

Larwood

WIND DOWN

Achieve, Believe, Expect & Enjoy!

As we approach the end of term, it is with great pleasure that I can report back to you on the progress that your sons and daughters have made during this term. As always there have been some notable improvements in many areas. One particular area that we have targeted and seen real improvements in is writing. You will no doubt have heard comments from your children talking about Mr Van's car (Stranded on the roundabout), or having to write a piece persuading a mystery guest, that all pupils really should be able to use iPads for their learning. Therefore the Big Idea (a series of thought provoking mini projects), alongside the use of Pobble really has had an impact on quality and quantity of writing. As always, we will be reviewing all of the above, as we approach the end of the summer term.

Please note the following staffing changes as we approach the end of this term and start next term. Following local advertisement and interview process, Jade Maranian (Currently 'Miss Jade' in the front office) will be staying with us, but working as a Learning and Support Assistant next term. We have advertised for her replacement, and will interview for the Office role on the penultimate day of term, so I will let you know who is appointed in due course. We also have a new Learning and Support Assistant starting with us after Easter. Therefore, we will all officially welcome Miss Kara Jarvis in April.

I have already written to you all informing you that Mrs Kimpton, my current Deputy Headteacher, and long standing member of Larwood School is retiring at the end of the summer term. As always, we will celebrate her dedication to Larwood during the summer term with all concerned and we have interviewed for her replacement. After a national advertising campaign, rigorous short listing, and a selection process involving 13 members of staff and approximately 30 pupils, Mr Van De Merwe was appointed.

Finally, for this term, our residential Ofsted inspection took place on 28th Feb until the 2nd March, and has left us with a glowing report! As this is our second year achieving 'outstanding' grades in all areas of the inspection, we are delighted that the inspection team of Trish Palmer and Jensy Kelly, were able to match our own self evaluation with what they saw via the process. Please note that the full report is available on our school website and is also accessible by visiting:

<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/> and search for Larwood School.

A fuller description of the report will be shared with you during the summer term but the following comments really do great justice to our team of pupils, staff and governors:

- The children are treated with dignity and respect, and are taught to respect each other. They are encouraged to help and support each other with independence and daily living.
- Children are given the opportunity to experience new activities, have fun and to thrive in a safe and nurturing environment. Staff are not risk averse and they want the children to have the same positive experiences as their peers.
- The children make excellent progress because of the residential provision. They have improved their behaviours and they have developed their social and independence skills

All of the above is only possible by having such a dedicated and committed team of staff that really do care, go the extra mile and look for every opportunity to help your children make progress. It is also why I am immensely proud to be the Headteacher of such a school!

Enjoy the Easter break and hopefully we will continue to see some sunshine. We return to school on TUESDAY 18TH APRIL at the usual time.

S D Trimble
Headteacher



SCHOOL



RESIDENTIAL



FIRST DAY OF TERM
TUESDAY 18TH APRIL 2017

SUMMER TERM 2017

FIRST DAY OF TERM:
TUESDAY 18TH APRIL

MAY BANK HOLIDAY:
MONDAY 1ST MAY

HALF TERM BREAK:
MONDAY 29TH MAY TO FRIDAY 2ND JUNE

END OF TERM
THURSDAY 20TH JULY 1:00PM



AUTUMN TERM 2017

INSET DAY:
WEDNESDAY 30TH AUGUST

FIRST DAY OF TERM:
THURSDAY 31ST AUGUST

HALF TERM BREAK:
MONDAY 23RD OCTOBER TO FRIDAY 4TH NOVEMBER INC.

LAST DAY OF TERM:
TUESDAY 19TH DECEMBER AT 1:20



SPRING TERM 2018

FIRST DAY OF TERM:
WEDNESDAY 3RD JANUARY



HALF TERM BREAK:
MONDAY 12TH FEBRUARY TO FRIDAY 16TH FEBRUARY INC.

END OF TERM:
THURSDAY 29TH MARCH AT 2:20PM



SUMMER TERM 2018

FIRST DAY OF TERM:
MONDAY 16TH APRIL

MAY BANK HOLIDAY:
MONDAY 7TH MAY

HALF TERM BREAK:
MONDAY 28TH MAY TO FRIDAY 1ST JUNE INC.

