



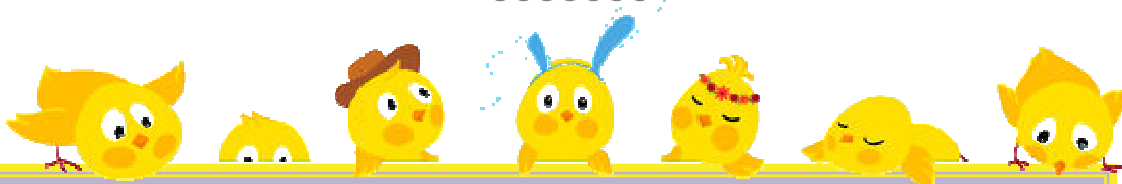
SCHOOL



RESIDENTIAL

# Larwood

## LOWDOWN



Happy Easter to all of you. As we approach the end of the term, we have bags of great news and information to share. I do hope that you enjoy reading (and sharing) the Larwood Lowdown.

Thank you to all parents that are actively engaging with us, to help your children make better progress in a variety of ways. This engagement can take a variety of forms and includes:

- Educational Health Care Plan reviews. Your input and attendance at these events are absolutely critical. It allows us to share key information, review targets and objectives, and potentially create new ones as well as making other changes to the plan.
- Information shared with you on a regular basis about the 'day to day' events in relation to your child.
- Year 5 Transition Parents Evening-Thursdays 22nd March. This took place specifically to start considering secondary transition with SEMH Headteachers in attendance.
- Summer Term reports and SAT's test information.

If you require more information or would like to discuss any issue relating to your child's provision, then please do make contact and an appointment will be made for you.

Please note that we continue to need your support on a critical matter related to your child's progress. That being ATTENDANCE! We want every pupil to achieve at least 94% attendance, as this has a huge impact on the progress they can make whilst at school. It does seem that this year, there have been the most bizarre combination of variations of virus type illness, along with severe weather, and other issues that may also have affected your child's attendance. These things cannot be helped. Medical appointments must also take place. However, we do also have a relatively small group of pupils whereby their attendance levels are causing us some concern. If this does happen we will do the following:

- Contact you to discuss this in the first instance. We may be able to help, depending on what circumstances are taking place.
- Arrange to have a formal meeting with you. This would be done with Mr Van der Merwe (Deputy Headteacher).
- Involve other parties such as Social Services or The Attendance Officer, if we believe that non-attendance may be leading to safeguarding concerns.
- Ultimately a fine and/or court appearance may also take place where no progress in relation to attendance is being made, despite all of the above. **THIS IS A LAST RESORT.**

If you are having any issues relating to your child attending School, then do make contact with your child's class teacher.

Finally, a huge well done to many of our children for the following reasons; Consistent application with regards to their attitude to learning and therefore some really high points; helping our local community via Jubilee Court, litter picking and working with other special and mainstream schools; making a great contribution to Science week; being really healthy and trying their best in the sports activities to support Sports Relief; some great work in The Big Idea, Maths, Science and Topic; helping each other when they can; being the best possible advert for our school when we have guests and bringing a smile to my face every single day!

Have a great Easter break and please note all pupils are expected back at the usual time on Monday 16th April.

S D Trimble - Headteacher

happy  
EASTER



# WORK, WORK, WORK, WORK, WORK!



## POLITE REMINDER

**SCHOOL STARTS: 9.00AM**

**SCHOOL FINISHES: MONDAY -THURSDAY: 3.20PM**

**SCHOOL FINISHES FRIDAY: 2.20PM**

IF YOU COLLECT YOUR CHILD, YOU ARE EXPECTED TO BE HERE PROMPTLY AT OUR FINISHING TIMES, UNLESS OTHER ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED AND AGREED WITH SCHOOL.

OCCASSIONALLY DELAYS HAPPEN; IF YOU CANNOT COLLECT YOUR CHILD ON TIME, PLEASE INFORM SCHOOL: 01438 236 333 AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE.

## TERM DATES

### SUMMER TERM 2018

FIRST DAY OF TERM:

MAY BANK HOLIDAY:

HALF TERM BREAK:

JUNE

MONDAY 16TH APRIL

MONDAY 7TH MAY

MONDAY 28TH MAY TO FRIDAY 1ST

END OF TERM: FRIDAY 20TH JULY 1:00PM

[www.larwood.herts.sch.uk/termdates](http://www.larwood.herts.sch.uk/termdates)

## *Mrs Osborne's class*

In Design Technology and art this term, children have been working extremely hard across the curriculum. They have been very creative and have produced plans and models of parks following a visit to a local park.

