



## Headteacher's Comment:

### The Power of Reading

I say this for two reasons. Firstly, because being able to read can transform your life. I've said this before but by being able to read you can do many of the day to day things we all take for granted like, read letters and follow instructions, but more importantly you can read for enjoyment.

Over the last year we have not been able to do the things we would normally do like meet friends or travel, but by reading a book we can escape somewhere different and meet up with new characters. Similarly, by reading about our favourite sports we can feel as if we were there watching. Put simply it has helped to get us through difficult times.

The second reason I have started with those words is because about five years ago we changed the way we taught English at Larchwood. We started basing our English lessons more around high quality texts. This is based on work by the Centre for Literacy in Primary Education (CLPE [www.clpe.org.uk](http://www.clpe.org.uk)) and we started using books recommended by them and teaching sequences developed with lots of schools across the country that led to children producing high quality work and having a better ability to read. This teaching strategy is what they call 'The Power of Reading'.

The work done in class is based on the text they are using and the enjoyment children get from these books, as well as the quality of the work, is really high. On Wednesday I popped into Year 1, Year 4 and Year 5 and the children in all of those classes spoke about the books they were reading enthusiastically. On every classroom door from Year 1 upwards there are pictures of the books that each class is reading and on the walls is the ongoing work that they are doing. I'll tweet these books at some point between now and the end of the weekend so you can see what your child is reading, although I'm sure they have already told you all about it. If they haven't, ask them.

We will not stop 'banging the drum' for reading. Teachers and LSAs check that children read every day at home. Reading 4 or 5 times a week shouldn't be a chore or something to fit in before bed, it is developing a skill that has huge power and can change your life. Well done to those classes and children who all read this much. Those of you who read 5 times this week will be receiving my text later. I've also started sending texts home to those that haven't read at least 4 times. Please make sure you get one of my positive texts next week.



## Reminders

There is a local election on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May with voters accessing a small part of the site via the staff car park. School is open as normal and voters don't have access to anywhere there are children.

If your child has grapes in their packed lunch, please make sure they are cut up as they are a choking hazard. Chocolate spread is also not allowed in sandwiches as it contains nuts.

Finally, Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> of May is a bank holiday so we are closed. Enjoy the long weekend, find a good book to read and we will see you on Tuesday next week.



## Mr Bowsher's Superstar Award

Courtney-Rose in 3A – for demonstrating all the school values.



## Stars of the Week

RS	RT	1P	1PR	2B	2G	3A
Leno	Ava	Arabella	Brody	Elsie	Niya	Chloe
3B	4D	4K	5R	5S	6PA	
Dollyanna	Harry C	Reece	Luke	Thomas	Gabriel	



## Reading at Home

Class	Table shows numbers of children and percentages from <b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April</b> (percentages are rounded) Times Read						Percentage Read 4 times %
	0	1	2	3	4	5	
RS	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	11 (37%)	18 (60%)	100%
RT	1 (3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	7 (23%)	22 (74%)	97%
1P	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	3 (10%)	26 (90%)	100%
1PR	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (7%)	27 (93%)	100%
2B	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (3%)	0 (0%)	5 (17%)	24 (80%)	97%
2G	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (4%)	6 (22%)	20 (74%)	96%
3A	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	3 (11%)	25 (89%)	100%
3B	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (7%)	2 (7%)	26 (86%)	93%
4D	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (3%)	5 (17%)	23 (79%)	97%
4K	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	29 (100%)	100%
5R	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4 (14%)	25 (86%)	100%
5S	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (4%)	2 (7%)	25 (89%)	96%
6PA	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (3%)	2 (7%)	25 (89%)	97%
Total							98%



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**Executive Headteacher: Mr R Duff**

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# Weekly Attendance

## Weekly Attendance – week commencing Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Class	RS	RT	1P	1PR	2B	2G	3A	Whole school
Attendance	93.9%	100%	99.3%	97.6%	93.7%	95.2%	98.6%	
								97.1%
Class	3B	4D	4K	5R	5S	6PA		
Attendance	99.3%	99.0%	95.7%	98.0%	95.0%	93.1%		

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
RT	1P and 3B	4D



# Yearly Attendance

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

Class	RS	RT	1P	1PR	2B	2G	3A	Whole school
Attendance	98.3%	98.7%	99.0%	97.2%	93.5%	98.1%	96.8%	
								97.3%
Class	3B	4D	4K	5R	5S	6PA		
Attendance	97.9%	97.0%	95.8%	96.9%	95.6%	96.1%		

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



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