



VOLUME: ELEVEN

ISSUE: TWO

Larwood LOWDOWN

What do snowmen have for breakfast"? SNOWFLAKES!



Dear Parents/ Carers

As we approach the last day of Christmas, it is with enormous pride and a big thank you to parents/carers, pupils and staff for making this Autumn term very special.

We have achieved much since our return in September, including Ofsted, changes to lunchtimes, new interventions, return to off site visits and our enhanced 'hoody' reward system.

A personal highlight for me at the end of term was the Christmas production. A lot of effort, time and dedication went into preparing our youngsters for a production that superseded expectations, and I would like to thank staff and pupils alike for their hard work. Like with all great performances, they need a great audience, therefore I would like to extend my gratitude to the great number of parents/ carers that took the time out of their busy schedules to support our youngsters.

Sadly, we are saying our farewells to two long term members of our Larwood team. Mrs Trott, after more than 10 years of service, will leave us at the end this term and will be taking up a new senior position at a different school in Stevenage. Mr Dennis, who after more than 20 years, will be retiring at the end of term. I wish them both well and want to thank them for their dedicated service and commitment to Larwood school. They will be greatly missed.

I had some feedback from Ofsted and we are expecting our results to be published early in the new year. I will keep you posted on progress and inform you once we know when it will be published.

I hope you all have a fantastic and enjoyable festive break and a very happy new year. We shall see you back on the 4th of January 2023

Ho Ho Ho!

Mr Van der Merwe

Pierre Van Der Merwe
Headteacher





Achieve

Mrs Wood

'Your are GOLD!'

Our first term nearly completed, and we have had a few changes to our class, we said goodbye to Reece who joined another class in school and welcomed Marnie and Elias. We are officially a class of 9 wonderful boys who have all made progress since joining the class. The boys have enjoyed end of term trips, Friday activities like bowling and gravity and even trip to the park in the cold. We have seen more pupils get their gold shirts and bronze medals which has been a fantastic achievement. Each pupil has improved in their reading and writing this term. Mrs Longcroft and I are so proud of the boys in all that they have achieved this term. Well done boys and keep it up for next term. We hope you all have a wonderful holiday and keep safe and warm.



Stevenage Sporting Futures

Over the course of time that schools have been shut; Stevenage Sporting Futures Team have been highlighting different activities and tasks that children can complete from home during quarantine. We will be continuing to do this throughout the rest of the academic year giving children ideas of how they can stay physically active at home as well as activities that can be completed in school. Go check out some of the activities that we have posted online. We hope this is a useful resource for you all throughout the remainder of the academic year. Please find the links to our website and social media pages below:



Facebook: Stevenage Sporting Futures Team <https://www.facebook.com/stevenagesportingfuturesteam>

Twitter: @stevenageSFT

Website: <http://stevenagesportingfutures.co.uk/covid-19/>

Adam Baker - Stevenage Sporting Futures



"Don't 'sir' me, I'm plain Harold, one - time coal miner and one - time professional cricketer." - Harold Larwood



Believe

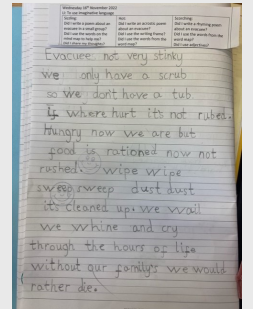
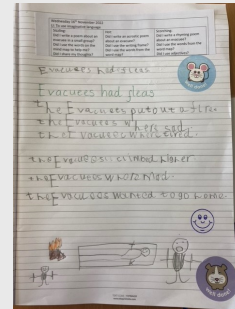
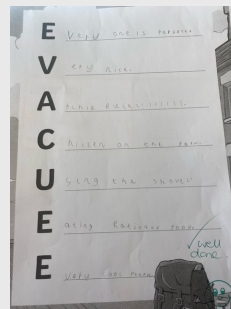
Miss Kimpton

'Royal Honour!'

We received a card from King Charles III. My class and Mrs Wood's class sent cards, pictures and stories to the late Queen and to the King following her passing. We feel very honoured to have received this card.