During Science Week, children made rockets and launched them into space.



Children have been using chrome books this half term in Information Communication Technology for Coding and have learned skills enabling them to make their own app or game, adding their own pictures and events.





# BuSy



## Mrs Kamene's Class

This term, in Mrs. Kamene's class the children have carried out a range of investigations into the changes that occur to certain materials when they are heated, cooled and mixed with other materials.

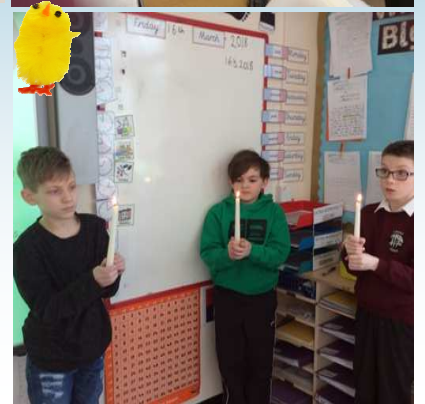
The children learnt the difference between a CHEMICAL and PHYSICAL reaction, and made observations of chemical reactions.

They also investigated methods that could be used to separate solids from liquid.



## House Point Competition 10 house points up for grabs!

How many Easter chicks can you count in this edition of the Larwood Lowdown? Let Mr Newman know AS SOON AS POSSIBLE



## MR JACOBS CLASS

Mr Jacobs class have been looking closely at the different effects various growing environments have on the germination process of a broad bean. The children have been completing a weekly diary observing their bean, by drawing and labelling any changes they notice to their broad bean. The children made a prediction on which environment they thought would enable the seed to grow the quickest. Understandably many predicted being placed outside would provide the most positive growing environment but have been surprised by how well some have grown in the cupboard and on the class window sill. There has also been a difference between seeds growing in the same environment, which has created quite a competitive nature as they each try to grow the strongest broad bean plant. The children have enjoyed our experiment so far and have put forward some very good reasons for the different levels of growth between the different settings as well as differences within the same setting. The boys look forward to re-planting their seed from glass jar to potted containers when they will take them home in an attempt to grow broad beans at home.



THE FINAL PAYMENT FOR PGL MUST BE PAID BY:

**MONDAY, 16TH APRIL 2018**

IF YOU ARE HAVING DIFFICULTIES PAYING THE FINAL AMOUNT; PLEASE CONTACT SCHOOL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Thank you.





# SUMMER IS COMING!



## Mrs Williams' Class



Mrs Williams' class have had fun investigating living things. It has been very cold for outside investigations but nothing our coats couldn't solve! Sadly there weren't as many animals around but we managed to find plants and shoots. We were a bit upset when we found the frog spawn was frozen but we are hoping that some of them will survive.

Mrs Williams' class were lucky enough to do horse riding with the RDA at Todd's Green. They progressed excellently and the anxiety they initially felt soon turned into excitement.



## Miss Trott's Class

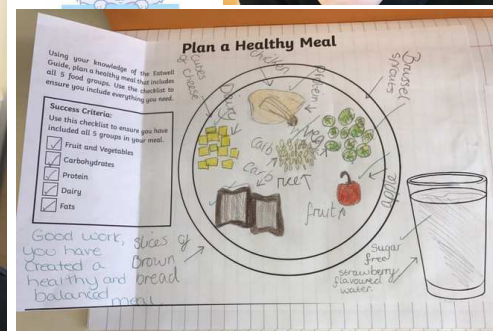
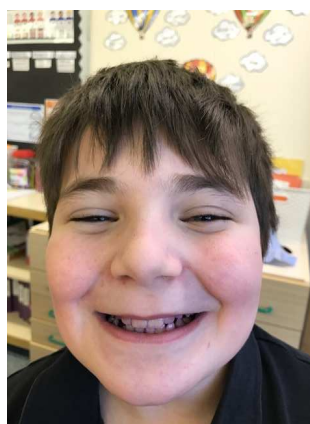
In Miss Trott's class we have been looking

at healthy eating, taking care of our bodies, personal hygiene and how our bodies absorb nutrients and digest food. We looked at our personal lifestyles and created 'ideal' lifestyle plans to identify where we could make simple changes. We also looked at the importance of keeping our bodies clean and even did a fun experiment to see the hidden plaque in our teeth and gums and the negative effects of not brushing.



