



NEWS & VIEWS

Achievement & Enjoyment

Headteacher Mr S Bowsher



Headteacher's Comment:

Welcome back!

I hope that everyone has had a fantastic summer break and is ready for another exciting year at Larchwood. Before I talk about the coming year I just wanted to say a huge well done to everyone who took part in the Larchwood Summer Challenge and either posted on Twitter (now called X) or sent things in. The response was huge and I have given out over 170 Headteacher Awards this week. Seeing how much fun people were having or reading about it on postcards was brilliant. Special awards for those that did all 10 challenges will be given out next week.

You will also recall that over the summer the hall roof was being replaced as the final part of the roof upgrade. The work was scheduled to continue into the new term ever so slightly, but despite the weather not being the best, the roofers worked extremely hard and completed the work early. We now have a roof fit for the future and a new ceiling in the hall. It looks fantastic.

The term has started really well. Staff had two training days on Monday and Tuesday. On Monday we did some training on teaching and learning and our curriculum ready for the coming year. On Tuesday we were joined by the staff from Hogarth Primary who are now part of the Discovery Educational Trust (DET) and staff from Kelvedon Hatch Community Primary School, who will become part of DET shortly. The morning was spent talking about being in the Trust with Mr Duff and then all staff received valuable safeguarding training.

Safeguarding children is one of our key responsibilities and this is why schools have training on it every year. It is so important. As part of the training we talked about our filtering and monitoring systems for using IT in school and I will update you on this later in the term.

As you know children have only been back in school a couple of days, but it has been brilliant seeing them smiling and being happy to be back. We also had our first group of Reception children start on Thursday – welcome to you. All children are looking smart and are already working hard. A highlight of the week was seeing everyone together in assembly on Wednesday afternoon.

Staffing Update

This term we have been joined by two new teachers, Miss Paxton in Year 5 and Miss Tregunno in Year 4. Both are excellent additions to our teaching team and I'm sure you will join me in welcoming them to Larchwood.

As you know we have two Assistant Headteachers at Larchwood. Miss Adams and Mrs Belle. Miss Adams is currently on maternity leave after the birth of her son Nathan. Mrs Belle is also pregnant and will be going on maternity leave later this term. Stepping into the roles of Assistant Headteachers while Miss Adams and Mrs Belle are on maternity leave will be Mr Looney and Miss Beard, both of whom I'm sure will be excellent in the role.



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News and Views

As you know News and Views has a number of pieces of information on it normally. Today we have only got our Stars of the Week – well done to those children who have been nominated this week.

All children should now have a reading book and reading record. The expectation is that all children should have this written in by an adult at least 4 times a week. This is a minimum. Really, we expect at least 5 times and actually every day would be better. I hope that on Friday next week I can give every class a certificate for everyone reading at least 4 times.

Attendance figures will appear next week. I'll talk about attendance in more detail in a separate letter, but we have started the term really well. 100% is what we are aiming for.

Reminders

Just a reminder that all school dinners need to be booked in by midnight the night before and if your child is packed lunch, they need to bring this into school with them.

Children should bring everything into school with them they need for the day which includes reading books. PE kits should already be in school as they need to stay here. They are used on set days, but could also be used on the occasional day that is not normally a PE day.

Don't forget that if you need to book your child into after school club or there are changes to the end of day pick up arrangements then please make sure you call the office by 2pm.

Here's to a happy and successful year ahead. The weather is still in summer mode so enjoy it this weekend.



Stars of the Week

RM	RT	1A	1P	2C	2G	3B
All of RM	All of RT	Archie	Mekna	Rose	Lily-Mae	Parker
3C	4LC	4T	5L	5P	6R	6C
Charlie	Logan	Indie-Blue	All of 5L	All of 5P	All of 6R	All of 6C



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