



NEWS & VIEWS

Achievement & Enjoyment

Headteacher Mr S Bowsher



Mr Bowsher's Headteacher Comment:

As we approach the end of term, school has continued to be busy with learning and a wide range of enrichment activities. Over the last few weeks, teachers have been working hard to write their end-of-year reports, and I have the privilege of reading all 420 of them. It is always a pleasure to see the progress our children have made throughout the year and to celebrate how well they have done.

Our Year 6 children are just about to complete their seventh year at our school and, this week, they have been enjoying their residential visit to Mersea. On Wednesday afternoon, I was fortunate enough to visit them, join in with one of their activities—luckily for me, off-road biking—and stay for dinner (and watch the second half of the football). The feedback from our staff and the Mersea team has been overwhelmingly positive. The children have been polite, respectful and sensible throughout the week and have embraced every activity with enthusiasm and determination – they are having a fab time.

I was also given the important responsibility of judging the room inspection before dinner. Never let it be said that children can't keep a room tidy! We visited seven cabins, each with everything perfectly in its place, and every group managed to provide us with some excellent entertainment as well. I was incredibly impressed by them all. A huge thank you to Miss Rimmer, Mrs Jaycock, Mrs Johnson, Mrs Pirie and Miss Colesell for looking after the children so well and helping to make the residential such a memorable experience.

Back in school, there has been no shortage of exciting learning opportunities. Today, Year 5 took part in a fantastic BMX workshop with Mike Mullen, developing both their cycling skills and confidence. On Thursday, Years 1 and 5 enjoyed a map workshop, strengthening their geographical knowledge and map-reading skills. Wednesday was also French Day, when children in Years 3, 4 and 5 came to school wearing red, white and blue and immersed themselves in a variety of French-themed activities. There was French-inspired art, plenty of opportunities to practise the language and lots of new learning throughout the day. The LPPA generously provided croissants and chocolate milk (it was definitely too warm for hot chocolate!), giving the day an even more authentic feel.

Next week promises to be just as busy. The forecast suggests we will continue to enjoy warm weather, although it does not currently look as hot as last week. As always, we will make any necessary adjustments if temperatures become particularly high, and it is worth remembering that we are fortunate to have air conditioning in some of our classrooms. Have a wonderful weekend.

Gifts or Hospitality from Pupils or Parents/Carers

As we approach the end of term, you may have seen that shops and supermarkets are using the end of the academic year to promote the giving of token gifts to teachers to say thank you. I must stress that this has never been and never will be expected by any member of Larchwood staff. However, if you or your child/ren would like to say thank you in this way, please ensure that you refer to Section 10 of the Trust's Gifts and Hospitality Policy, available [HERE](#), which details the monetary values that members of staff are allowed to accept from pupils and/or parents/carers.



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BBQ and Bounce

The LPPA are desperately looking for more volunteers to help set up the BBQ and bounce, help run the event and pack up. If you can help next Friday, please contact them as soon as possible via larchwoodpa@yahoo.co.uk.

Sunflower Competition

Just a reminder that the sunflower competition ends on Friday 10 July. All you have to do is send a picture of your child and their sunflower with the measurement of the height from the soil to the top to the school office email (office@larchwood.essex.sch.uk) or post it on X or Instagram.



Mr Bowsher's Superstar Award

Scarlett in 4J for demonstrating all the school values.



Stars of the Week

RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM
Arlo	Rosie	Charlie	Callie	All of 2C	All of 2P	Sophie
3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R
Poppy	Dwayne	Grace	Valerie	Olivia	-	-



Reading at Home

Well done to all our 4 and 5 times readers. Please make sure you read this weekend.

Class	Table shows numbers of children and percentages who read from Monday 29 June to Friday 3 July			Percentage Read 4 & 5 times %
	Less than 4	4	5	
RA	10 (36%)	4 (14%)	14 (50%)	18 (64%)
RE	3 (11%)	7 (26%)	17 (62%)	24 (89%)
1B	2 (8%)	7 (24%)	19 (68%)	26 (92%)
1G	3 (10%)	7 (24%)	21 (70%)	27 (90%)
2C	2 (7%)	6 (21%)	20 (72%)	26 (93%)
2P	2 (8%)	3 (11%)	21 (81%)	24 (92%)
3LM	3 (9%)	12 (40%)	15 (50%)	27 (90%)
3T	8 (26%)	7 (25%)	14 (49%)	21 (74%)
4CH	5 (16%)	4 (13%)	22 (71%)	26 (84%)
4J	3 (9%)	4 (13%)	28 (91%)	28 (91%)
5L	4 (13%)	8 (26%)	19 (60%)	28 (87%)
5P	1 (3%)	5 (17%)	24 (80%)	29 (97%)
6R	No reading number as in Mersea			
6H	No reading numbers as in Mersea			
Total				86.9%



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Diary Dates

Monday 6 July	Year 6 Bikeability
Tuesday 7 July 2	Year 6 Bikeability
Tuesday 7 July	Reception trip to Boydell's Farm
Thursday 9 July	Year 6 play 13.45 and 18.30
Friday 10 July	LPPA BBQ and bounce
Friday 10 July	Year 5 Taster Day – St Martins
Friday 10 July	Sunflower competition deadline
Monday 13 July	Don Rae with Year 6
Tuesday 14 July	Celebration Evening
Wednesday 15 July	Year 6 Leavers BBQ
Thursday 16 July	End of term Discos
Friday 17 July	Larchwood's Got Talent
Friday 17 July	Last day of term



Weekly Attendance

Weekly Attendance – week commencing Monday 29 July 2026

Class	RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM	Whole school
Attendance	92.5%	95.9%	96.3%	99.6%	93.6%	96.3%	95.1%	
Class	3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R	96.5%
Attendance	93.3%	98.4%	95.3%	99.3%	97.3%	95.8%	97.9%	

1 st	2 nd	3 rd
1G	5L	4CH



Yearly Attendance

Yearly Attendance – from 1 September 2025

Class	RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM	Whole school
Attendance	92.8%	93.4%	96.3%	96.7%	96.8%	93.9%	96.1%	
Class	3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R	95.5%
Attendance	95.9%	95.3%	96.2%	96.1%	95.7%	93.6%	96.7%	

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



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