A Healthy Lifestyle Weekend Diary		
	Saturday	Sunday
Breakfast	Fruit and yogurt strawberries, blueberries	Porridge (sweet fruit or a pinch of salt)
Lunch	Salad with pasta, salad, bean, tomatoes, cucumber, lettuce, chicken	Sandwich meat or cheese
Dinner	Fish (not deep fried)	Steak with a few veg and chips
Snacks	Crisps, fruit, under or 100 calories	Biscuits under or 100 calories
Drinks	Zero sugar fizzy drink	Water, juice, flavoured water
Time on Electronics	2 hrs	2 hrs
Active Minutes	1 hr	1 hr
Changes I made:		

A Typical Weekend Lifestyle Diary for Me		
	Saturday	Sunday
Breakfast	Porridge with banana	Porridge with banana
Lunch	1 hot lunch	None
Dinner	Fish	Steak chips
Snacks	Crisps	Crisps
Drinks	Can of juice	Can of Fanta
Time on Electronics	1 hr a day	half a day
Active Minutes	15 mins	1 hour
Areas for change:		
On my brother's for 3 hours		





*An opportunity to win  
£100 of Supermarket  
Vouchers*

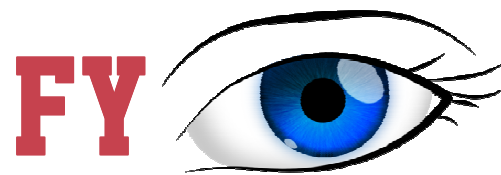
**SEPTEMBER 2017  
TO  
JULY 2018**



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

*98% + pupil attendance could  
win you £50 of supermarket  
vouchers*

*95%+ pupil attendance could  
win you £25 of supermarket  
vouchers*



**family  
lives**

**LISTENING, SUPPORTING AND  
NON- JUDGEMENTAL**

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 extend-

ed 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](http://www.familylives.org.uk)**

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

**STAY CONNECTED**

**Larwood**



**Home**



**#LARWOODLIFE #STAYUPTODATE #CONNECTED**



School Website: [www.larwood.herts.sch.uk](http://www.larwood.herts.sch.uk)

Telephone Number: 01438 236 333



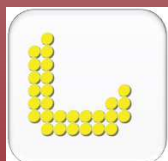
Email: [admin@larwood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@larwood.herts.sch.uk)

School App: App Store - e4Education



Facebook: Larwood School Academy

YouTube: Channel - Larwood School



The Larwood Lowdown

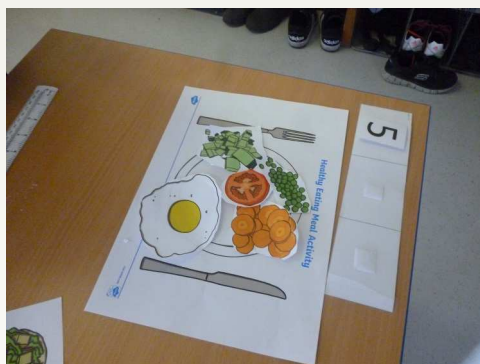
**effective**  
communication





## Mr Scales' Class

As part of our Science topic we have been looking in to healthy eating and what we need to lead a healthy lifestyle. Throughout the topic we generated 'healthy plates', considering what foods should make it on to our plate and why. The class considered macronutrients such as carbohydrates, proteins and fats, as well as the benefits of dairy (and more importantly calcium – which Oliver discussed in our class assembly). In addition to this, we looked at common misconceptions to do with fat and what treats and snacks contain. Furthermore, as a class we presented our plates to the entire school and shared our knowledge as part of a class assembly. Within this assembly the children spoke about what went on to their plate and why as well as discussing the latest “100 calorie snack 2 a day max” initiative.



