is always a very exciting time for all of us – children and adults alike. There are always lots of things taking place with a Christmas feel and this starts today with the LPPA Christmas Market. Mr Doug has put the Christmas tree up in the hall and the annual 'Best Decorated Classroom' competition has started – will 3C win again? It is all go, so below is the list of events we have taking place over the next few weeks including the reception nativity next week which is starting to come together well.

We know that Christmas isn't celebrated by all our families and learning continues throughout the next two and a half weeks. We are learning right up to the last day, whilst still doing the fun things.

### Reading at Home

We don't set homework at Larchwood other than reading and times tables (although Year 6 get a little more). These are the only things we ask children to do as they work hard in school and we are aware of how trying to get children to do homework can be difficult. However, reading for 15 to 20 minutes a day shouldn't be hard. As you know from the chart below the expectation is children read and have their reading record signed at least 4 times a week – once over the weekend and then 3 nights in the week. If they have it done 5 times even better. By reading every day children are going to develop skills that will serve them well throughout their lives and will develop a love of reading.

We know the majority of you agree with this as around 400 children do this each week. However, there are an increasing number of children not reading 4 times. They all want to read – they tell us this, but for a variety of reasons don't. If your child isn't reading or you aren't writing in the reading record, please start to do so. I ask teachers to speak to parents to remind them to do this and if necessary I will speak to parents. There really is very little excuse for not reading regularly.

One of the things I enjoy doing is going to talk to classes about the books they are reading. I will have often read the book the class is using in English (I recently read Year 6's book Rooftoppers) so we have a great discussion about their love of the book and reading in general. These conversations are always really powerful and this is what we want children to be able to do in the future.

### Parking and Lateness

I recently wrote about the parking situation and lateness. I have been out on the road a number of times this week to witness the parking or ask cars to move and have been conducting a late gate all week. There has been an improvement, especially with lateness, so thank you.



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## Out of School Achievements

We love hearing about all the amazing things children do out of school and it is great when they want to share these achievements with us at school. If your child has done something amazing out of school e.g. won a competition, gone up a swimming group, won player of the match etc, then please either tweet it or get them to bring in the award, or even better, do both. I give out headteacher awards to those that do something amazing out of school.

## Word of the Week

|           |        |        |          |         |           |         |
|-----------|--------|--------|----------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Reception | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3   | Year 4  | Year 5    | Year 6  |
| Globe     | Seek   | Error  | Dominate | Whereas | Ambiguous | Benefit |



## Mr Bowsher's Superstar Award

Alfie in 5P for demonstrating the value of friendship.



## Stars of the Week

|              |       |          |         |         |           |       |
|--------------|-------|----------|---------|---------|-----------|-------|
| RM           | RT    | 1A       | 1P      | 2C      | 2G        | 3B    |
| Orla-Blossom | Ocean | Danielle | Lukas   | Zachary | Grace B   | Tilly |
| 3C           | 4LC   | 4T       | 5L      | 5P      | 6C        | 6R    |
| Penny        | Quynn | Skylar   | Jessica | Ruby    | Dollyanna | Wakil |

## Reading at Home



Well done to the winning classes and to 6R who all read 5 times. 390 children have read as much as is expected – 27 more to go!

| Class | Table shows numbers of children and percentages who read from<br>Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> November to Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December |         |           | Percentage Read 4 & 5 times % |
|-------|--|---------|-----------|-------------------------------|
|       | Less than 4  | 4       | 5         |                               |
| RM    | 0 (0%)   | 6 (21%) | 23 (79%)  | 100%                          |
| RT    | 5 (18%)  | 6 (21%) | 17 (61%)  | 82%                           |
| 1A    | 1 (4%)   | 6 (20%) | 22 (76%)  | 96%                           |
| 1P    | 7 (25%)  | 7 (25%) | 14 (50%)  | 75%                           |
| 2C    | 2 (6%)   | 5 (17%) | 23 (77%)  | 94%                           |
| 2G    | 3 (12%)  | 6 (20%) | 19 (68%)  | 88%                           |
| 3B    | 2 (6%)   | 5 (16%) | 24 (78%)  | 94%                           |
| 3C    | 0 (0%)   | 6 (21%) | 23 (79%)  | 100%                          |
| 4LC   | 2 (7%)   | 6 (21%) | 21 (72%)  | 93%                           |
| 4T    | 2 (7%)   | 9 (33%) | 17 (60%)  | 93%                           |
| 5L    | 1 (4%)   | 4 (14%) | 23 (82%)  | 96%                           |
| 5P    | 2 (8%)   | 4 (15%) | 20 (77%)  | 92%                           |
| 6C    | 0 (0%)   | 3 (11%) | 25 (89%)  | 100%                          |
| 6R    | 0 (0%)   | 0 (0%)  | 29 (100%) | 100%                          |
| Total |  |         |           | 93%                           |



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## Diary Dates

Below are some of the important dates still to come this half term:

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December     | LPPA Christmas market                              |
| Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December  | Reception Nativity (2pm)                           |
| Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December   | Reception Nativity (2pm)                           |
| Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December   | LPPA pop up Christmas shop                         |
| Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December | LPPA pop up Christmas shop                         |
| Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December | Year 1 sing-a-long (2pm)                           |
| Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December  | Christmas sing-a-long 2C, 3B, 4T, 5L, 6C (2:30pm)  |
| Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December    | Reports sent home Years 1 - 6                      |
| Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December    | Christmas sing-a-long 2G, 3C, 4LC, 5P, 6R (2:30pm) |
| Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December    | Christmas jumper day and Christmas Dinner          |
| Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December   | LPPA Christmas discos                              |
| Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December | Break up   |



## Weekly Attendance

### Weekly Attendance – week commencing Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November

|            |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |              |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|
| Class      | RM    | RT    | 1A    | 1P    | 2C    | 2G    | 3B    | Whole school |
| Attendance | 98.3% | 95.3% | 90.8% | 95.4% | 95%   | 90.4% | 99.6% |              |
| Class      | 3C    | 4LC   | 4T    | 5L    | 5P    | 6C    | 6R    | 94.4%        |
| Attendance | 96.3% | 95.8% | 91.3% | 93.8% | 92.1% | 91.8% | 96.1% |              |

|                 |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 3B              | RM              | 3C              |



## Yearly Attendance

### Yearly Attendance – from 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023

|            |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |              |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|
| Class      | RM    | RT    | 1A    | 1P    | 2C    | 2G    | 3B    | Whole school |
| Attendance | 97.4% | 94.0% | 95.9% | 96.5% | 96.9% | 96.3% | 96.1% |              |
| Class      | 3C    | 4LC   | 4T    | 5L    | 5P    | 6C    | 6R    | 96.1%        |
| Attendance | 96.9% | 96%   | 94.5% | 96.2% | 95.9% | 97.4% | 95.2% |              |

|                 |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| RM & 6C         | 2C & 3C         | 1P              |



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