Friday 13 November 2026

# NEWS & VIEWS

Achievement & Enjoyment

Headteacher Mr S Bowsher

## Mr Bowsher's Headteacher Comment:

This week has been another busy week at Larchwood and today has been no exception. We have seen children come into school dressed as famous sports people, making a donation to BBC Children in Need. We were particularly lucky this afternoon to receive a visit from the real 'Pudsey Bear' and BBC Essex. We may even make an appearance on BBC Look East news this evening! It has been a fantastic day all round and a lovely way to support such a worthwhile cause.

**School Attendance**

One of the things we place great importance on at Larchwood is good school attendance. We want all children to be in school every day, learning, making progress and enjoying everything our school has to offer. Being in school regularly is fundamental to children's success, both academically and socially.

Every day matters. Lessons build on previous learning, and when children are absent, they can miss important knowledge and skills needed for future lessons. Regular attendance also helps children establish good routines, develop friendships, build confidence and feel part of their class. Children are much more likely to achieve their potential when they attend school consistently.

Last year, our school attendance was above the national average, which we were really pleased with. However, during the first half of this term, attendance has fallen compared with the same period last year. This is something we need to improve, and I would ask all parents to support us. We understand that children become ill and sometimes genuinely need time off. However, holidays and days out should not be taken during term time. Children should be in school.

To celebrate good attendance, each week, classes achieving over 98% receive a certificate for their classroom door and extra break time. In addition, all children achieving 98% or above across the term are entered into a raffle for our Headteacher's Tea Party at the start of the following term, with 20 lucky winners selected. Please do everything you can to ensure your child is in school as much as possible.

**Anti-Bullying Week**

Next week is Anti-Bullying Week. This year's theme is **'Break the Silence'**, encouraging children to speak up if they experience or witness bullying as well as accept we are all different. Children will explore this in assembly and through classroom activities. Next Friday, we will celebrate individuality by wearing odd socks with school uniform. The brighter and more colourful, the better!

**Goodbye**

Miss Curno, who works in our school office, will be leaving us today. She has been a key member of our office team and many of you will have seen her at the office window. Her new role is much closer to home and will save her around two hours of travelling every day. I'm sure you will join me in wishing her all the very best for the future.

# Mr Bowsher's Superstar Award

Alexandra in 3T for demonstrating the value of friendship and responsibility.

# Stars of the Week

| RA | RE | 1B | 1G | 2IM | 2P | 3LC |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nancy | Azela | Sadie | Dominic | Albert | Aurelia | Ilham |
| 3T | 4C | 4J | 5L | 5P | 6H | 6R |
| Orla-Blossom | Marnie | Leon | Zachary | Markus | Zachary | Bobby-Gray |

# Reading at Home

Great effort from our youngest and oldest children this week.

| Class | Table shows numbers of children and percentages who read from **Monday 9 November to Friday 13 November** | | | Percentage Read 4 & 5 times % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Less than 4 | 4 | 5 | |
| RA | 0 (13%) | 8 (26%) | 21 (73%) | **29 (100%)** |
| RE | 8 (11%) | 5 (18%) | 17 (61%) | 27 (79%) |
| 1B | 7 (27%) | 4 (14%) | 16 (59%) | 20 (75%) |
| 1G | 1 (4%) | 6 (23%) | 19 (73%) | 25 (96%) |
| 2IM | 3 (10%) | 4 (13%) | 23 (77%) | 27 (90%) |
| 2P | 2 (8%) | 6 (23%) | 18 (69%) | 24 (92%) |
| 3LC | 8 (27%) | 4 (13%) | 18 (60%) | 22 (73%) |
| 3T | 3 (10%) | 3 (11%) | 22 (79%) | 25 (90%) |
| 4C | 6 (22%) | 4 (14%) | 18 (78%) | 22 (78%) |
| 4J | 2 (8%) | 9 (19%) | 16 (92%) | 25 (92%) |
| 5L | 1 (3%) | 9 (28%) | 22 (69%) | 31 (97%) |
| 5P | 4 (14%) | 13 (45%) | 12 (41%) | 25 (86%) |
| 6R | 4 (14%) | 5 (17%) | 21 (70%) | 26 (75%) |
| 6H | 0 (0%) | 6 (21%) | 22 (79%) | **28 (100%)** |
| Total | | | | **80.2%** |

# Diary Dates

| | |
|---|---|
| Monday 16 November | Start of Anti-bullying week |
| Friday 20 November | Odd socks day for antibullying week |
| Friday 4 December | LPPA Christmas Market |
| Tuesday 8 December | Reception Nativity 14.00 |
| Wednesday 9 December | Reception Nativity 14.00 |
| Wednesday 9 December | LPPA pop-up shop |
| Thursday 10 December | LPPA pop-up shop |
| Thursday 10 December | Year 1 Sing-a-long (pm) |
| Monday 14 December | Don Rae Pantomime |
| Tuesday 15 December | Christmas Sing-a-long 2IM, 3T, 4C, 5L, 6H |
| Wednesday 16 December | Christmas lunch, jumper day and Disco |
| Thursday 17 December | Christmas Sing-a-long 2P, 3LC, 4J, 5P, 6R |
| Friday 18 December | Break up |

# Weekly Attendance

**Weekly Attendance – week commencing Monday 9 November 2026**

| Class | RA | RE | 1B | 1G | 2IM | 2P | 3LC | Whole school |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Attendance | 93.6% | 90.3% | 95.8% | 92.0% | 95.0% | 91.3% | 92.9% | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Class | 3T | 4C | 4J | 5L | 5P | 6H | 6R | 94.1% |
| Attendance | 96.0% | 91.0% | 94.8% | 96.8% | 98.6% | 91.0% | 98.0% | |

| 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
|---|---|---|
| 5P | 6R | 5L |

# Yearly Attendance

**Yearly Attendance – from 2 September 2026**

| Class | RA | RE | 1B | 1G | 2IM | 2P | 3LC | Whole school |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Attendance | 95.1% | 94.3% | 93.3% | 94.3% | 96.7% | 95.6% | 92.1% | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Class | 3T | 4C | 4J | 5L | 5P | 6H | 6R | 94.8% |
| Attendance | 97.3% | 94.4% | 94.2% | 93.9% | 95.1% | 94.5% | 96.6% | |

| 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
|---|---|---|
| 3T | 2IM | 6R |

Larchwood Primary School

Anti-Bullying Week
BREAK THE SILENCE

# ODD SOCKS DAY!

## Friday 20th November

Children are invited to wear odd socks to celebrate individuality and what makes us unique!



Let's stand together, celebrate difference and help to #BreakTheSilence.











