



Larwood LOWDOWN



VOLUME: TWO
ISSUE: FOUR

NEWSLETTER DATE: APRIL 2014

Diary Dates

Friday 4th April

End of spring term. Pupils

finish at usual time.

Easter Holidays

Monday 7th April -

Monday 21st April 2014

First Day Back

Tuesday 22nd April. Start
of the Summer Term.
Pupils return at the usual
time.

NEW FOUNDATIONS FOR OUR FUTURE?

This year, we start our Easter break with some warm weather and a sprinkling of Sahara dust? Unusual events such as this can take us by surprise. I think that they also remind me of the fact that there are many aspects of life that we cannot control. Surprises come in all shapes and sizes, sometimes from places where we maybe don't expect them. This term your sons and daughters have provided many surprising and some challenging moments. This would include new members of the coloured shirt club, bronze and silver medals, times table recitals in assembly, gaining 100 points in a week, or making it onto Friday afternoon activities for the first time. Well done to them all!

Please note that on Thursday 27th March, the full governing body met to debate whether Larwood School should consult on becoming a 'foundation school'. One of the main reasons for this discussion was to consider the possibility of taking greater ownership of our schools future. You will receive more information related to this next term, but it is worth noting that the governing body voted unanimously to consult on this issue. The benefits of this type of status would be:

- The governing body would take formal control of land and assets
- The governing body becomes the employer of staff rather than the local authority
- The governing body can become its own admissions authority.

The first two points are the more relevant ones at this stage. This may then lead to a consultation connected to Larwood School becoming an academy school in due course. The governing body and leadership team believe that with a change of status, we will be able to control our future work with your children in a more coherent and productive way. Please do consider this information when it is sent to you next term. You will have an opportunity to ask questions and reply.

Have a lovely break and we look forwards to seeing pupils return, at the normal time, on Tuesday 22nd April.

S D Trimble
Headteacher



Mrs Williams Class have Been Busy!



Creating adjectives through our senses. Smell, taste, touch and sight. Cai said it was the best lesson ever! They created a huge list of adjectives and some similes.



Our topic and science display board. Life cycles. We have looked at flowers, frogs and caterpillars.



RESIDENTIAL NEWS

Kester and Tony look forward to their Tuesday visits to play games and have fun with their new friends Marjorie, Stan, Betty and Mary. They are budding snooker and domino champions. Kester enjoys reading to Marjorie



and she is enjoying 'Mr Stink'. Tony likes chatting to Stan while they have a drink and play dominos.

LOWDOWN



HELPFUL CONTACTS?

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 designated senior person for child protection is Ms Moore. Please do contact her if you have any concerns in this area.

Hertfordshire Additional Needs Database is for parents or carers of children with an additional need or disability. Register for free and receive a termly newsletter, concessions on leisure facilities, information on benefits, activities and support groups.

<http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/handinfo11.pdf>

The Citizens Advice Bureau offers free, confidential, impartial and independent advice to help people resolve their problems with debt, benefits, employment, housing, discrimination, and many more issues.

<http://www.adviceguide.org.uk/england.htm>

The KIDS East and West HUB services offer information and support to the parents and carers of disabled children and young people across Hertfordshire.

http://www.kids.org.uk/information/106458/106700/kids_east_and_west_hubs/

www.hertswomenscentre.org.uk

Hertfordshire County Council provides extensive information about services in your local area. This includes links to the Family Services Directory, HertsHelp and local events.

<http://www.hertsdirect.org/your-community/>



Wall of Fame



- ◆ The strong leadership of the headteacher, other leaders and managers, and the governing body has led to good improvement since the last inspection.
- ◆ Leaders have concentrated on improving the quality of teaching in order to raise pupils' achievement. They have also improved systems for managing pupils' behaviour so that it better supports their learning.
- ◆ Teaching is now good, and pupils are making good progress and reaching higher standards than in previous years.
- ◆ Behaviour is good and the school makes sure that pupils feel safe. Good behaviour is rewarded in ways that motivate pupils and the number of fixed-term exclusions has fallen.
- ◆ The school meets with a good level of success in transforming pupils' attitudes to learning. This contributes a great deal to the progress that they make and helps to turn their lives around.
- ◆ The varied learning activities support pupils' good personal development as well as their academic achievement.
- ◆ There are examples of individual pupils making outstanding progress.

New additions to the Larwood Wall of Fame after the Easter break-Can you guess who they are?



This person is a great example of how you can change your behaviour and make big improvements with help from staff. Due to the changes this person has made they have also made good progress with their literacy and numeracy. Great work! Pupil in Year 3.

A new pupil in September who settled down to life at Larwood immediately. Great contributions to class discussions, excellent points every week and some really good ideas for the school council.
Who could this Year 4 pupil be?

This pupil is in Year 5 and is a keen sportsman. He has been really determined to make good progress this year and started the year superbly. However, he has continued the year so far in the same manner. He has earned his black shirt and kept it!

The first pupil at Larwood School to earn a blue shirt. She got this because she got at least 90/100 points every week for at least 6 weeks. She's a superstar in Year 2!



**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 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.

The Playbarn!

UPDATE

As promised, we have now got some of the equipment that our school council requested last term, for our new playbarn. It looks great and is in use daily.

One thing that maybe none of our pupils were expecting was the huge computer/TV unit. This doubles up as an interactive SMARTboard so that staff can teach and demonstrate ideas on it just like a classroom, if they wish too.



LOWDOWN



'SAFARI STU' VISITS LARWOOD FOR TRIPS DAY - THURSDAY 2ND APRIL



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