END OF TERM:
FRIDAY 20TH JULY 1:00



SCHOOL STARTS: 9.00AM
SCHOOL FINISHES: MONDAY — THURSDAY: 3.20PM
FRIDAY: 2.20PM

Miss Kimpton's Class

Apology: Miss Kimpton, submitted this work for Edition 3 last term and it was overlooked by accident. Apologies to Miss Kimpton's class.



During this term in Art we are continuing the African theme. We have read the book "Handa's Surprise" by Elieen Browne. Based upon this book we will be putting together a performance of the story through movement and dance. Miss Barrett is helping us with the dance and movement, the children have already enjoyed the sessions they have had,

pretending to be Monkeys and Handa. With Mr Quilty the children have been learning to put music to the story. They have already come up with a "theme" for Handa and Monkey music. Again, the children are enjoying this and are looking forward to working through the story. During a session they used crayons to create a favourite scene from the book.



Happy Easter





BUSSy



Miss Kimpton's Class . . . This term!



This half term we have been looking into living things in science and how to observe them well. We talked about being safe and how to handle any living things we find. Before going out to the pond area to look for living things we talked about what makes a living thing.

All living things can move, use oxygen, and excrete. They need nutrients to grow. We discovered that not all living things are alive.!

Once we were happy we knew what we were looking for we went to the pond area and looked for living things. We found woodlice, moss, leaves, beetles, trees and many other things. Everything we touched, we handled with care and returned it to where we found it.



COMMUNICATION AND AUTISM TEAM CHILDREN'S SERVICES



PARENT SURGERIES

If you would like to discuss an issue or query about a child or young person with autism or social communication difficulties with a Specialist Advisory Teacher, please book your 30 minute appointment with Allison Johnson via e mail: allison.johnson@hertfordshire.gov.uk

DAY: THURSDAY 8TH JUNE 2017
TIME: 9:00 AM TO 12.00PM

VENUE: BALDOCK COMMUNITY CENTRE, 1 SIMPSON DRIVE, BALDOCK SG7 6DH

OR

DAY: TUESDAY 20TH JUNE 2017
TIME: 12.30PM TO 3.00PM

VENUE: LETCHWORTH PARTNERSHIP POD, NORTHFIELDS INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL, BURLEY, LETCHWORTH SG6 4PT

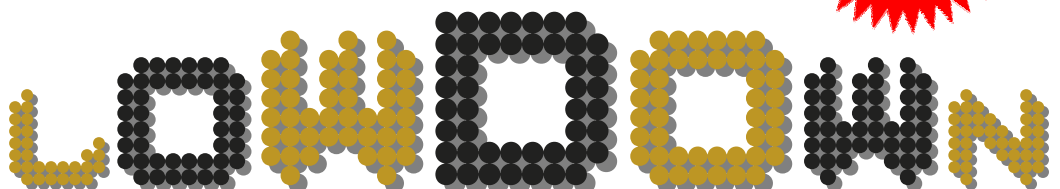
When booking please provide details as indicated below;

PARENT NAME

CHILD NAME

NAME OF SCHOOL AND YEAR GROUP

BRIEF OUTLINE OF WHAT IS TO BE DISCUSSED

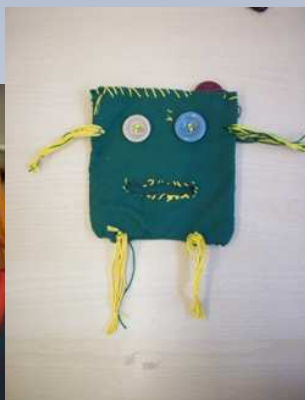




Miss Gwynne's Class

Miss Gwynne's class has recently had a new member join. He is a purple and green monster who is called Womo. If we have any worries we write them down and feed them to him. We decided to create our own worry monsters to use at home.