The children have been learning about World war 2 in history. We linked this into our poetry topic in Literacy. The children have really enjoyed learning about the evacuees, they have watch a CBBC show about 12 children who were sent to live on a farm set in the war. They learned so much and this showed in the poems they wrote.

They have learned about acrostic poems, shape poems and art poems. They have produced some amazing poems. The first poem is by Phoebe, the second by Kai and the acrostic poem is by Archie.



Online Safety

It can be hard to know how to talk to your child about online safety. From setting up parental controls to advice on sexting, online games and video apps, we can help you to understand the risks and keep your child safe.

www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety

Whether you're puzzled by parental controls or would like to get knowledgeable about gaming, Childnet can help. We all know that it can sometimes be challenging to keep up to speed with what children and young people are doing online. On this page you'll find a whole host of useful ways to help keep your child safe.

www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers

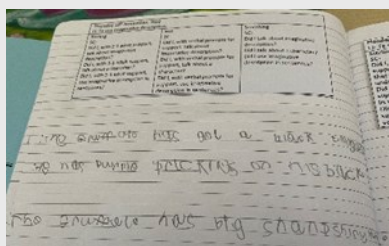


Mrs Osborne

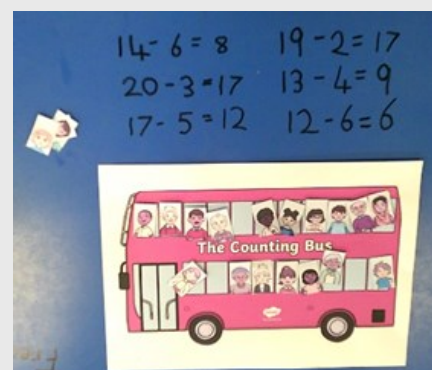
'Busy Bee's!'

What a busy half term! Our topic this term has continued to be 'The same but different'. We have talked about similarities and differences between each other, how we look and the different things we like.

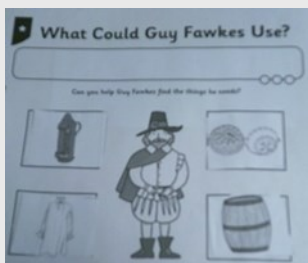
In literacy, we have been following a programme called 'Talk for Writing'. The children are told a story and as a class, create a story map. Next, we made actions to tell our story. We made a word bank to help us with writing our story and then we wrote in our literacy books. This half term our stories have been 'The Gruffalo' and 'The Little Red Hen'. We have also been learning about rhyming words.



In numeracy, we have been learning about numbers, number bonds, addition, subtraction and multiplication.



In science, we have learned about life cycles and had some fun completing Crest Science activities. We have continued to look at the weather.



In history, we have learned about Guy Fawkes and Neil Armstrong.

We have continued with our hard work this term, completing lots of different activities, including practicing for our Nativity play. Below are pictures of some of the activities we have completed.





AN OPPORTUNITY TO WIN £100 OF SUPER MARKET VOUCHERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO JULY 2023

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

All qualifying names will be put into a
hat and picked by Mr Van.

#AttendanceIsImportant

Be an Attendance Hero!



**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.

STAY CONNECTED

Larwood



Home

#LARWOODLIFE #STAYUPTODATE #CONNECTED



School Website: www.larwood.herts.sch.uk



Telephone Number: 01438 236 333



Email: admin@larwood.herts.sch.uk

School App: App Store - e4Education



Facebook: Larwood School Academy

YouTube: Channel - Larwood School



The Larwood Lowdown

effective
communication



Miss Hanam

'Top Earners!'

Another busy yet exciting half term for our class! We have continued to grow, and we now have a class of 10 wonderful pupils!

As always, the children have been working extremely hard across all subjects and have started attending their chosen skills sessions. We have particularly taken a liking to 'talk for writing' and the children thoroughly enjoy the process of creating a class story map and making up actions for the stories.

This half term we have been focusing on poetry related to Christmas and all the children are looking forward to writing their own magical poems and sharing them with peers. We are super proud to announce that most of our class have now earned their black shirts or are close to earning them over the coming weeks, children have also started to receive their bronze medals which is a brilliant achievement especially for all the newer pupils who have settled in really well at Larwood school in such a short time.