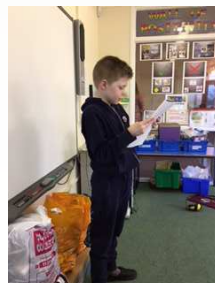
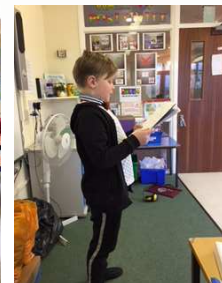
## MISS KIMPTON'S CLASS

In literacy this half term we have been looking at tongue twister poems. We have read many and performed them to each other. We learned about alliteration and had fun with words.

### WE EVEN WROTE OUR OWN:

The bandit banana brought the bag back  
But Bill built a bike but brought the bag.  
(Dominic)

Aiden saw an Alien Aircraft  
If Aiden saw an Alien Aircraft  
Where's the Alien Aircraft Aiden saw? (James)



### Keeping our Children Safe

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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 Bianca Osobu: Assistant Headteacher, supported by our other DSP's Mr Sean Trimble: Headteacher & Mrs Sian Ford: Family Support Worker  
Our Safeguarding Governor is Mrs Sandra Barr - Chair of Governors.



# Larwood Residential Care

## 2018 OUTSTANDING

The residential Ofsted Inspection took place, January 9th - 11th. As a school, we are very proud that, for the third year in a row, we have achieved an outstanding rating in all areas. This continues to demonstrate that our own internal self evaluation matches those of inspectors who visit, and through continuous pursuit of best practice, combined with a dedicated staff team, we have maintained our outstanding quality of care.

- Children have the opportunity to succeed both academically and socially in this provision. They make significant progress when using the residential setting.
- The residential provision is exceptionally well run by a highly skilled and dedicated staff team.
- The senior management and the staff consistently strive to improve the residential experience for the children, based on their individual needs. Parents, carers and professionals are extremely positive about the impact that the provision has for the children.
- The children understand the importance of treating everyone with dignity and respect. This runs through the ethos of the whole school.
- Through observations and speaking to the children, they clearly enjoy their time in residential unit, and feel safe. All the children can name members of staff that they would speak to if they were worried or upset.
- There is an established ethos and culture of collaborative working that supports children to progress in the school and the residential unit.
- The children's individual progress is exceptional.
- Parents say that communication between them, the school and residential is excellent, and that they are kept fully updated regarding any issues in relation to their child.
- The children are taught to be polite and kind to one another by staff, who act as positive role models.
- The staff seek feedback from the children using a wide variety of tools. For example, feedback is sought through house meetings, questionnaires, from governors and the independent visitor and through conversations with staff.
- The staff are clearly proud of their school and residential provision and this is replicated by the children. The children are courteous and polite to visitors, and are eager to help show them around. The reception area is bright and welcoming, which puts children, parents and children at ease when they enter the school.
- The children make excellent progress socially, emotionally and academically during their time as residential pupils. They are encouraged to build and maintain positive relationships with their peers which leads to children building, and keeping, friendships outside of the residential provision, thus giving them the same opportunities as their peers.
- The children aspire to having a coloured shirt and are extremely proud when they achieve this. This is presented to them by the headteacher in a school assembly. The children who also achieve, or do something to be proud of, have their photo taken, which is put up in the reception area, with a write-up of what they have done. The staff value the children's individual achievements, and celebrate these with them in a way which is meaningful to the children.
- Leaders and managers have developed a monitoring system which incorporates both the school and residential provision, and incorporates all aspects of a child's school life in order to ensure that the children are progressing. The staff are able to work together to identify patterns and trends, and where extra support is needed on an individual basis.
- Senior managers continue to ensure that they are abreast of developments in research, and share this knowledge with the staff in order to enhance the experiences and progress of children.
- The implementation of the headteacher and head of care completing recorded interviews with the children has expanded. These recorded interviews give the children the best opportunity to share their views and give great insight into how children feel.
- The children engage exceptionally well with a consistent staff team about all aspects of their safety. The staff skilfully implement boundaries and structure to the children's daily routine. The children quickly feel secure in the staff's abilities, enabling them to build good, trusting relationships and share their feelings openly. Parents, carers and professionals spoken with during this inspection were all complimentary.
- The children report that they are listened to and really like the staff. This is due to them having such strong relationships with the staff. A social worker said, 'Staff know the children inside out, what works best for each of the children. I am very happy with the staff, they will do anything to help and support.'