This is WOMO



Worry Monsters



STAY CONNECTED

SCHOOL & HOME



SCHOOL WEBSITE: www.larwood.herts.sch.uk

SCHOOL TELEPHONE NUMBER: 01438 236 333

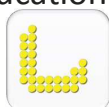
EMAIL: admin@larwood.herts.sch.uk

FACEBOOK: Larwood School Academy

SCHOOL APP: App Store - e4Education

YOUTUBE: Channel - Larwood School

& THE LARWOOD LOWDOWN



#LARWOODLIFE #STAYUPTODATE #CONNECTED



An opportunity to win £200 of Super market Vouchers

September 2016
to
July 2017



100% pupil attendance could win you £200 of supermarket vouchers

98% + pupil attendance could win you £150 of supermarket vouchers

95%+ pupil attendance could win you £100 of supermarket vouchers



FY



LISTENING, SUPPORTING AND
NON- JUDGEMENTAL



family lives

Family Lives operates a free 24/7 telephone helpline offering advice, information and support on any aspect of parenting and family life as well as extended support for complex and difficult issues. There is also an option to chat online with a parent support worker.

HELPLINE: 0808 800 2222

WEBSITE: www.familylives.org.uk

The website provides advice and a range of resources that aim to ensure that families get the support they need.

NEW!

FAMILIES FEELING SAFE

PROTECTIVE BEHAVIOURS

STEVENAGE

FOR MUMS, DADS AND CARERS OF CHILDREN 5 - TEENS

The Families Feeling Safe programme offers mums, dads and carers ideas and strategies to help their family and children to:

- Build confidence and self-esteem
- Manage stress, anger, anxiety and worries
- Deal with peer pressure, bullying
- Cope with change and transitions
- Know how and who to talk with to get help
- Stay feeling in control and make safe choices
- Improve communication
- Know ways to keep themselves feeling safe



We focus on what we can do and we have some fun!

THURSDAYS

11TH MAY - 13TH JULY 2017

9.30AM — 11.30AM

(EXCLUDING HALF TERM WEEK)

ADDRESS: STARFISH HOUSE, 3 NORTH ROAD, STEVENAGE, SG1 4AT

TO REGISTER FOR YOUR FREE PLACE PLEASE CONTACT SUE

SUE@FAMILIESFEELINGSAFE.CO.UK TEL: 07531247657

Families Feeling Safe Protective Behaviours Services has been funded through HCC to provide Families Feeling Safe programmes across Hertfordshire and provide Protective Behaviours services to children and their families www.familiesfeelingsafe.co.uk



SCHOOL

NEWS FROM FOX CUB

Thanks Mrs Jack and Miss Cox



This Spring term in Cub we have been focussing on Friendships and what makes a good friend?

The children made a photo frame and were then asked to write something nice about one of their classmates. We then took a photo and put it inside for them to take home.

Another objective that we are focusing on this term are fine motor skills. One of our activities was to trace over a pre-drawn picture, of the child's choice, with glue. The children then sprinkled over the glue outline with either sand, salt or in some cases both! Once dried they were then coloured in. The results were amazing!

We have also enjoyed making our Mum's some very special personalised gifts for Mother's day. We were all very pleased with how fabulous they look and are very proud of the quality of their creativity. Mums, we hope you will be very happy with your new shopping bag!



Mrs Kamene's Class

We have been learning about Oceans and Seas in the spring term. The children have used their imagination to design their own ocean model. They painted shells and made an ocean in an egg carton. They also designed their own sea model using plants, sand and coloured water. For their ocean crafts they designed and made a seahorse and a paper shark.



Keeping our Children Safe

Larwood School recognises that the welfare of the child is paramount. The school takes its responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of the young people in its care seriously, and is proactive in ensuring this. Governors, staff and volunteers at Larwood understand the importance of working in partnership with children, their parents/carers and other agencies in order to promote children's welfare. We constantly review the way that we work and look to improve upon this whenever we can. Our DSP; Designated Senior Person for child protection is Mrs Kimpton. Please do contact her if you have any concerns in this area.



RESIDENTIAL



HOUSE

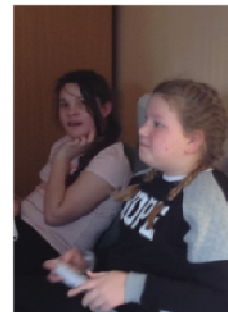
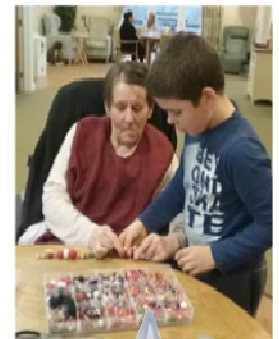
Things continue to progress in boarding. We had a visit from Ofsted and all went well. The inspectors joined in the activities with the children and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The inspectors enjoyed talking with the children and the children where all honest and forthright with their views and opinions about boarding.

