



# NEWS & VIEWS

Achievement & Enjoyment

Headteacher Mr S Bowsher



## Mr Bowsher's Headteacher Comment:

It has been another excellent week at Larchwood. The atmosphere across the school has been calm and focused, with children showing real perseverance in their learning. Lessons have been moving at pace, and it has been a pleasure to see such enthusiasm from pupils and staff alike

We now have all of our Reception children in school, and I am delighted to say they have settled in beautifully. Welcome to all our new families, I am getting very positive feedback about your children and about how much they are enjoying their new school. The children have quickly picked up our routines and expectations, and their energy and smiles bring so much to our school.

Over the last two weeks, we have been focusing on our school values: **Friendship, Fairness, Respect, Responsibility, Honesty and Perseverance**. These values are at the heart of everything we do at Larchwood, and it is wonderful to see them demonstrated in classrooms, on the playground and beyond. Alongside these, we have been revisiting the British Values, which underpin life in modern Britain. These are: **Democracy, The Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect and Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs**. Our children have been brilliant at discussing what these values mean and how they link to their lives both inside and outside school.

This week I have had the opportunity to meet with a number of different stakeholders who all play an important role in school life. On Monday, I met with the Larchwood Primary Parents Association (LPPA) to organise dates for key events this year. The LPPA do a fantastic job raising money, providing fun opportunities for the children, and supporting the school in many different ways. The first event on the calendar is the AGM on 7 October, and looking further ahead, families can look forward to the ever-popular Christmas Market, the Summer BBQ and Bounce and evening events including the quiz night and bingo. These events take a lot of organising, and the LPPA are always looking for more volunteers. If you are interested in helping, please do get in touch with them – your support makes a huge difference.

Monday also saw the first Local Schools Committee (LSC) meeting of the year. It was a productive discussion where we considered the school's priorities for the coming year and how these will be monitored. I am grateful to our governors for the commitment and expertise they bring in supporting the school. Please see the message on the next page from Mrs Fossey, our LSC chair.

Earlier this week, I met with Miss Chambers to discuss the upcoming sporting events that Larchwood pupils will be taking part in as part of the Shenfield Sports Partnership (SSP). Sport is such an important part of school life and our commitment to this is highlighted by the fact we currently hold the School Games Platinum award. We aim to enter as many competitions as possible to give our children opportunities to compete, represent the school and develop their skills and this starts next week with archery.

Looking ahead, there are some key diary dates included in this newsletter, but today you will also receive the full list of events taking us right through to the end of the academic year. Please keep it



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somewhere handy so you can refer back to it – it's going to be another busy and exciting year.

### A message from Mrs Fossey our Chair of Governors.

On Monday evening the Governors had our first meeting of the year. Mr Bowsher shared updates about the building work over the summer and news of the successful start to the term for staff and pupils. We discussed the school priorities for the year ahead and reviewed the Parent Survey that many of you filled in via the QR code at the Celebration Evening. We do have an opening to join our team so if you expressed an interest in volunteering, I may well be in touch!

### Best Start in Life – letter from the government

We have been asked to share the following letter from the government regarding their new initiative 'Best Start in Life' for childcare and the early years. Please see the letter [here](#).



### Mr Bowsher's Superstar Award

Daisy in 6R for demonstrating all of our school values and starting Year 6 so well.



### Stars of the Week

RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM
All of RA	Theodor	Kiki	Freddie	Sofia	Millie	Ezra
3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R
Rowan	Reese	Zachary	Grace G	Wyatt	Acacia-Mai	Aaryan



### Reading at Home

Well done 4CH and 6H. Reception figures will be counted for Reception next week. All parents, please see my letter coming home regarding reading expectations.

Class	Table shows numbers of children and percentages who read from <b>Monday 8 September to Friday 12 September</b>			Percentage Read 4 & 5 times %
	Less than 4	4	5	
RA	-	-	-	-
RT	-	-	-	-
1B	3 (10%)	6 (20%)	21 (70%)	27 (90%)
1G	3 (10%)	6 (21%)	20 (69%)	26 (90%)
2C	4 (13%)	5 (17%)	20 (70%)	25 (87%)
2P	1 (3%)	5 (19%)	17 (63%)	22 (82%)
3LM	4 (15%)	6 (21%)	18 (64%)	24 (85%)
3T	4 (13%)	3 (12%)	21 (75%)	24 (75%)
4CH	0 (0%)	8 (27%)	21 (73%)	29 (100%)
4J	1 (4%)	7 (23%)	22 (73%)	29 (96%)
5L	1 (4%)	5 (17%)	23 (79%)	28 (96%)
5P	4 (17%)	8 (29%)	15 (54%)	24 (83%)
6R	1 (3%)	7 (24%)	21 (73%)	28 (97%)
6H	0 (0%)	4 (15%)	23 (85%)	27 (100%)
Total				90.0%



## Diary Dates

Thursday 18 September	Year 1 phonics workshop 14.30
Friday 19 September	Year 5 Science Dome visit
Tuesday 23 September	Reception Tapestry meeting 09.00
Friday 3 October	Reception Don Rae dance workshop
Tuesday 7 October	LPPA AGM 18.00
Friday 10 October	Year 3 and 4 Author visit
Tuesday 14 October	Individual school photographs
Wednesday 15 October	Parent consultations 15.30 – 18.00
Thursday 16 October	Parent consultations 16.30 – 19.00
Friday 17 October	Break up for half term
Monday 3 November	Return to school
Tuesday 11 November	Flu jabs
Tuesday 2 December	LPPA Christmas wreath making
Friday 19 December	Break up



## Weekly Attendance

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

Class	RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM	Whole school
Attendance	96.9%	98.4%	98.0%	94.7%	98.3%	94.7%	92.7%	
Class	3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R	96.1%
Attendance	97.9%	94.8%	98.1%	99.7%	94.1%	93.1%	93.7%	

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



## Yearly Attendance

### Yearly Attendance – from 1 September 2025

Class	RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM	Whole school
Attendance	97.9%	98.6%	98.0%	96.3%	97.8%	97.0%	94.1%	
Class	3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R	96.8%
Attendance	98.0%	95.6%	97.6%	99.5%	95.9%	92.7%	96.3%	

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
5L	RE	1B & 3T



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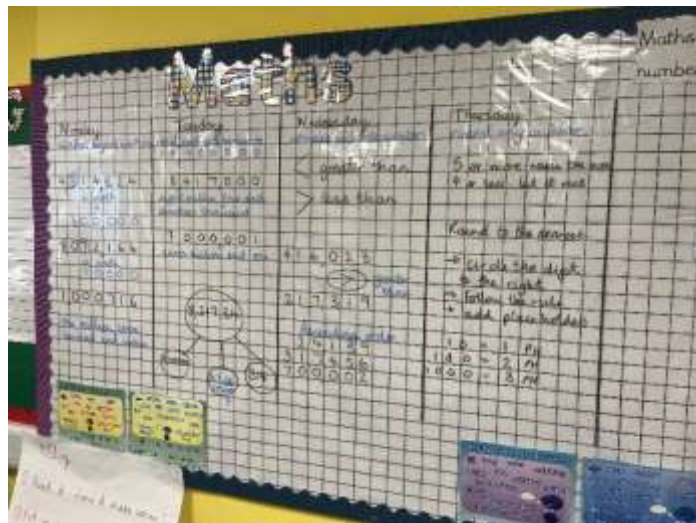
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