



NEWS & VIEWS

Achievement & Enjoyment

Headteacher Mr S Bowsher



Mr Bowsher's Headteacher Comment:

We are now exactly halfway through the school year and it has been a really positive end to the half term, culminating in the two parent consultation evenings. Sharing how your child is doing at school and how we can work together to help them develop further is a key part of the school's success. The positive atmosphere in the hall and classrooms over the last two evenings was a real joy. Thank you for taking the time to attend and engage in these important conversations.

Thank you as well to all the parents who completed the parent survey. With nearly 400 responses, the feedback was overwhelmingly positive once again. It is reassuring to know we are getting things right and it is fantastic to have such supportive parents. This is something we certainly do not take for granted, and we will continue to reflect on your comments as we move forward.

On Tuesday we met with our pupil panels to discuss maths at Larchwood. The feedback they gave was extremely positive and helpful.

Tuesday also marked Safer Internet Day and Mrs Hyde, our Computing Lead, delivered an assembly focused on '*Thinking Smart in the Age of AI*'. Children also took part in live lessons exploring how artificial intelligence is now part of our everyday lives. Learning to use it effectively, safely and sensibly is key, which is why it has been such an important focus.

Year 6 have had a particularly busy week. We welcomed Richard and Darren from the Magistrates' Association, who spoke about the role of magistrates, discussed crime and its impact, and led a mock trial. The sessions were extremely well received and provided valuable insight into citizenship and the rule of law.

On Wednesday, Year 6 visited St Martin's, another school in our Academy Trust, to watch their performance of *We Will Rock You*. The show was excellent and it was lovely to see some former pupils. Year 5 will visit later in the year to see *High School Musical*.

Although the children will be enjoying a well-earned rest over half term, school will remain busy. We have upgrades planned for the Year 4 and 5 toilets as well as the Reception toilets. New classroom screens will also be installed in a couple of rooms, along with new internet cabling in part of the building to strengthen our IT infrastructure.

Looking ahead, a letter has been sent home about Science Week, beginning on 9 March. This year's theme is '*Curiosity – what's your question?*' The project showcase will take place on 12 March and we look forward to seeing the children's fantastic work. Half term is a great time to get started. Mrs Morgan has also shared some ideas for half term from the RHS which tie in nicely with Children's Mental Health Week this week – please do take a look [here](#).

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a wonderful half term. Keep up with the reading – if you do nothing else, share a book with your child every day!



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Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) Battle of the Bands

Battle of the Bands is now at the end of week 5 and scores are going up. 6H beat 4J in a close battle. 6R won against 4CH, 5L won against 3T, 3LM won against 5P.

	W	D	L	Points
5L	5	0	0	15
4J	4	0	1	13
6H	4	0	1	13
3T	2	0	1	9
3LM	2	0	3	9
6R	2	0	3	9
4CH	1	0	4	7
5P	0	0	5	5

Week 6 battles:

No battles until after half term!



Mrs Bowsher's Superstar Award

David in 2C for demonstrating the value of responsibility.



Stars of the Week

RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM
Sebastian	Cody	Missy	Layla	Cristiano	Natalie	Briar-Rose
3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R
Theo	Jack	Dilan	John	Vania	Amelia-Lily	James



Reading at Home

Well done to the 4 classes who met the expectations. Keep it up over half term.

Class	Table shows numbers of children and percentages who read from Monday 9 February to Friday 13 February			Percentage Read 4 & 5 times %
	Less than 4	4	5	
RA	2 (8%)	3 (11%)	22 (81%)	25 (92%)
RE	6 (24%)	1 (4%)	18 (72%)	19 (76%)
1B	4 (14%)	2 (4%)	23 (82%)	25 (86%)
1G	0 (0%)	5 (17%)	24 (83%)	29 (100%)
2C	3 (10%)	2 (7%)	24 (83%)	26 (90%)
2P	4 (16%)	1 (3%)	22 (81%)	23 (84%)
3LM	3 (12%)	3 (9%)	23 (79%)	26 (88%)
3T	1 (4%)	9 (32%)	18 (64%)	27 (96%)
4CH	4 (13%)	13 (42%)	14 (45%)	27 (87%)
4J	0 (0%)	7 (13%)	24 (87%)	31 (100%)
5L	0 (0%)	10 (33%)	20 (67%)	30 (100%)
5P	2 (6%)	8 (28%)	19 (66%)	27 (94%)
6R	1 (4%)	0 (0%)	27 (96%)	27 (96%)
6H	0 (0%)	4 (14%)	24 (86%)	28 (100%)
Total				92.1%



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Diary Dates

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
Monday 2 March	Boys football cup quarter final vs Holly Trees
Tuesday 3 March	Class RA phonics session
Tuesday 3 March	Year 1 'come-dine with me'
Tuesday 3 March	Year 5 / 6 Tag Rugby
Friday 6 March	Larchwood World Book Day
Friday 6 March	Parent reading drop in morning
Tuesday 10 March	Class RE phonics session
Tuesday 10 March	Year 3 'come-dine with me'
Friday 13 March	LPPA Quiz Night
Friday 13 March	LPPA Rainbow Raffle
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 9 February 2026

Class	RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM	Whole school
Attendance	90.8%	94.0%	95.0%	99.6%	97.0%	94.0%	96.3%	
Class	3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R	95.6%
Attendance	96.5%	94.3%	96.5%	98.5%	94.0%	95.0%	97.5%	

1 st	2 nd	3 rd
1G	5L	6R



Yearly Attendance

Yearly Attendance – from 1 September 2025

Class	RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM	Whole school
Attendance	93.6%	94.0%	96.9%	96.5%	97.5%	94.3%	95.7%	
Class	3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R	95.6%
Attendance	96.3%	95.2%	96.1%	96.4%	96.2%	92.9%	96.9%	

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



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**FREE WEBINARS
FOR PARENTS/CARERS**
of primary aged children to support with
mental health and wellbeing

Provided by your Mental Health Support Team
@essexmhst_and_setcamhs

**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

bit.ly/3MaR1wJ



Striving to provide the best care by the best people

