



# NEWS & VIEWS

Achievement & Enjoyment

Headteacher Mr S Bowsher



## Mr Bowsher's Headteacher Comment:

We are now in the midst of our Christmas events in school, and it is certainly a busy and exciting time. Last Friday we enjoyed our excellent Christmas Market, organised by our wonderful parents' association, the LPPA. This is one of the major events in our school calendar and is always incredibly popular. We are delighted that the event has raised a **record £3,000** for the school, thanks to your generosity and the hard work of our parent volunteers. A huge thank you to everyone who helped, attended, donated or got involved in any way.

It was also fantastic to see so many children taking ownership and running stalls this year. The Junior Governors did a brilliant job with their reindeer game, raising nearly £100. We also had three brothers – Leo, Thomas and Michael – running their own stalls with great enthusiasm, as well as three of our Year 6 girls hosting the very popular 'Where's Mr Bowsher on the Bus?' game. Both of these stalls raised over £100 each, something they should be incredibly proud of, and you can find a photograph of both groups on the last page of the newsletter.

One of the most sought-after stalls at the market was the raffle for 'Headteacher for the Day'. Congratulations to Marcos in 5L for winning this much-loved prize. He already has some wonderful ideas planned for his day in charge in January!

This week has also been full of festive performances. On Monday and Tuesday we enjoyed the Reception Nativity. Watching our youngest pupils perform so proudly in front of so many adults is always a big highlight of the season; as I told families, we definitely have some future West End stars in the making. Yesterday's Year 1 sing-a-long was another real treat. Their energy, enthusiasm and tremendous voices made us all incredibly proud.

Of course, the LPPA's work has continued this week, as their Christmas pop-up shop has once again returned and proved hugely popular. Children loved choosing gifts for their families, and some were so excited that we wouldn't be at all surprised if they have already tried persuading you to open a present early!

Adding even more variety to an already busy week, Years 3, 4 and 5 enjoyed a special enrichment activity today with pickleball workshops for all classes. The children absolutely loved trying out this fun and fast-paced sport. We also have pickleball available in the playground at lunchtimes, so we expect to see some very confident players emerging after today's sessions.

Next week promises to be just as lively. On Monday and Tuesday we have our remaining sing-a-longs. Children are welcome to bring festive hats or headgear, and we encourage parents to join in the fun too. Corridors have been filled with songs all week, and the children can't wait to perform. Mrs Calver recently launched a competition to design the front covers for the song sheets, raising money for the homeless charity Crisis at Christmas. Thank you to everyone who entered, and congratulations to our two winners, Aaryan in 6R and Aliza in 2C.



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Finally, a reminder that Wednesday is Larchwood Christmas Dinner Day. Please ensure you have booked your child's meal on ParentPay. It is also Christmas Jumper Day, so we look forward to seeing lots of festive colours throughout the school. To finish the day, the LPPA will be running their Christmas discos. Reception will enjoy theirs in the afternoon, while after school we will have Years 1–3 from 16:00 to 17:00 and Years 4–6 from 17:30 to 18:30. Entrance will be via the school office.

We are posting more and more on Instagram (rather than X) with updates of all the wonderful things that are taking place in school. Follow us at larchwoodps to keep up to date.

### Reception Applications for September 2026

Our last parent tour took place this week. The closing date for applications for children starting school in September 2026 via the Essex website is 15 January 2026 and can be done [here](#).



## Mr Bowsher's Superstar Award

Dylan in 4CH for demonstrating all the school values .



## Stars of the Week

RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM
All of RA	All of RE	All of 1B	All of 1G	Orla-Blossom	Katie	Harper-Rose
3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R
Noah	Alisa	Omar	Archie	Stefan	Abigail	Alexis



## Reading at Home

Well done all the 4 and 5 times readers. Keep it up.

Class	Table shows numbers of children and percentages who read from <b>Monday 8 December to Friday 12 December</b>			Percentage Read 4 & 5 times %
	Less than 4	4	5	
RA	7 (28%)	7 (28%)	11 (44%)	18 (72%)
RE	4 (16%)	4 (15%)	18 (69%)	22 (84%)
1B	2 (6%)	5 (18%)	22 (76%)	27 (94%)
1G	4 (13%)	3 (10%)	23 (77%)	26 (87%)
2C	2 (7%)	5 (17%)	22 (76%)	27 (93%)
2P	2 (7%)	2 (8%)	22 (85%)	24 (93%)
3LM	2 (7%)	10 (34%)	17 (59%)	27 (93%)
3T	2 (7%)	10 (34%)	17 (59%)	27 (93%)
4CH	4 (12%)	6 (19%)	21 (69%)	27 (88%)
4J	0 (0%)	5 (16%)	27 (84%)	32 (100%)
5L	0 (0%)	9 (32%)	19 (68%)	28 (100%)
5P	0 (0%)	5 (18%)	23 (82%)	28 (100%)
6R	1 (3%)	4 (13%)	25 (84%)	29 (97%)
6H	2 (6%)	3 (11%)	26 (94%)	26 (94%)
Total				92.0%



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## Diary Dates

Friday 12 December	Year 3, 4 and 5 Pickleball workshops
Monday 15 December	Sing-a-long for 2C, 3LM, 4CH, 5L and 6H
Tuesday 16 December	Sing-a-long for 2P, 3T, 4J, 5P and 6R
Tuesday 16 December	Reports send home
Wednesday 17 December	Christmas Dinner and Christmas jumper day / Discos
Thursday 18 December	Don Rae Christmas Pantomime with Year 5
Friday 19 December	Break up
Monday 5 January	Staff training day / non-pupil day
Tuesday 6 January	Pupils return to school
Friday 23 January	Digital Leaders trip to BETT exhibition
Tuesday 27 January	Tag Rugby tournament
Tuesday 6 February	Don Rae Chinese New Year - Year 1 and 2
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



## Weekly Attendance

### Weekly Attendance – week commencing Monday 8 December 2025

Class	RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM	Whole school
Attendance	93.0%	91.9%	96.3%	98.7%	100%	94.3%	96.7%	
Class	3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R	95.3%
Attendance	95.0%	93.4%	95.0%	95.3%	95.3%	93.1%	98.7%	

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
2C	1G & 6R	3LM



## Yearly Attendance

### Yearly Attendance – from 1 September 2025

Class	RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM	Whole school
Attendance	%	92.9%	97.4%	96.3%	97.9%	95.0%	96.0%	
Class	3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R	95.7%
Attendance	96.8%	95.3%	95.9%	97.4%	96.2%	92.8%	96.3%	

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
2C	1B	5L



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