



NEWS & VIEWS

Achievement & Enjoyment

Headteacher Mr S Bowsher



Mr Bowsher's Headteacher Comment:

This week, the school has once again been a hive of activity. Alongside the usual busy school life, our Year 6 pupils have been taking their SATs assessments. As mentioned last week, these tests are completed by children across the country and help to measure the progress they have made since starting primary school, as well as ensuring they are ready for the next stage of their education at secondary school. We are incredibly proud of the way all of the children approached the assessments. They worked extremely hard throughout the week, just as they have done over the past seven years, and their positive attitude and determination have been wonderful to see.

At the other end of the school, I have now had the pleasure of speaking with all our new Reception parents. They already sound like they are going to be fantastic additions to the Larchwood family. I am beginning to recognise the names of those who already have siblings in school and who I see regularly at drop off and pick up times. Although the children have not officially started school yet, they will now begin receiving News and Views, so a very warm welcome to you all.

I also thought this would be a good opportunity to check in on our sunflower growing competition! My two sunflower seeds germinated very quickly and were moved into larger pots. Unfortunately, they then decided to stop growing, but I'm hopeful they will. While walking around school, I noticed that several members of staff have sunflowers proudly growing on their windowsills. Mrs Dansey's sunflower is significantly taller than mine already! I hope your growing efforts are proving just as successful. Don't forget that the closing date for picture entries is 10 July. Good luck everyone.

This week has also included some fantastic enrichment opportunities. All classes from Year 1 upwards took part in a live art lesson as part of the annual Brentwood Art Trail (work from this can be dropped at the Chicken and Frog bookshop over the next two weeks), Year 2 enjoyed a trip to the local park to investigate play equipment as part of their Design and Technology topic. As you can imagine, this involved lots of very hands-on research!

Finally, a reminder that next week ends with our Cultural Diversity Day, where we celebrate the many cultures represented within our community. Children may wear traditional clothing or clothes that represent their culture. Weather permitting, we will finish the day together on the field, enjoying traditional games along with cakes and drinks kindly provided by the LPPA.

Mrs Fossey, Chair of the Local Governors writes:

Governors were in school during SATs this week to monitor the administration of the papers and check that everyone in school was following the correct procedures. We would like to congratulate all Year 6 pupils for conducting themselves so well during the tests - you are a credit to Larchwood! We would also like to thank all the staff who contribute to the smooth running of the proceedings. Everyone involved has a clear understanding of their responsibility as well as caring for all individual pupils. The whole school was incredibly calm and purposeful. Congratulations and thanks to all.



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Job Opportunity

We are looking for an additional midday to join our staff team. If you think you have what it takes to join the lunchtime team then take a look at the advert [here](#) or speak to Mr Bowsher or Mrs Jaycock.

Naming Clothing

Just a reminder to please make sure all clothing, particularly jumpers and cardigans are named. We continue to have a large pile of jumpers and cardigans at lost property. Please spend a couple of minutes this weekend making sure all jumpers are named. If your child has lost one, feel free to come round to lost property.



Mr Bowsher's Superstar Award

Ian in 5L for his excellent explanations of his learning.



Stars of the Week

RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM
Frankie	Layla-Mae	Phoebe	Harry	Florence	Jack	Finley
3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R
Jamie	Rayzel	Joseph	George	Sonny	All of 6R	All of 6H



Reading at Home

Well done 6R, 4CH and 4J. We need to see an improvement with the other classes, especially RA, RE and 3LM.

Class	Table shows numbers of children and percentages who read from Tuesday 11 May to Friday 15 May			Percentage Read 4 & 5 times %
	Less than 4	4	5	
RA	7 (28%)	8 (32%)	10 (40%)	18 (72%)
RE	2 (8%)	6 (22%)	19 (70%)	25 (70%)
1B	4 (13%)	5 (17%)	20 (70%)	25 (87%)
1G	2 (6%)	8 (28%)	19 (66%)	27 (94%)
2C	2 (7%)	7 (25%)	19 (68%)	26 (93%)
2P	2 (4%)	8 (31%)	16 (61%)	24 (92%)
3LM	7 (22%)	10 (32%)	14 (46%)	24 (78%)
3T	6 (20%)	8 (28%)	15 (52%)	23 (80%)
4CH	0 (0%)	5 (17%)	24 (83%)	29 (100%)
4J	0 (0%)	7 (23%)	24 (77%)	31 (100%)
5L	3 (10%)	8 (28%)	18 (62%)	26 (90%)
5P	1 (4%)	9 (32%)	18 (64%)	27 (96%)
6R	0 (0%)	9 (32%)	19 (68%)	28 (100%)
6H	1 (4%)	4 (14%)	23 (82%)	27 (96%)
Total				89.1%



Diary Dates

Tuesday 19 May	Year 6 rearranged 'come dine with me'
Friday 22 May	Cultural Diversity Day
Friday 22 May	Drumming workshops
Friday 22 May	LPPA ice cream sale
Friday 22 May	Break up for half term
Tuesday 2 June	Girls cricket tournament
Thursday 4 June	Year 5 trip to Colchester Zoo
Tuesday 9 June	Year 5 visit to St Martins to watch High School Musical
Monday 15 June	Reception, Year 1 and 2 sports day
Wednesday 17 June	Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 sports day
Tuesday 23 June	Year 3 Roman Day
Thursday 25 June	Year 1 Call of the Wild Trip
Friday 26 June	LPPA BBQ and bounce
Monday 29 June	Year 6 residential to Mersea Island
Tuesday 14 July	Celebration Evening



Weekly Attendance

Weekly Attendance – week commencing Monday 11 May 2026

Class	RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM	Whole school
Attendance	93.5%	93.1%	96.5%	96.7%	97.2%	94.2%	96.6%	
Class	3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R	
Attendance	96.4%	95.5%	96.5%	96.2%	96.0%	95.6%	97.5%	

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



Yearly Attendance

Yearly Attendance – from 1 September 2025

Class	RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM	Whole school
Attendance	%	93.0%	96.5%	96.7%	97.4%	94.1%	96.6%	
Class	3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R	
Attendance	96.4%	95.5%	96.5%	96.3%	96.3%	95.5%	97.4%	

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



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