## MISS KIMPTON - After School Club



This half term we have run three after school club sessions on a Monday evening. The pupils who have come along have enjoyed a range of different activities such as, glass painting, boxing, astro games, chrome books and Lego.

This half term's 3 sessions have been very successful and enjoyable.

We will be running 3 sessions again next half term and letters will go home after Easter.



# FOX CUB

Dylan says

"It's great!"

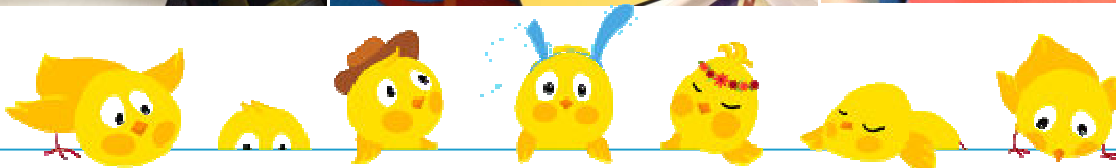
Carlos says  
"It's the best  
time ever, and  
the next time will  
be even better!"

This half term in Cub we have completed some very exciting activities. Our Topic has been people that help us in our community. The children made their own Dr's bag that contains some of the equipment a Dr would have/need in their bags. We then turned Cub into a Drs Surgery on the Friday of that week. They took it in turns to be the doctor, the patient and the receptionist to book the appointment (once they got through!). We all thoroughly enjoyed this activity and gained a lot of knowledge from taking part.

Mrs Osborne's class made some very exciting gifts for their Mums/Nans for Mother's day. The children had great fun in making them: pottery ring tray, homemade bath bombs and some delicious Mother's day biscuits. We hoped you liked them as we were all very proud of our pupils.

Every Tuesday Cub uses the cookery room for our session. The children have followed lots of delicious recipes; Flapjacks, Chocolate Chip Muffins and Krispy cakes for the bake sale in school. Hopefully some of which managed to make it home for you to sample.

Have a Happy Easter.





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. Trios 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.



# MR V - HE DOES PE

As you know, this year Larwood School participated in Sports Relief. During the pupil's PE lesson, they each ran a sponsored mile and I was very impressed by their endurance! Each day during the week children took on a challenge. Monday – 50 star jumps, Tuesday – 30 burpees, Wednesday – 40 mountain climbers, Thursday – 50 knee ups and Friday they came dressed in Olympic colours. Children also bought lots of wrist bands. We were amazed at how much money the children raised for this cause – £921.50! Absolutely astonishing effort!

The following children should be especially proud of the money that they raised:

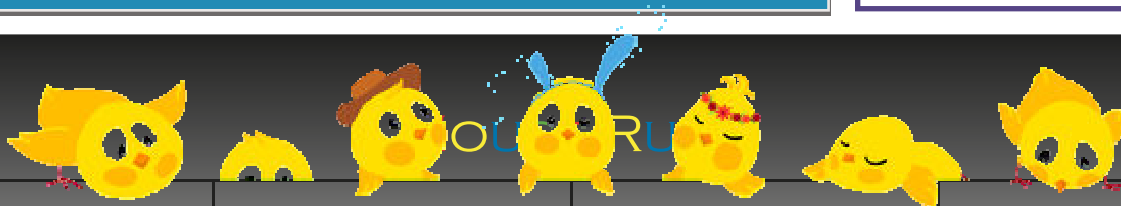
Kayden £200  
Dylan £100  
Hayden £100  
Jayden £80  
Tyler £80  
Dominic £55  
Max £47.50  
Max £45  
Kayson £40  
Oscar £40  
Carys £32  
Alfie £26  
Josie £20



The best bit is, the money raised by the public is spent by Comic Relief to help people living incredibly tough lives, both at home in the UK and across the world's poorest countries. Thank you to all the children and staff for participating and everyone who sponsored a child!

## Miss Gwynne's Class

In Miss Gwynne's class we have been trying to get physical with maths. This involved becoming human co-ordinates. This helped to remember to 'go along the corridor and up the stairs'



TRENT	TRAFORD	READINGLY	LORDS
1st	4th	2nd	3rd
1 2 3 9	1 2 0 0	1 2 3 0	1 2 2 3

**WELL DONE TO HOUSE:**  
**TRENT**

**BACK TO SCHOOL: MONDAY, 16TH APRIL 2018**

