



# Larwood

# LOWDOWN



VOLUME: THREE  
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## Diary Dates

### Back to School

**Monday**

**1st June**

### Half Term

Monday 25th May to Fri-  
day 29th May

### End of Term

Friday 17th July



My congratulations go to all Year 6 pupils who have taken their tests during last week. I still do question the nature and process of this arrangement for all of our pupils. Testing is part of life and it is our duty to help prepare all of our pupils for such tests. However, I believe we get just an accurate picture (possibly more accurate) via the tests that my staff use with pupils, every half term. Plus, if you are taking the harder Level 6 tests, you are rewarded with extra tests on a day to day basis during that week, which seems rather bizarre!

The only request made to Year 6 pupils last week was to give the tests their best shot! Just about all of them did this. Some pupils have not been at Larwood very long at all and still tried really hard to answer the questions the best that they could. In recognition of this, all of the pupils that had tried their best were taken out for a treat last Friday. It was well deserved!

It is the time of the year when things are very busy. My thanks go to all parents and carers who have (or will be attending) attended their annual review or conversion to an Education Health Care plan. Your views are essential during this process, alongside your child's and their teachers. During this last week of half term, we will experience the excitement of the Bell Boat and Dragon Boat races. Once again, I am sure that all pupils taking part will make us all proud!

Please note that during the last part of this academic year, we will be sending out school reports, have our annual Sports Day as well as the Gym and Dance show.

S D Trimble  
Headteacher





# WORK, WORK, WORK!



## 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 Ms Moore. Please do contact her if you have any concerns in this area.

## MISS GWYNNE'S CLASS



*In Miss Gwynne's class we have been looking at ourselves. We created self-portraits and thought about why it is good to be us. Some of the reasons we thought of were that we are; kind, caring, funny and polite.*



We have also looked at ways to be a good friend. We created a 'Bank of Friendship' that we can withdraw from when we need to. Some of the ways we decided we could be a good friend are; share, offer to play with someone, give someone a high five and make someone laugh!

## MISS GELIOT'S CLASS

In history we learned about what life was like in the Stone Age. We recreated cave paintings and made pinch pots out of clay. We moved on to learn about the Iron Age and built roundhouses. In science we investigated materials and their properties. We made the three little pigs houses and tested their strength. In design and technology we built houses and attached doors and windows using hinges. In literacy we read fairy tales and wrote our own versions.



*We learnt about algorithms. We wrote algorithms for a human crane.*



# BuSy



## What Ofsted said about Larwood—January 2014

Pupils have good opportunities to develop a range of skills, including through attending vocational taster sessions at North Herts College and working with visiting artists and musicians as part of the Trinity Guildhall Bronze Arts Award. These stimulating activities contribute to pupils' positive attitudes to learning and to their overall achievement.

Pupils make good progress in developing their physical and sporting skills. Outdoor education contributes considerably to this and those pupils who successfully complete this course have the opportunity to climb Snowdon at the end of the school year.

The quality of teaching has improved since the previous inspection and is now good at both key stages, including in English and mathematics.

Teachers have good relationships with their pupils, classrooms are made attractive with displays and lessons are purposeful.

In many lessons, teachers question pupils well to check their understanding and deepen their thinking.

Pupils have regular reading and spelling tasks for homework, and the teaching of reading is good throughout the school.

Teachers provide pupils with plenty of opportunity to practise their reading in class and in an outstanding English lesson in Years 2 and 3, the teacher supported pupils very skilfully as they drew on their knowledge of sounds and letters to label diagrams of what they see on their way to school.

## MISS TROTT'S CLASS

In Miss Trott's class we have been looking at the different types of fossils and studying how fossils are excavated. We even made our own mold and cast fossils and excavated them as a palaeontologist would, being very careful and using precision.



We have also tried our hand at abstract art. We used household items to create lovely pieces of art; from our wooden spoon creatures to our egg-filled splatter paint. The children have had a blast getting creative.





# SUMMER

# TIME

## MUSIC TIME



Fortunately for us the sun shone on occasion this term and we certainly made the most of it, taking the opportunity to find a nice spot under the trees for a drumming circle. The group managed a few rounds of Simon Says and then we took turns doing drum solos! Great fun!

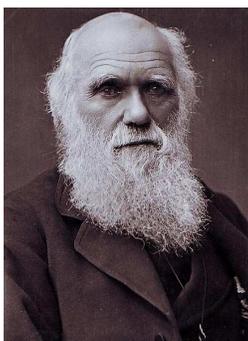
Here's James adjusting brilliantly to the silent practice regime employed whilst the year six boys wrestled with their SATs upstairs!



This is a totally staged shot for the Lowdown as requested by Louie in the hope of getting his picture in the magazine to show his mum! We hope it makes the final edit!

Are we looking at a picture of some future rap and hip hop stars? Free styling and busting out the beats, that's a serious skill! Concentration, passion and dedication was demonstrated in this hour long session of creativity and craft?

## MISS KIMPTON'S CLASS



In topic for this half term we have been looking at the life and work of Charles Darwin. We have learned that he was born in Shrewsbury in 1809. He travelled around on the HMS Beagle and thought up the theory of evolution. We have completed some work on evolution including a game we found on a website. In the game we were to keep our species alive for 1 million years, by changing its traits to go along with the changing environment. We have really enjoyed learning this topic.

<http://www.sciencechannel.com/games-and-interactives/charles-darwin-game.htm>

Check the game out and read a little about Charles Darwin too!!



*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](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.

## MRS WILLIAM'S CURRICULUM SKILLS

During curriculum skills afternoon, the children were busy making healthy food options.



Bug City alert! At lunch play Harrison and his friends have been painstakingly building a special place for our summer friends....they rebuild it every day, never complaining, and it's looking fit enough for a Queen or a lady!





**A' T' E' N' T' I' O' N!**

*An opportunity to win*

**£200**



**of Supermarket vouchers**

*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*

**LOWDOWN**

# EXTRA EXTRA

## LARWOOD SCHOOL

### HOUSE RUNS

TRAFFORD	LORDS	TRENT	HEADINGLY
1196	1132	1198	1172
2ND	4TH	1ST	3RD

**CHILDREN BACK TO SCHOOL:**

**Monday 1st June 2015**

**HAVE A GREAT BREAK!**



*Achieve, Believe, Expect and Enjoy*