We are continuing with the extended day activities on Mondays and the children are making the most of the variety of activities on offer. During the rest of the week we try to provide as wide a choice of activities as possible with house activities, outside games, free play and trips into the community; visiting Jubilee Court residential home and going shopping in the town.

George and Henry enjoyed a trip out to TOYS 'R' US to spend some of their pocket money.

Kayla and Tyler played Dominoes, and Oliver made bead jewellery with some of the residents of Jubilee court.

Here are some of the different activities that we do in house during the evening Andrew and Trae-Jhuan playing top trumps, Kayla and her sleep over Guest, Chanai playing on the Wii, Trae-Juan doing some bird spotting from the living room and Andrew and Trae-Jhuan producing some art





Mrs Williams' Class



During Science we have been learning about materials, their properties and how we separate different materials. We had great fun separating out the different materials from Mrs Williams' special mixture!

In Mrs Williams' class we have been learning about Performance Poetry. We studied a variety of poems and looked at how different people performed them. We then worked in small groups to create a performance. Everyone had to recite part of the poem and some people created actions to go with it. We concentrated on using our voices, facial expressions and our bodies to make our performances amazing.



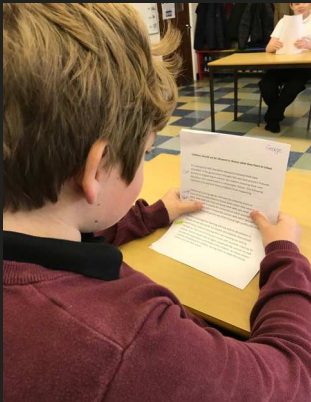
Mr Scales' Class

As mentioned in the previous issue of the lowdown, we have been studying the Ancient Egyptians. As our knowledge of the Egyptians has progressed so the number of projects we have undertaken. The class have worked in pairs to utilise their mathematics shape knowledge to create square-based pyramids, which now house mummified apples. The scientific mummification process proved to be a success and very interesting as the apples completely dried out and shrunk down in size due to the Bicarbonate of Soda and salt mix created by the children. Furthermore, we recreated the infamous step pyramid using sugar cubes (each cube representing the sandstone blocks). In addition to this, each member of the class produced PowerPoint presentations and presented them in an interactive manner, sharing their knowledge confidently. To conclude our topic we are currently finalising our fact files.



Miss Trott's Class

We have been learning about formal arguments. The boys prepared an argument about whether children should choose what they learn in school. They did an amazing job holding the debate and presenting their arguments. Although both sides put forward some excellent points, it was the 'against' side that came out as the winner.





THTL BATTLE



Although children often refer to PGL as 'Parents Get Lost', the company actually takes its name from the man who started it all in the 1950s - Peter Gordon Lawrence.

A few weekends ago Mrs Williams went to investigate the PGL site in Lincolnshire where the Year 6s are going in June. She was extremely impressed by the site, the food, the activities and the staff. If you have any questions regarding the trip please contact her on emma.williams@larwood.herts.sch.uk.

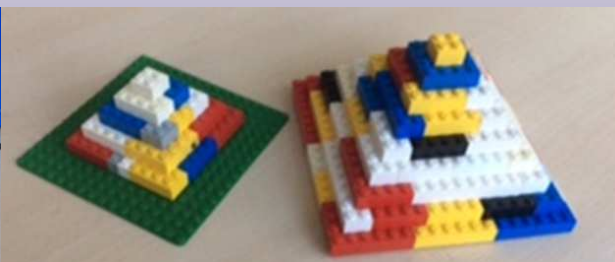
REMINDER: ANY OUTSTANDING MONEY NEEDS TO BE PAID BY THE FIRST DAY BACK AFTER THE EASTER BREAK 18TH APRIL 2017



