



NEWS & VIEWS

Achievement & Enjoyment

Headteacher Mr S Bowsher



Mr Bowsher's Headteacher Comment:

It has been a very chilly week, but that hasn't made things any less busy here in school. On Tuesday our Year 5 boys took part in a football tournament at Brentwood Football Club. This was the first time we have entered this competition, and the boys represented us brilliantly, growing in confidence and improving with every game they played – I on the other hand, have only just warmed up!

Following my letter earlier in the week about the importance of punctuality, it has been great to hear from so many parents who are always on time and equally surprised that a number of children regularly arrive late. Just to be clear, we fully understand that the occasional late arrival can't be helped. Our concern is with those who are persistently late. Encouragingly, we have already seen fewer late arrivals as the week has gone on.

The standout event this week was undoubtedly our reading afternoon in Reception as well as the reading morning across the rest of the school. The children absolutely loved having you come in and share books with them. While we normally do this as part of World Book Day, holding these events more regularly is a wonderful way to strengthen the bond between home and school as well as develop the love of reading.

Carrying on the same theme of reading and to continue promoting reading at home, as well as to celebrate the return of the Scholastic Book Fair next month, we will be selecting five lucky readers who manage five home reads next week. Each will receive a £5 voucher to spend at the fair as well as their usual 'well done' text from me.

As you can tell, reading has been a big theme this week, but it is just one part of our English curriculum. In a new feature for *News and Views*, our subject leaders will be sharing more about their areas each. Below is Mrs Johnson's piece on English. Have a wonderful weekend.

All about English – Mrs Johnson Year 4 teacher and English subject leader

At Larchwood, we want every child to become a confident, enthusiastic reader, writer and speaker. We believe that a love of language brings learning to life, and our English curriculum is designed to help children feel inspired, capable and proud of their progress.

A key part of our approach is the use of high-quality texts. These rich and engaging books – from picture books and novels to poetry and non-fiction – help children develop emotionally, socially and culturally, while also giving them strong models for their own writing. These texts spark meaningful discussions and provide the foundation for the wide range of writing styles we teach, including stories, explanations, reports, persuasive pieces and poetry.

Reading enjoyment matters enormously to us. Through whole-class reading sessions, children explore vocabulary, practise key comprehension skills and share their ideas with others. We want them to read widely and often, and to discover that books can be a source of both pleasure and knowledge.



DISCOVERY
EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Chief Executive Officer: Mr R Duff

Larchwood Primary School is proud to be part of the Discovery Educational Trust



www.larchwoodprimary.co.uk



@LarchwoodPS



office@larchwood.essex.sch.uk

In writing, children learn to express their ideas clearly and accurately. They are encouraged to edit and improve their work, building resilience and pride in their achievements. Speaking and listening are woven throughout lessons, helping children develop confidence in discussions, debates and performances.

We support every child through high-quality phonics teaching, well-planned lessons and, when needed, targeted interventions. Our aim is for all children to leave Larchwood as fluent readers, thoughtful writers and articulate speakers, equipped with the skills they need for secondary school and beyond.

Reception Tours for September 2026

If you have a child who will be starting school in 2026, or know someone who does, please do book a place on one of our weekly tours. You can do this easily by calling or emailing the school office. The closing date for applications via the Essex website is 15 January 2026 and can be done [here](#).



Mr Bowsher's Superstar Award

Frankie in 6R for demonstrating the value of friendship.



Stars of the Week

RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM
Leo	Kate	Rameen	Mia	Daniella	Isobel	Adalee
3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R
Ronnie-Rose	Lilly-Mae	Zarish	Charlie	Mia	Mackenzie	Isla



Reading at Home

Well done all the children reading 5 times. Keep it up next week.

Class	Table shows numbers of children and percentages who read from Monday 17 November to Friday 21 November			Percentage Read 4 & 5 times %
	Less than 4	4	5	
RA	3 (14%)	4 (18%)	15 (68%)	19 (86%)
RE	2 (8%)	4 (14%)	21 (78%)	25 (92%)
1B	5 (16%)	2 (7%)	23 (77%)	25 (84%)
1G	3 (9%)	3 (11%)	23 (80%)	26 (91%)
2C	3 (11%)	2 (7%)	23 (82%)	25 (89%)
2P	3 (11%)	1 (4%)	22 (85%)	23 (89%)
3LM	4 (13%)	9 (30%)	17 (57%)	26 (87%)
3T	0 (0%)	9 (32%)	19 (68%)	28 (100%)
4CH	0 (0%)	9 (28%)	23 (72%)	32 (100%)
4J	1 (3%)	9 (31%)	19 (66%)	28 (97%)
5L	1 (3%)	6 (21%)	22 (76%)	28 (97%)
5P	0 (0%)	6 (23%)	20 (77%)	26 (100%)
6R	0 (0%)	2 (7%)	27 (93%)	29 (100%)
6H	0 (0%)	5 (19%)	22 (81%)	27 (100%)
Total				93.7%



DISCOVERY
EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Chief Executive Officer: Mr R Duff

Larchwood Primary School is proud to be part of the Discovery Educational Trust



www.larchwoodprimary.co.uk



@LarchwoodPS



office@larchwood.essex.sch.uk



Diary Dates

Monday 24 November	Year 6 Girls football match vs Bentley St Pauls
Tuesday 25 November	Year 3 boys football tournament
Tuesday 2 December	LPPA Christmas wreath making
Tuesday 2 December	Tag rugby tournament
Friday 5 December	LPPA Christmas market
Tuesday 9 December	Reception Nativity (pm)
Wednesday 10 December	Reception Nativity (pm)
Wednesday 10 December	LPPA Pop-up shop
Thursday 11 December	LPPA Pop-up shop
Thursday 11 December	Year 1 Sing-a-long
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
Wednesday 17 December	Christmas Dinner and Christmas jumper day / Discos
Friday 19 December	Break up
Monday 5 January	Staff training day / non-pupil day
Tuesday 6 January	Pupils return to school



Weekly Attendance

Weekly Attendance – week commencing Monday 17 November 2025

Class	RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM	Whole school
Attendance	85.9%	95.2%	98.7%	97.3%	97.9%	89.3%	95.3%	
Class	3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R	94.3%
Attendance	95.7%	97.8%	90.9%	97.0%	89.7%	93.4%	96.7%	

1 st	2 nd	3 rd
1B	2C	4CH



Yearly Attendance

Yearly Attendance – from 1 September 2025

Class	RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM	Whole school
Attendance	95.3%	92.6%	97.3%	96.4%	98.2%	95.4%	95.8%	
Class	3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R	95.9%
Attendance	97.3%	95.2%	95.9%	97.6%	95.8%	93.2%	97.1%	

1 st	2 nd	3 rd
2C	5L	1B



DISCOVERY
EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Chief Executive Officer: Mr R Duff

Larchwood Primary School is proud to be part of the Discovery Educational Trust



www.larchwoodprimary.co.uk



@LarchwoodPS



office@larchwood.essex.sch.uk





CHRISTMAS

Volunteers Needed

FRIDAY 5TH DEC

We are looking for volunteers for a variety of roles, to help us provide a wonderful Christmas market for the children to enjoy.

We have varying hours that need covering, any time you can spare we would be grateful for.

If this is something you, your partner, nans, grandads, aunts or uncles would like to be a part of, please email larchwoodpa@yahoo.com or get in contact with one of the LPPA team members.



DISCOVERY
EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Chief Executive Officer: Mr R Duff

Larchwood Primary School is proud to be part of the Discovery Educational Trust



www.larchwoodprimary.co.uk



@LarchwoodPS



office@larchwood.essex.sch.uk