



# News and Views



Headteacher: Mr S Bowsher

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

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## Headteacher's Comment

Larchwood is now full. When I say full I mean all of our children are back and all 60 of our Reception children have now started. As a school we now have the greatest number of children attending we have ever had – 390. The expansion of the school will be complete in less than a year when we are finally two forms in each and every year group.

I welcomed some of the new Reception parents in my News and Views last week, but I can now extend that welcome to all of you. Starting school is a big milestone in what will be a long journey, but it has gone well. As a parent of children that are coming to the end of their schooling it seems like only yesterday I was dropping them off on their first days.

Earlier this afternoon I conducted my second celebration assembly from the comfort of my office. Classes are joining the assembly virtually from their classrooms as I present the weekly awards and certificates. I can hear the winning classes cheering, even with my office door shut I can hear it.

One of the awards is the reading at home trophy. Reading is probably the number one thing you can do to help your children with their education. The expectation is that you listen to your child read (or read to them) five times a week. This needs to be written in children's reading records daily – reading at the weekend only counts for one of the times. A certificate is given to each class that has 100% of the children reading at least 4 times, with the trophy going to the class with the highest percentage reading 5 times. If you don't read 5 times with your child, expect to be contacted by their teacher. Last week I gave a certificate to 5 classes which is a record. This week it was 4. You can see this week's winners on the next page. It's a good start, I'm hoping for at least 6 next week.

## Drop-off and pick-up

On Wednesday Mr Duff joined us in the afternoon and I know lots of you were pleased to see him. He was hugely impressed with how smoothly pick-up went. I can only say this is down to how brilliant you all have been following the procedures and arriving at the correct time. Thank you.

Can I just remind you that when you arrive in the morning, please try not to get here before 8:30am. Now everyone is back there seems to be a queue forming down the street. People are social distancing, but it is becoming more difficult for people to get by if they need to be elsewhere. Remember you are not late if you arrive after 8:30am, only if you arrive after 8:45am. It is a lot quieter and easier to social distance at 8:40am than it is at 8:30am.

## Home Learning

I said last week I would let you know our plans for home learning should children have to isolate for two weeks. This week the teachers have been busy setting up Microsoft Teams accounts for each child and are starting to get the children to use them. This is an excellent way for work to be set, done at home, sent back to the teacher and marked. Further details will be with you in the next week or so.

You will have seen on the news how hard it still is to get a test if you have any of the symptoms. If you are waiting to book a test or waiting for test results, we have decided we will send home work daily. It won't be a huge amount as the teacher will be in class teaching the rest of the class, but you can expect maths, English and a topic lesson, all will be related to what is happening in class. It will be emailed out to you with links to things like the daily maths lesson from White Rose that our teachers will be doing. The work will usually be set from the day after the first day off. Hopefully you won't have to have any of this, but it is better to be prepared just in case.

The weather forecast still seems quite good for the weekend, so enjoy it and we'll see you back on Monday.

## Reading at Home

Table shows outcomes from **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020** (percentages are rounded)

Class	Times read at home during the week – number of children and percentages						Percentage 4 and 5 times
	0	1	2	3	4	5	
RS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
RT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1P	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (7%)	1 (4%)	25 (89%)	93%
1PR	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4 (14%)	9 (31%)	16 (55%)	86%
2B	0 (0%)	2 (8%)	0 (0%)	1 (4%)	5 (19%)	18 (69%)	88%
2G	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	3 (11%)	6 (21%)	19 (68%)	89%
3A	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (3%)	2 (7%)	26 (90%)	97%
3B	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (7%)	4 (14%)	22 (79%)	93%
4D	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (3%)	2 (7%)	8 (27%)	19 (63%)	90%
4K	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	3 (14%)	20 (86%)	100%
5R	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (7%)	26 (93%)	100%
5S	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4 (14%)	25 (86%)	100%
6PA	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	3 (11%)	25 (89%)	100%
Total							94%

## Weekly Attendance – week commencing Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Class	RS	RT	1P	1PR	2B	2G	3A	Whole school
Attendance	96%	99.6%	100%	97.9%	97.1%	95.3%	98.3%	
								96.8%
Class	3B	4D	4K	5R	5S	6PA		
Attendance	96.7%	98.0%	93.8%	90.5%	97.3%	97.7%		

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
1P	RT	3A

## Yearly Attendance – from 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Class	RS	RT	1P	1PR	2B	2G	3A	Whole school
Attendance	97.2%	99.4%	99%	98.1%	95.3%	97.2%	95.9%	
								97.1%
Class	3B	4D	4K	5R	5S	6PA		
Attendance	98%	97.6%	94.1%	98.5%	95.1%	97.7%		

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
RT	1P	5S

## Stars of the Week

RS	RT	1P	1PR	2B	2G	3A
Archie	Mylo	Max	Georgia Mae	Finley	Vita	Robyn
3B	4D	4K	5R	5S	6PA	
Kendra	Lily	Diana	Jilan	Connie	Rhys	

<b>Mr Bowsher's Superstar Award</b>	Hayden – for demonstrating many of our school values .
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