



NEWS & VIEWS

Achievement & Enjoyment

Headteacher Mr S Bowsher



Mr Bowsher's Headteacher Comment:

As we reach the final day of the academic year, it's a great moment to reflect on what has been another hugely successful year for Larchwood. Once again, we have truly lived out our school motto of *Achievement and Enjoyment*. From academic progress to personal development, our pupils have excelled in every area.

As shared earlier this term, our benchmark attainment data continues to sit above the national average—an outstanding achievement. But what makes this success even more special is that it goes hand in hand with genuine enjoyment. In the last few days this has been seen with the children confidently meeting their new teachers, dancing at the disco and performing in *Larchwood's Got Talent*, their happiness and enthusiasm have shone through.

We were thrilled to present the Smith Family Award on Monday to Ashton in Year 6. This award is given to a pupil who embodies the values we hold dear at Larchwood, and although it was a tough decision with such a fantastic Year 6 group, Ashton stood out for consistently demonstrating what it means to be a Larchwood student. Well done, Ashton—your name will now be added to our honours board in the lobby.

Congratulations as well to the sixteen children who received 100% attendance certificates today for being in school every single day this year—what a fantastic achievement!

Now, onto the always-competitive Sunflower Competition. This year saw more entries than ever before, and the results were impressive:

Year Group Winners:

- Reception: Charlie W (RT)
- Year 1: Alexandra (1G)
- Year 2: Emily (2W)
- Year 3: Joshua (3C)
- Year 4: Mia (4T)
- Year 5: Skylar (5L)
- Year 6: Vita (6R)

Staff winner: Mrs Holder (just beating me!)

Overall Winners:

- 3rd Place: George H (1G)
- 2nd Place: Emily (2W)
- 1st Place: Alexandra (1G) – 286 cm sunflower!



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In the DET Trust Competition, Hogarth took the pupil top spot with a sunflower over 300 cm, and Kelvedon won the staff prize—by just 2 cm! We'll be back stronger next year—watch this space.

On Monday evening, it was lovely to see so many of you at our Celebration Evening. It really was a wonderful event. If you haven't yet completed the governors' survey, there's still time—please use the QR code below to share your thoughts.

Finally, today marks the last day for our incredible Year 6 pupils. You have been amazing since your very first days with us, and we are so proud of the young people you've become. We know you'll go on to achieve great things—please stay in touch!

We couldn't achieve what we do without the hard work of our dedicated staff and will miss those that are moving on. A huge thank you to our entire school community, your continued support makes a massive difference.

Don't forget to take part in the Essex Libraries Summer Reading Challenge and the Larchwood Summer Photography Challenge. Have a wonderful break, and we look forward to welcoming you back on **Monday 1st September**.