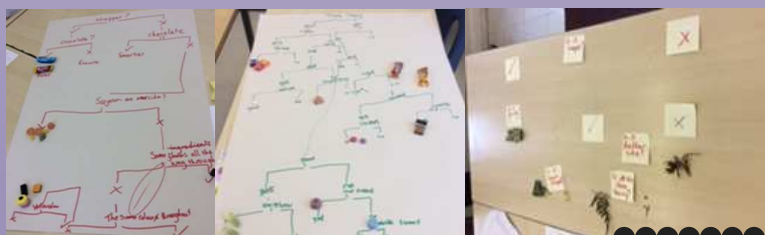
Mrs Poles class

We have continued

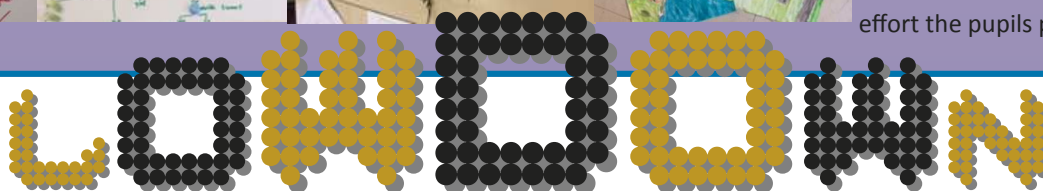
to enjoy finding out about Ancient Egyptians. We have enjoyed mummifying tomatoes and making canopic jars to understand how the Egyptians prepared their dead for the afterlife as well as building Lego pyramids and modelling Sphinxes.



In Science, we have learnt how to classify plants, animals and sweets!



The children also produced some beautiful artwork of Thomas Telford's bridges as part of our British Values display for the school hall. The staff were so impressed with the detail and effort the pupils put in.



Government legislation introduced in 2014 led to an increased emphasis on promoting British values to all pupils, as part of our spiritual, moral, social and cultural development program. Having placed a strong emphasis on moral values and being a responsible member of the Larwood school community, we had already established a strong base in this area. During the 2014-15, we have reviewed where we believe our strength and weaknesses are within this program and this has helped to clarify what we need to do next, alongside what we need to continue to maintain. Such provision may be via the formal curriculum or via more informal opportunities such as play, lunchtimes, additional events including charity based days and trips and visits.

How we do this, what are our strengths and what needs more development?

Influencing decisions making through democratic processes.

This is promoted via the school structure that enables pupils to have a voice and make choices as part of the day to running of the school, as well as long term change and decisions that may affect them. We do this by:

- Promoting class debate around subjects and choices
- Electing school council members and having pupils speak to members of the Leadership Team/Chair of the Governing Body about ideas and choices
- Pupil opinion is sought regularly and in a variety of ways. This includes how they are taught, what food is available, play equipment, where trips may go to and how they are helped to improve their work and behaviour
- The school curriculum looks at how some people and countries replicate our beliefs and how some don't

We know that we need to continue to develop the idea that although many aspects of change can be managed via opinion, sometimes, a decision has to be made on the evidence available and that lots of people may have differing opinions. This can cause anxiety and confusion during periods of change.

The law and how this protects people, with clear reference to well being and safety

We make it clear that there are laws (rules) that work at school, in the community and across the country. Alongside these there are also consequences and rewards. Again this is embedded via our day to day interactions, as well as assemblies, PSHE, and curriculum. We promote this by:

- Having clear behaviour management policies for staff/parents etc. and ensuring that pupils are clear about our rules and sanctions. The behaviour ladders and reward ladders are displayed throughout the school and referred to regularly.

- Assemblies promote and remind pupils about such values and our points system and consequences are applied fairly and consistently.
- We have an excellent relationship with our local Police and Fire service colleagues. They visit to speak to pupils both during the day and in boarding about general and specific issues.
- The curriculum enhances reference to laws where relevant and helps pupils to understand the rules that they have to follow whilst not at school.

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Individual liberty and mutual respect

This is closely related to law and our ethos and values are driven by the idea of mutual respect that allows us to have the freedom of choice when following rules and laws. We do this by:

- Promotion of rules and laws alongside consequences, that allow schools, communities, families and countries to work, play and enjoy various environments.
- Actions have consequences. Assemblies, lessons, play. Trips and everything that we do is underpinned by a points system that is supported by a culture of working together to get things right.
- Making the right choice can be difficult but rewarding in many ways.

