



# NEWS & VIEWS

Achievement & Enjoyment

Headteacher Mr S Bowsher



## Mr Bowsher's Headteacher Comment:

Welcome back to the second half of the summer term. I hope you were all able to enjoy the wonderful weather we had during the half-term break. I cannot remember another May half term where it was hot and sunny every single day – it was absolutely glorious.

This week has seen the start of new learning across all subjects. New books are being explored in English lessons, exciting topics have begun in science, history and geography, and new mathematical concepts are being introduced. We also had a storyteller in Reception and Year 5 went to the zoo.

I always say that this half term is one of my favourites of the school year. The good weather, exciting school trips, and, most importantly, seeing how much progress children have made over the course of the year make this a particularly enjoyable and rewarding time. It is always a pleasure to watch children grow in confidence and reflect on all that they have achieved since September.

Sports day is coming up in just over a week. These will commence at 10.00 and parents will be let onto the field via the main gate from about 09.50. You will be getting a letter coming home in the next few days letting you know which team your child is in. They will need a coloured t-shirt in the colour of their team as well as normal PE kit. We have reorganised the teams this year following trials in PE to balance the teams. Thank you with your support for this. We will also be holding an individual sprint race for each year group as well as a team relay from Year 3 and above.

I have spoken regularly about online safety and mobile phones in News and Views, and I would like to touch on the subject again this week. I recently spent some time with Year 6 discussing mobile phones and how to use them responsibly. Not all Year 6 children have a mobile phone and, for those who do, they do not necessarily carry them all the time. As you know, if children bring a mobile phone to school, it is collected at the start of the day and returned as they leave. We would prefer mobile phones were left at home.

During our discussion, we talked about why age restrictions exist on social media platforms and why the government continues to explore ways of strengthening these protections. From time to time, we become aware of inappropriate messages or posts made by children online. While we work closely with families to address any concerns, it is ultimately the responsibility of parents and carers to monitor and restrict their children's online activity.

Many parents are aware that most social media platforms have a minimum age requirement of 13. However, one fact that often surprises families is that WhatsApp has a minimum age requirement of 13 in the UK. This is also one of the apps most commonly used by children and where many friendship-related issues can arise. The NSPCC provides helpful guidance on chat apps [here](#), while this [website](#) provides good information on age appropriateness and the privacy and safety settings available on popular platforms such as TikTok. If your child has access to a mobile phone, tablet or other internet-enabled device, please take time to monitor how they are using it and discuss safe and responsible online behaviour regularly.



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## My Child at School (MCAS) App

Thank you to all parents who have downloaded the Bromcom MCAS app and have set it up ready to use for messages and emails from the school. This will become the main method of communicating with parents and will eventually be used for things like afterschool club bookings and payments. If you haven't yet done so, please download it and set it up as soon as possible

## 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.



## Mr Bowsher's Superstar Award

Grace G in 5L for demonstrating all of the school values.



## Stars of the Week

RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM
Elianna	Valentina	Dougie	James	Bailey	Vinny-Lee	Kian
3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R
Sophia	Olivia	Lia	Susanne	Abira	Teddy	Felicity



## Reading at Home

Well done 6R, 6H, 4CH and 2P.

Class	Table shows numbers of children and percentages who read from Monday 1 June to Friday 5 June			Percentage Read 4 & 5 times %
	Less than 4	4	5	
RA	6 (22%)	8 (27%)	14 (50%)	22 (78%)
RE	3 (11%)	5 (19%)	19 (70%)	24 (89%)
1B	2 (7%)	4 (14%)	23 (79%)	27 (93%)
1G	2 (6%)	4 (15%)	23 (79%)	27 (94%)
2C	6 (21%)	1 (3%)	22 (76%)	23 (79%)
2P	0 (0%)	4 (15%)	22 (85%)	26 (100%)
3LM	1 (3%)	10 (35%)	18 (62%)	18 (97%)
3T	4 (13%)	8 (27%)	18 (60%)	26 (87%)
4CH	0 (0%)	3 (10%)	27 (90%)	30 (100%)
4J	1 (3%)	8 (25%)	23 (72%)	31 (97%)
5L	5 (16%)	5 (16%)	21 (68%)	26 (84%)
5P	1 (3%)	8 (29%)	19 (68%)	27 (97%)
6R	0 (0%)	2 (6%)	27 (94%)	29 (100%)
6H	0 (0%)	2 (8%)	24 (92%)	25 (100%)
Total				92.5%



# Diary Dates

Tuesday 9 June	Year 5 visit to St Martins to watch High School Musical
Monday 15 June	Reception, Year 1 and 2 sports day - <b>10.00 start</b>
Wednesday 17 June	Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 sports day – <b>10.00 start</b>
Friday 19 June	LPPA Bingo
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
Wednesday 1 July	French Day – Years 3-5
Tuesday 7 July	Reception trip to Boydell's Farm
Thursday 9 July	Year 6 play 13.45 and 18.30
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
Thursday 16 July	End of term Discos



# Weekly Attendance

## Weekly Attendance – week commencing Monday 1 June 2026

Class	RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM	Whole school
Attendance	92%	97.4%	97.3%	98.3%	98.0%	96.0%	94.1%	
Class	3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R	95.9%
Attendance	97.0%	97.7%	98.1%	96.6%	96.6%	86.9%	96.2%	

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
1G	4J	2C



# Yearly Attendance

## Yearly Attendance – from 1 September 2025

Class	RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM	Whole school
Attendance	93.0%	93.4 %	96.5%	96.7%	97.1%	94.2%	96.6%	
Class	3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R	95.7%
Attendance	96.1%	95.5%	96.4%	96.3%	96.0%	93.7%	97.0%	

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
2C	6R	1G



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[www.larchwoodprimary.co.uk](http://www.larchwoodprimary.co.uk)



@LarchwoodPS



[office@larchwood.essex.sch.uk](mailto:office@larchwood.essex.sch.uk)

Raising funds for



**TRY A TRI**  
BRENTWOOD

Sunday 28th June, 2026 from 8.00am  
Brentwood Centre, CM15 9NN

If you've ever considered the idea of taking on a triathlon then this is a great taster opportunity. With adult and junior challenges - plus entertainment and refreshments available on the day - there is something for everyone!

**BOOK NOW**



**£20.00** Triathlon Adults (aged 15+) 200m Swim >>> 10k Bike >>> 5k Run  
**£20.00** Duathlon Adults (aged 15+) 3k Run >>> 10k Bike >>> 1k Run  
**FREE** Triathlon Juniors (aged 8-14) 50m Swim >>> 5k Bike on Field >>> 1k Run on Field  
**FREE** Field Duathlon Juniors (aged 6-14) 1k Run >>> 5k Bike on Field >>> 1k Run on Field  
 Please use the code EssexSBRFree when registering any junior places

**Team Relays!**

Teams have the option to compete in a relay format, where each participant takes on one of the three disciplines - swimming, cycling, or running. Contact Race Co-ordinator, Naima, to sign-up your team - [trisp@essex@outlook.com](mailto:trisp@essex@outlook.com)

Headline sponsor: **Bakers**  
 Venue sponsor: **everyone ACTIVE**  
**BROWNLEE FOUNDATION** With support from the Brownlee Foundation



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