



NEWS & VIEWS

Achievement & Enjoyment

Headteacher Mr S Bowsher



Headteacher Comment:

As teachers and school staff we are fortunate to spend our day with children and watch them grow physically, emotionally and academically into secondary ready children. By the time children leave Larchwood they are ready for this next journey.

We don't always know what the next part of the journey really looks like. If we are to believe the media, it will often paint a picture of teenagers who cause nothing but trouble. This is far from the truth, they will be working hard, passing important exams and heading off to work, college or university.

This week I was fortunate to be able to help Anglia Ruskin University (ARU), based in Chelmsford, interview prospective candidates for their new three-year teaching degree. This is a brand-new degree and the only new one approved by the DfE this year. ARU is also ranked 7th in the country for Education training in what is an extensive list. If I was starting my career again, I would be looking to train there.

The impressive campus and exciting course was not the biggest highlight though. It was interviewing 17 and 18 year olds who already had a passion for working with children and wanting to make a difference to their lives. They were aware of the long hours teachers work, the many, many jobs they do on top of teaching children and the challenges in the profession, but still wanted to be part of that. Many of them had already built up experience of working with children through T-levels, work experience and volunteering. They were a credit to themselves, their families and the schools that they have attended to this point. Many of them talked about a primary school teacher who had inspired them. It was a very positive experience for me to meet these brilliant young people.

The promotional material for this new course has pictures of our children on them and we have signed up to have some of these future teachers training at Larchwood. I can say with assurance that these teachers of the future are going to be a credit to the profession. It would be great to see the education journey for these young people end where it started, at primary school.

Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) Battle of the Bands

The TTRS competition is going from strength to strength with record numbers of children participating. Please remember, the purpose of the competition is to get the children to learn all their times tables and this should be a fun way to do this. After 3 rounds of competition, the leader board looks like this:

| | W | D | L | Points |
|-----|---|---|---|--------|
| 3C | 3 | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| 5L | 3 | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| 4T | 2 | 0 | 1 | 7 |
| 6C | 2 | 0 | 1 | 7 |
| 6R | 1 | 0 | 2 | 5 |
| 3B | 1 | 0 | 2 | 5 |
| 4LC | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| 5P | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 |

Week 4 Battles:

5L vs 3B

3C vs 5P

6R vs 4LC

4T vs 6C



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Vacancies

Do you enjoy working with children? Do you have limited time in the day and want a job that works around the school day? We are currently looking to recruit additional midday assistants to join our dedicated lunchtime team. The details can be found [here](#) or speak to Mr Bowsher or Mrs Jaycock.

Word of the Week

| Reception | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
|-----------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|-----------|
| Create | Injure | Confirm | Aware | Concept | Hence | Legislate |



Mr Bowsher's Superstar Award

Freddie (RT) for demonstrating all the school values.



Stars of the Week

| | | | | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|----------|--------|-----------|--------|
| RM | RT | 1A | 1P | 2C | 2G | 3B |
| David | Millie | Xavier | Amelia.P | Olivia | Scarlett | Olivia |
| 3C | 4LC | 4T | 5L | 5P | 6C | 6R |
| Daniel | Hannah | Betsy | Rubie | Harry | Ella-Rose | Carter |



Reading at Home

Overall, pretty good this week and well done 6C as overall winners. Come on Reception, it should be better.

| Class | Table shows numbers of children and percentages who read from Monday 22 nd January 2024 to Friday 26 th January 2024 | | | Percentage Read 4 & 5 times % |
|-------|---|----------|----------|-------------------------------|
| | Less than 4 | 4 | 5 | |
| RM | 4 (14%) | 3 (11%) | 22 (75%) | 86% |
| RT | 5 (19%) | 10 (37%) | 12 (44%) | 81% |
| 1A | 3 (10%) | 8 (28%) | 18 (62%) | 90% |
| 1P | 2 (6%) | 8 (29%) | 18 (65%) | 94% |
| 2C | 1 (4%) | 2 (7%) | 24 (89%) | 96% |
| 2G | 0 (0%) | 5 (18%) | 23 (82%) | 100% |
| 3B | 0 (0%) | 5 (18%) | 22 (82%) | 100% |
| 3C | 0 (0%) | 3 (11%) | 25 (89%) | 100% |
| 4LC | 0 (0%) | 6 (22%) | 22 (78%) | 100% |
| 4T | 0 (0%) | 9 (33%) | 18 (67%) | 100% |
| 5L | 3 (10%) | 6 (21%) | 20 (69%) | 90% |
| 5P | 3 (10%) | 4 (26%) | 17 (63%) | 89% |
| 6C | 0 (0%) | 1 (3%) | 28 (97%) | 100% |
| 6R | 1 (3%) | 6 (23%) | 19 (74%) | 97% |
| Total | | | | 94.5% |



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Diary Dates

Below are some of the important dates coming up this term:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Friday 26 th January | Year 4 Viking Day |
| Tuesday 30 th January | Young Voices at the O2 |
| Thursday 1 st February | Early Years Maths workshop (2:30pm) |
| Tuesday 6 th February | Year 6 Mayan civilisation workshop |
| Wednesday 7 th February | Road safety day for Year 5 and Reception |
| Thursday 8 th February | Don Rae dance workshop for Year 1 and 2 |
| Thursday 8 th February | DET Trustee meeting at Larchwood |
| Friday 9 th February | Author visit Year 3 - 6 |
| Wednesday 14 th February | Parent Consultations (3:30pm-6:00pm) |
| Thursday 15 th February | Parent Consultations (5:30pm-8:00pm) |
| Friday 16 th February | Break up for half term |
| Monday 26 th February | Back to school |
| Friday 8 th March | Larchwood World Book Day |
| Friday 22 nd March | Don Rae dance workshop Year 4 |
| Tuesday 26 th March | Reports sent home |
| Wednesday 27 th March | Easter discos |
| Thursday 28 th March | Break up |



Weekly Attendance

Weekly Attendance – week commencing Monday 22nd January 2024

| Class | RM | RT | 1A | 1P | 2C | 2G | 3B | Whole school |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|
| Attendance | 93.0% | 90.0% | 97.3% | 94.8% | 92.0% | 94.3% | 92.3% | |
| Class | 3C | 4LC | 4T | 5L | 5P | 6C | 6R | |
| Attendance | 96.0% | 92.0% | 91.0% | 96.7% | 89.3% | 94.1% | 87.9% | |

| 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1A | 5L | 3C |



Yearly Attendance

Yearly Attendance – from 6th September 2023

| Class | RM | RT | 1A | 1P | 2C | 2G | 3B | Whole school |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|
| Attendance | 96.7% | 94.2% | 95.8% | 95.3% | 96.2% | 96.0% | 95.6% | |
| Class | 3C | 4LC | 4T | 5L | 5P | 6C | 6R | |
| Attendance | 96.3% | 95.2% | 93.8% | 95.3% | 95.1% | 96.7% | 93.5% | |

| 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| RM & 6C | 3C | 2C |



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