

# Larwood

## LOWDOWN



SCHOOL RESIDENTIAL



**FIRST DAY OF TERM:**  
**WEDNESDAY**  
**31 ST AUGUST**

**Autumn Term**  
**2016**

**INSET DAY:**  
**Tuesday 30th**  
**August**

**FIRST DAY OF TERM:**  
**Wednesday 31st**  
**August**

**HALF TERM BREAK:**  
**Monday 17th**  
**October**  
**to Friday 28th**  
**October**

**LAST DAY OF TERM:**  
**Wednesday 21st**  
**December at 1:20**

## FINISH



## LINE

The end of the summer term has been as busy as ever. I would like to thank you all for supporting our recent sports day and also our reviews or transfer meetings. These always add to the business of the end of the term but are really important events in different ways. I am never too busy to not be able to reflect upon the way that your children make us very proud here at Larwood. Sometimes it's small things such as a 'please' or 'thank you', other times it is acts of kindness or a really big effort to get some work done. We are lucky to see so many magic moments during the year and although there are always challenges that we face, we always remember those magic moments.

### STAFFING

We are fully staffed for September but there are some changes to note. We say a fond farewell to Miss Pallet (Cleaning team), and we wish her all the best in her new role. Mr Miles, our Site Manager is also moving onto a new challenge, which includes travelling as much of the country as he can. He has served the school for many years and has done so brilliantly making sure that everything works as it should do. We also say goodbye to Mrs Osborne, who after four years of service moves to another teaching challenge. I would like to wish them all the very best of luck for the future.

Many of you know that having said goodbye to Miss Ford, we have now welcomed her back to the Family Support role. We also welcome Mr Scales to a classroom teacher role for September. Mr Scales has spent 3 days in school recently so is very well briefed and prepared for September.

### YEAR 6

As always there will be a few tears when we say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils on Friday. They have undertaken transition activities with staff and have visited their new schools. I have really enjoyed seeing so many of them develop during the last few years and I really do wish them well in their new schools.

### ACADEMY CONVERSION UPDATE

Following an application form, consultation period and many discussions with various groups, we have been granted our academy order. This means that the Department for Education have agreed with our own view that we have the resources and staffing to become an Academy. Not only this, but we have also been advised that we can open as a Multi Academy Trust (MAT). This format allows us to have other schools join us over a period of time but Larwood School would act as the lead school within the trust. We have always stated that we would like a period of time running our own academy before we group together with any other schools. This is particularly important in light of recent and frequent governmental change which is ongoing. In the long run, it makes sense to formalise some agreements with other schools in due course. There are opportunities to share resources, costs and ideas. As always with this matter or any other, if you have any questions or queries, please do get in contact with us. Our actual conversion date is set for November 1<sup>st</sup> 2016.

**All the best for the Summer**  
**S D Trimble - Headteacher**





# WORK, WORK, WORK, WORK, WORK!

## Miss Kimpton's Class

During literacy this half term we have been learning about shape poems. We have looked at Calligrams and how they are formed. Shape poems do not have to rhyme. We have used the laptops to make calligrams. We have also produced our own written calligrams. Literacy is not our favourite subject, but as a class we have really enjoyed this topic. We are looking forward to creating colourful calligrams full of adjectives. We also learned about onomatopoeia, and we found this fun



## Still going . . . . .

For our Geography topic we have been comparing 2 locations. Stevenage and Cascaval in Brazil. We generated many questions we wanted to know the answer to. We had a video call with Miss Kimpton's cousin Daniel who lives in Cascaval. He was able to answer our questions. It was great to learn about another town, and culture. We also learned that Daniel really misses bacon, baked beans and his brother. The Olympic torch passed through the town yesterday (30.6.16). The town has 3 athletes competing in the Olympic Games. We wish to thank Daniel for giving up his time to talk to us. It was brilliant to learn about Brazil.



## After School Club

In after school clubs this half term we have been working hard. In the gardening group we have removed the weeds, and added new reclaimed pallets as beds and made our own pumpkin bed. We have planted Sweetcorn, butternut squash, pumpkins, courgettes, beetroot, radishes, a herb garden and giant pumpkins. Last year we created a link with a pumpkin farmer in Canada. We shared the photos of our pumpkins with him. He has sent us the seeds for giant pumpkins from a 400lb pumpkin he grew last year. A special mention to Lorenzo who continues to work hard in the garden. He has worked on the garden for over a year now. Well done Lorenzo!