We will maintain our day to day interaction with pupils to reinforce the idea that all people should be respected, that laws are there to serve us all and we all have the right to be safe.

Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

As our intake varies greatly, both during the year, and from year to year, we ensure that curriculum provision, assemblies, PSHE and a range of activities support and extend knowledge and understanding this area. Views are discussed from a historical (For example, World War 2) and topical context. Where views are expressed that need deeper discussion, they take place with support and guidance and visits are arranged to different faiths that help to break down perceived barriers and perceptions.

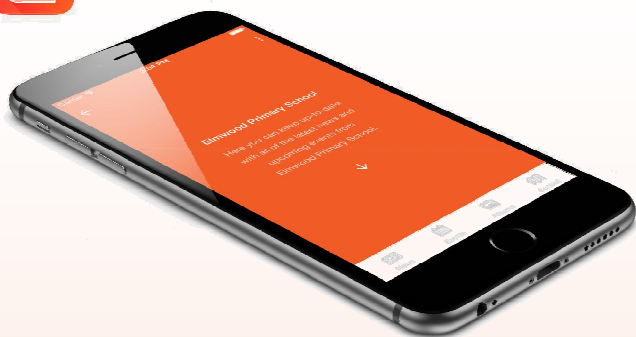
We continue to be very aware of perceptions that exist with regards to different cultures that may not be particularly prevalent within the Stevenage and North Herts area, as well as maintaining a close eye of the political climate and some view that may be generated via such debates.





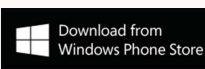
School News

INTRODUCING OUR **NEW** SCHOOL APP



Stay up-to-date with our events and the latest school news by downloading our School News app from your app store today.

Want to be the first to know important information, or if our school is closed on a snow day? Download our app, for free, from the App Store, Windows Store or Google Play today.



**SEARCH "SCHOOL NEWS" IN THE APP STORE TO
DOWNLOAD TODAY**

We frequently update our school website throughout the school year to bring you the latest school news, events, and important information affecting you. To make it even easier to access this information, we are pleased to announce the launch of a mobile and tablet app, which you can now download for free from the iOS and Google Play App Stores. To download the app, simply go to the respective app store and search for 'School News'. Once the app has been downloaded, simply enter our school postcode (SG1 5QU) to subscribe to updates and opt into push notifications, allowing you to receive instant updates on important news, such as school closures, term dates and sporting events etc.

Why you need our School News App:

1. Get push notifications to your phone as news happens. In the event of a snow day, or unexpected school closure, you'll receive a notification straight to your mobile device explaining what's happening and when we think the school will reopen.
2. Quickly check timings for events. Keep up to date with the latest school dates, term times and key events directly from within the app.
3. Feel better connected. With galleries, blog posts and news items, our new School News App will help bring you even closer to what's happening at our school.
4. Import events in to your device calendar. The new School News App allows you to import events straight into your device calendar so you can check for clashes and set reminders for upcoming important events.
5. Contact the school directly through the App. Need to get in touch? You'll find all the details you'll need in the App.

www.larwood.herts.sch.uk

Telephone Reception: Jade 01438 23633

If you require any more information, please get in touch, or visit our school website for more information.



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Our School News app is available to download now, on your mobile or tablet.



INTEGRATE CALENDAR EVENTS INTO YOUR DEVICE

Our new app allows you to quickly add important events to your phone or tablet.



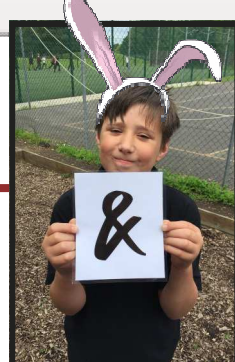
GET NOTIFIED ON IM- PORTANT EVENTS

Push notifications keep you up to date with important news.

Achieve, Believe, Expect and Enjoy



The End!



H O U S E R U N S

TRENT	TRAFFORD	HEADINGLY	LORDS
866	971	978	710
3 R D	2 N D	1 S T	4 T H

WELL DONE TO HOUSES:
TRENT AND LORDS! JOINT FIRST PLACE!

Back to School:
TUESDAY 18TH APRIL 2017

