



NEWS & VIEWS

Achievement & Enjoyment

Headteacher Mr S Bowsher



Mr Bowsher's Headteacher Comment:

Like all weeks at Larchwood, there has once again been lots of learning taking place alongside plenty of enjoyment. Our Senior Leadership Team have spent time this week watching learning across all classes, with a particular focus on how well all children are actively engaged and how knowledge and language skills are being developed. Seeing our skilled teachers and delivering lessons that fully immerse children in their learning and develop their language is always a joy.

As well as these visits, we also had the pleasure of speaking to some of our Year 2 children about their learning in history and geography. It was fantastic to hear them confidently recount their work on topics such as Pompeii and describe the role of archaeologists in uncovering the past. Their enthusiasm and recall showed just how much they enjoy their learning.

On Tuesday, we welcomed some staff and residents from Howard Lodge, our local care home, who very generously donated new resources for the room we use to support some of our SEND children. This lovely connection came about thanks to two of our pupils, Brodey and Mia, who volunteer at Howard Lodge and spoke proudly about our school – thank you.

Tuesday was also a busy day for music across the school. Year 2 and Year 6 took part in music workshops organised through the Essex Music Service. Year 6 combined their computing programming skills with music composition, while Year 2 explored an exciting crossover of computing, music and science by composing music using electrical circuits and iPads. After half term, even more musical opportunities await, with our choir heading to the O2 to sing as part of Young Voices and piano lessons starting for some of our Year 4 and 5 children.

Today Don Rae was back with us for a day of Chinese New Year themed dancing and fun with Year 1 and 2.

And now some events coming up. Many of you will remember last year's hugely popular 'Come Dine With Me' events, where adults joined their children for lunch. With 40–50 adults attending each session, we are delighted to be running these again. The first dates are listed below.

Finally, please save the date for another exciting event. Larchwood will be headlining the Brentwood Junior Parkrun on Sunday 1 March in Hutton. The event starts at 09.00, with children welcome to run or walk the 2km course. A number of staff will be there to support, and we are hoping for a massive turnout from the Larchwood Lightning Sprinters (as named by our sports ambassadors). More details to follow, but keep the morning free if you can.

Parent Consultations

Parent consultations will take place next Wednesday and Thursday. It is really important that you attend these as working together makes a big difference. If you have not yet booked an appointment, please do so by following this link: <https://larchwood.schoolcloud.co.uk>



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Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) Battle of the Bands

Battle of the Bands is now at the end of week 4 and scores are going up. 4J beat 6R in the most closely contested battle we've ever had. 6H won against 4CH, 5L won against 3LM, 3T won against 5P.

	W	D	L	Points
4J	4	0	0	12
5L	4	0	0	12
6H	3	0	1	10
3T	2	0	2	8
3LM	1	0	3	6
4CH	1	0	3	6
6R	1	0	3	6
5P	0	0	4	4

Week 4 battles:

3LM vs 5P

3T vs 5L

4CH vs 6R

4J vs 6H



Mrs Bowsher's Superstar Award

Jude in 2P for demonstrating enthusiasm for learning and talking about it in detail.



Stars of the Week

RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM
Freddie	Rosie	Aureila	Nakai	Tommy	Sienna	Elijah
3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R
Dylan	Caleb	Ezra	Lily	Freddie	Brody	Philip



Reading at Home

Super reading from RE and Year 6 this week. Well done to all those meeting the expectation of reading at least 4 times per week.

Class	Table shows numbers of children and percentages who read from Monday 2 February to Friday 6 February			Percentage Read 4 & 5 times %
	Less than 4	4	5	
RA	5 (19%)	3 (11%)	19 (70%)	22 (81%)
RE	0 (0%)	4 (17%)	20 (83%)	24 (100%)
1B	2 (7%)	3 (11%)	23 (82%)	26 (93%)
1G	2 (6%)	8 (28%)	19 (66%)	27 (94%)
2C	2 (6%)	4 (14%)	23 (80%)	27 (93%)
2P	5 (17%)	1 (3%)	22 (79%)	23 (82%)
3LM	4 (16%)	6 (20%)	19 (64%)	25 (84%)
3T	3 (12%)	6 (21%)	18 (67%)	24 (88%)
4CH	1 (3%)	5 (18%)	25 (79%)	30 (97%)
4J	1 (3%)	4 (13%)	25 (84%)	30 (97%)
5L	1 (7%)	8 (27%)	21 (70%)	29 (93%)
5P	2 (7%)	10 (36%)	16 (57%)	26 (93%)
6R	0 (0%)	1 (3%)	28 (97%)	29 (100%)
6H	0 (0%)	1 (3%)	28 (97%)	29 (100%)
Total				93%



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Diary Dates

Monday 9 February	Children's Mental Health Week
Tuesday 10 February	MHST Coffee Afternoon 14.00
Tuesday 10 February	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 11 February	Year 6 trip to St Martins to watch 'We Will Rock You'
Wednesday 11 February	Parent Consultations 15.30 – 18.00
Thursday 12 February	Parent Consultations 16.30 – 19.00
Friday 13 February	Break up for half term
Tuesday 24 February	Choir to the O2 for Young Voices
Sunday 1 March	Brentwood Junior Parkrun Larchwood Headlining – 09.00 Hutton
Tuesday 3 March	Year 1 'come-dine with me'
Friday 6 March	Larchwood World Book Day
Friday 6 March	Parent reading drop in morning
Tuesday 10 March	Year 3 'come-dine with me'
Tuesday 17 March	Year 2 'come-dine with me'
Tuesday 24 March	Year 4 'come-dine with me'
Tuesday 24 March	Year 3 Trip Chelmsford Museum
Friday 27 March	Break up for Easter



Weekly Attendance

Weekly Attendance – week commencing Monday 2 February 2026

Class	RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM	Whole school
Attendance	95.8%	88.1%	95.6%	95.6%	97.3%	92.0%	96.6%	
Class	3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R	94.7%
Attendance	91.9%	99.0%	94.0%	94.0%	93.0%	96.2%	97.2%	

1 st	2 nd	3 rd
4CH	2C	6R



Yearly Attendance

Yearly Attendance – from 1 September 2025

Class	RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM	Whole school
Attendance	93.7%	92.3%	97.0%	96.4%	97.5%	94.4%	95.7%	
Class	3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R	95.5%
Attendance	96.2%	95.2%	96.1%	96.3%	96.5%	92.9%	96.8%	

1 st	2 nd	3 rd
2C	1B	6R



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MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM

MHST Coffee Afternoon – Larchwood School

Take a break, enjoy a warm drink, and meet your local **Mental Health Support Team (MHST)**

 **Date:** Tuesday 10th February
 **Time:** 2pm
 **Location:** Larchwood School

Come along for an informal chat with the MHST:

- Learn more about the support we offer for children, parents and carers.
- Ask questions about emotional wellbeing and mental health.
- Find out how referrals into our service can be made.
- Discover tips for supporting your child at home.
- Meet the team and connect with other parents and carers.

We look forward to seeing you!

FREE WEBINARS FOR PARENTS/CARERS

of primary aged children to support with
mental health and wellbeing

Provided by Essex Mental Health Support Team
@essexmhst_and_setcamhs

bit.ly/3MaR1wJ



**Coming up
in February...**

**Understanding ADHD in Primary
Aged Children**
11th February 6:30 pm

**Supporting Your Child with
Challenging Behaviour**
24th February 10 am





Working to provide the best care for the best people



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