We have finished our topic on the Benin and look forward to studying the Victorians in the new year. The year 6 children are also excited to attend swimming lessons in January. Happy holidays.



NSPCC  TM
Cruelty to children must stop. FULL STOP.

 **Childnet**
 International

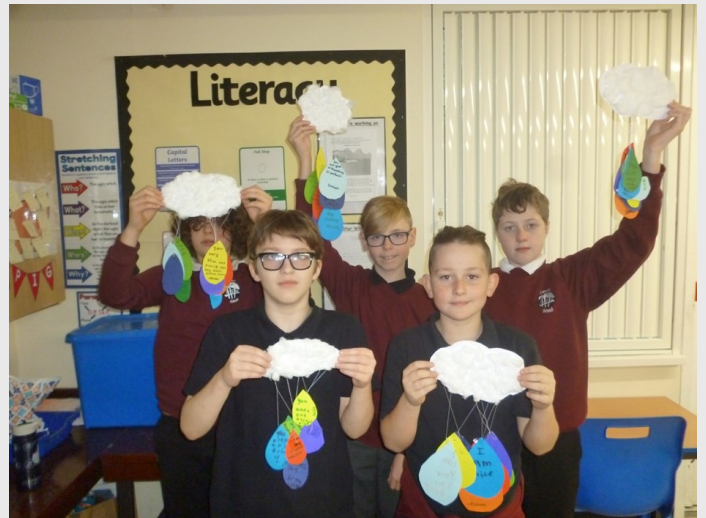
Miss Hipkin

'On the Ball!'



This half term in Geography, we have been learning about maps, map keys and grid references. The children had fun learning about the symbols used on maps and what they mean and so we decided to draw our own maps and make a key for them. Some children used traditional symbols while others choose to fill their islands with their favourite things and make up symbols for them.

We also spent some time looking at responsibility in PSHE and so we decided to look at kindness and how we can be kind to others. We made some kindness clouds and asked each child to write something nice about themselves and all the other children in the class. The children wrote some positive words, and they enjoyed reading what the other children had said about them.



PLEASE GO TO: www.larwood.herts.sch.uk

- ▶ Click on the menu (top right of the screen)
- ▶ Click Parent Zone
- ▶ Read our updated eSafety section called:
KEEPING YOUR CHILD SAFE ONLINE!



In this section you will find instructions for 'Parental Controls' for most devices and gadgets: SKY, VIRGIN, Google Home, Alexa, Mobile phone operators; O2, EE. We have tried to cover all platforms, but if there are controls you would like and cannot find, please contact the school and we will try and get the information you need.

PLEASE KEEP YOUR CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE!

VIP Information

As part of the #WakeUpWednesday campaign, National Online Safety has teamed up with Music Alternative to launch a Fortnite online safety song for us to share with our whole school community! Check out the YouTube video @

YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j150BqInjY>





BE AN ATTENDANCE HERO!

ATTENDING SCHOOL IS IMPORTANT & YOU COULD WIN UPTO £100 IN SHOPPING VOUCHERS!
#ATTENDANCEHERO

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

ALL QUALIFYING NAMES WILL BE PUT INTO A HAT AND PICKED BY MR VAN.

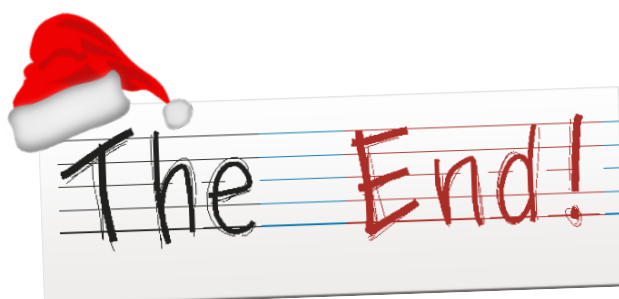
Keeping our Children Safe **Keeping our Children Safe** Keeping our Children Safe **Keeping our Children Safe**

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 (DSP) for child protection is Mrs Bianca Osobu: Deputy Headteacher

Supported by our other DSP's:

Mrs Sian Ford: Family Support Worker
Marcus McKechnie: LASA - Lead Behaviour Support



Merry Christmas



Happy New Year

From

Everyone at
Larwood Academy

