



# NEWS & VIEWS

Achievement & Enjoyment

Headteacher Mr S Bowsher



## Headteacher's Comment:

We made it to the end of the summer term. It has been another busy final week in another successful year. Monday started with move-up morning where the children got to spend some time with their new teachers in their new classrooms. In the evening we had a fantastic celebration evening which is always a highlight of the year. Tuesday saw Year 6 perform with Don Rae and yesterday we had the Junior Governing Board trip to Parliament and the school discos. Today's highlight was Larchwood's Got Talent, and what talent we have. Well done to everyone who auditioned and took part.

### Sunflower competition

On Monday I announced the winners of the annual sunflower competition (photo on page 2). The overall winner was Jake from Year 4, who after a remeasure, not only had the tallest sunflower in Larchwood, but had the tallest sunflower in all of the Discovery Educational Trust schools and so won an extra trophy. His name will be added to our honours board while all the photos of the entries will be added to a display in the hall.

The winners in each year group were:

Reception - Aubrey

Year 1 - Indie

Year 2 - Chloe

Year 3 - Freya

Year 4 - Jake

Year 5 - Esme

Year 6 - Blake

Staff - Miss Colesell

### Smith Family Award

After their Don Rae performance on Monday, I gave out another special award to one of our Year 6 children. Each year the Smith Family Award, which is sponsored by one of our former families, is awarded to one student in Year 6 who we feel represents our values and our school in the best possible way. This is not an easy decision as there are 60 excellent candidates each year. It isn't necessarily the person who does the best academically, or the sportiest or the most popular - it is the person who 'is Larchwood'. This year the Smith Family Award has been awarded to Zachary in 6R who is pictured on the second page. Congratulations to you Zachary, I'm sure you will go on to do great things.



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@LarchwoodPS



[office@larchwood.essex.sch.uk](mailto:office@larchwood.essex.sch.uk)

## 100% Attendance

As you know from the attendance policy sent out this week attendance at school is so important to future success. We know that occasionally, children get ill and have to have some days off, this is normal, but these children still have good overall attendance and do well at school. This year we have had 15 amazing and healthy (and perhaps a little lucky not to get ill) children who have had 100% attendance all year. An amazing thing to do. Well done all of you. Next year I'm sure there will be even more children with good attendance.

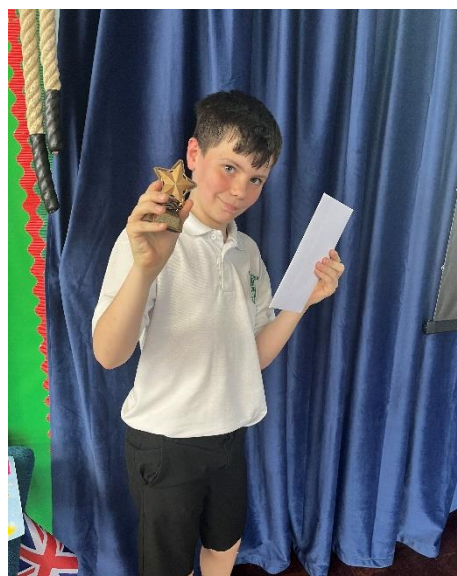
## Summer Holidays

So now we start the summer holidays. It is slightly shorter than some years, but still gives everyone a good break and time to rest. Things at Larchwood don't stop though. Although the school will be shut to staff and pupils, work continues to improve the physical building. By the time we return there should be new heating and water distribution pipes and heaters in all the classrooms with just the other rooms / corridors to complete. We will also have new electrics in some of the school. The work on both projects will continue into the new term, but by the time we come back a lot of the upgrade will be complete.

The summer break gives everyone time to recharge but to also prepare for the next year. If your child wants their ears pierced, tomorrow is the day to do it as children can't wear earrings in school (or sleeper studs). Also, make sure things like uniform and new school shoes are ordered and fit. Most importantly, take part in the summer reading challenge (details of which went out earlier in the week). I'm looking forward to seeing how everyone is getting on – especially with the challenge to read in the most unusual place. Just post the pictures on X (@LarchwoodPS).

I spoke last week about the staff changes and thanked those who are leaving us today. We also have our Year 6 children leaving today. They have been a fantastic year group and it seems like only yesterday that they started in Reception. They are an amazing group of children who I'm sure will all go on to achieve great things. Keep in touch Year 6.

Finally thank you to all of you for your continued support. Have a great summer and we will see you all on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at 8:30am.



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