



NEWS & VIEWS

Achievement & Enjoyment

Headteacher Mr S Bowsher



Headteacher's Comment:

With Internet Safety Day just a couple of weeks away now, this week's Tech Tuesday email from Miss Beard talked about the use of apps and mobile phones and how we often see children who have access to these at home. The world is a different place from when we were at school (which for me was a long time ago) and mobile phones weren't an issue. Tiktok didn't exist and the thought of being able to send video and voice messages was a thing of science fiction.

At home children often have access to devices that connect with others online even in simple games, but how much do we check what they are being used for. So many games and social media apps have minimum ages because of the potential risks - even WhatsApp has a minimum age of 16. Should children be using these apps and games?

The reason why there are these age restrictions is young children can't always act responsibly. Being responsible is a difficult thing and as one of our school values it is something we teach regularly. Being responsible online is often harder still. I'm sure we have all seen occasions when we have seen adults being extremely rude on apps like Twitter or Facebook, making things up and generally using language they would never use in person. If it is hard for adults, it's going to be even harder for children.

With our older children at school we sometimes hear of instances where exactly this type of behaviour has happened with them on a group chat and it unsurprisingly causes great upset when they come to school. As parents we have to make sure we are teaching our children to be responsible as well as regularly checking our children are being responsible online. Children in Reception aren't nagging their parents for phones yet (I hope), but by the time they get to year 5 and 6 they will start to want one. I would suggest they don't need one until secondary school, but teaching about responsibility is so important now ready for when they do go online. Mobile phones are powerful things and as Spiderman said, 'with great power comes great responsibility'!

Curriculum Overviews

It is always worth reminding yourself at this time of the term about what your child is learning in school. Most classes are currently in a block of history work. To find out more follow the links here:

[Reception Curriculum Overview](#)

[Year 1 Curriculum Overview](#)

[Year 2 Curriculum Overview](#)

[Year 3 Curriculum Overview](#)

[Year 4 Curriculum Overview](#)



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Hair

Just a reminder that long hair should be tied back. A number of children are coming to school without hairbands to tie their hair back. The office keeps a small supply of hair bands in case anyone's snaps during the day, but they are getting through a larger than normal number at the moment due to children not coming to school with one. Headbands should be plain in colour (red, white or black), thin and without spots or bows. Scrunchies should not be worn. Thank you.

Trustee Vacancy

As you know, Larchwood is part of the Discovery Educational Trust. They are currently seeking applications for the roles of Trustee and Member to serve in these important governance positions. The Trust is currently made up of Larchwood, St Martins and Chase High School in Southend with two other Brentwood primary schools in the process of joining. They welcome applications from people from a wide range of backgrounds and experience. No prior knowledge of education or governance is required - they will provide all relevant training. If you are interested, you can find more details [here](#).

Word of the Week

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Recipe	Injure	Fraction	Aware	Access	Scheme	Legislate



Reading at Home

Well done to 6R. 100% of you read and 90% of you read every day this week.

Class	Table shows numbers of children and percentages from Monday 23rd January to Friday 27th January (percentages are rounded) Times Read						Percentage Read 4 & 5 times %
	0	1	2	3	4	5	
RR	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (4%)	6 (21%)	21 (75%)	96%
RT	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (7%)	2 (7%)	10 (32%)	16 (54%)	86%
1A	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (3%)	1 (3%)	7 (23%)	21 (70%)	94%
1P	1 (3%)	0 (0%)	1 (3%)	1 (3%)	3 (10%)	24 (81%)	91%
2BC	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (7%)	5 (17%)	22 (76%)	93%
2G	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	9 (30%)	21 (70%)	100%
3B	1 (4%)	0 (0%)	1 (4%)	1 (4%)	5 (18%)	19 (70%)	88%
3C	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (3%)	2 (7%)	26 (90%)	97%
4B	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (6%)	8 (30%)	18 (64%)	94%
4S	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (4%)	0 (0%)	4 (13%)	24 (83%)	96%
5D	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (7%)	1 (3%)	26 (90%)	93%
5L	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (4%)	2 (8%)	23 (88%)	96%
6C	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (3%)	2 (7%)	26 (90%)	97%
6R	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	3 (10%)	27 (90%)	100%
Total							94%



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Mr Bowsher's Superstar Award

Abira in 2BC – for demonstrating the value of friendship.



Stars of the Week

RR	RT	1A	1P	2BC	2G	3B
Leo	Patrick	Layla	Joshua	Daniel	Bobby	Millie
3C	4B	4S	5D	5L	6R	6C
Molly	Kayden	Theo	Alisha-Mai	Alfie	Liam	Alexandra



Weekly Attendance

Well done to RT for excellent attendance this week.

Weekly Attendance – week commencing Monday 23rd January

Class	RR	RT	1A	1P	2BC	2G	3B	Whole school
Attendance	95%	99%	96.7%	98.3%	95.2%	96%	94.7%	
Class	3C	4B	4S	5D	5L	6C	6R	96.3%
Attendance	96.3%	98.2%	94.7%	96%	93.2%	98.6%	97%	

1 st	2 nd	3 rd
RT	6C	1P



Yearly Attendance

Yearly Attendance – from 2nd September 2022

Class	RR	RT	1A	1P	2BC	2G	3B	Whole school
Attendance	94%	94.9%	94.8%	95.2%	95%	95.9%	94.6%	
Class	3C	4B	4S	5D	5L	6C	6R	95%
Attendance	96.3%	95.6%	95%	93.8%	95.9%	94.4%	94%	

1 st	2 nd	3 rd
3C	2G, 5L	4B



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