In cooking we have made summer pudding - pupils and staff were a little worried about this as it had never been attempted before. It turned out great!







## Music, with Mr Simler

What a great year for music, here at Larwood. The children have learnt so much, from composing music, learning new instruments and then combining all they have learnt to express their composition through music. The talent continues right up until the end of the year! Ronnie on the gong, Callum composing at the piano and team work between Jarod and JB to make the harmonium come to life. I hope our year 6 pupils, continue using their skills at their new secondary schools! Well done everyone!



## 2016 to 2017 Term Dates

Term dates from the front page continued:

### Autumn Term 2016:

INSET day: Tuesday 30th August

First day of term: Wednesday 31st August

Half Term Break: Monday 17th October to Friday 28th October inc.

Last day of term: Wednesday 21st December at 1:20



### Spring Term 2017:

First day of term: Thursday 5th January

Half term break: Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February inc.

End of term: Friday 31st March at 2:20pm



### 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 inc.

End of term : Thursday 20th July 1:00pm



## THANK YOU, TO THE PRIORY ROTARY CLUB IN HITCHIN!

Some of our pupils were lucky enough to join more than 700 children, plus their teachers, carers and parents, for a 'KidsOut Big Day Out' at Whipsnade Zoo. The children had an amazing day, running around and learning facts about the animals of the world, many of which can be seen at the Zoo.

All of the events throughout the day were jam packed with smiling children, laughing and having so much fun. The train that travels around the park was also free of charge for any children that were invited by KidsOut and Rotary, which was amazing as they got to see all around the park and all different animals including different types of deer, rhinos, camels and Asian elephants: many of these animals cannot always be seen on foot so this was an amazing opportunity for the children.

A big thank you to Peter Hull and the whole of the Hitchin Priory Rotary, who were the main organisers of the Big Day Out at Whipsnade. We really appreciate the hard work and effort that went into making this day eventful and mesmerizing for the children that attended. Our appreciation also goes to the Rotarian volunteers and staff at the Zoo who all contributed to making this a special day for the children who all went home with very happy memories of a great day out.







# SUMMER TIME

## Mrs Kamene's Class



This year, the year 6 pupils have been doing Arts Award and during their sessions they have had the opportunity to play percussion instruments using jam lids and drums to create songs. They also did light painting. In other sessions they wrote, choreographed and performed a dance using the five elements of life.

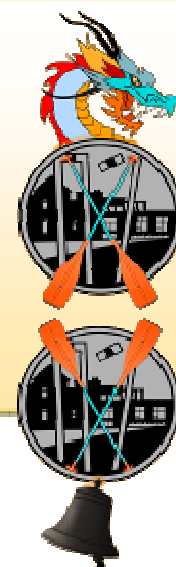
To celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday, Mrs Kamene's class worked together to bake and decorate a cake in order to commemorate the event.



In mad skills science the children have done various experiences to enhance their practical knowledge such as making their own sand, making lava lamp, escaping water etc.

## Annual Dragon & Bell Boat Races

The Larwood School Dragon and Bell Boat teams, entered the annual Fairlands Valley competition again this year. Unfortunately, we were unable to retain our top 3 position but we would have if the event organisers had kept the race as 'fastest time' instead of 1st, 2nd and 3rd! We were one of the fastest teams in the competition and that required great team work to achieve this goal! The Bell Boat team also did a fantastic job. We had a lot of fun over the two day event. The children really enjoyed themselves, worked hard and most importantly worked together as a team! Well done boys and girls, very proud of you all.







## MISS TROTT'S CLASS

In Miss Trott's class we have been looking at different types of poetry. After reading Michael Rosen's poem 'orange juice' we wrote our own about our favourite drinks.

### Lucozade

Lucozade is so good  
I like to drink it with my food  
I like it because its nice,  
even though it is low price  
The bubbles feel nice on my tongue  
Drinking Lucozade is a lot of fun!  
I like it because it's fine  
The taste is so divine!

By Cobi

### Ice Tea

I like Ice Tea  
It is refreshing for me.  
If I need to take a rest,  
Ice tea is just the best!  
If you give it to your Dad,  
He's gonna be a healthy lad!  
If you try to climb a wall  
Drink Ice tea and you won't fall  
If you feel kind of weak,  
Drink Ice Tea, you'll be on a streak!

By Joel

## DUCK UPDATE



The children have worked hard to help fix the courtyard up and create a lovely oasis for the ducks. Wow! What a transformation!



## MRS WILLIAM'S CLASS

Here are some pictures of my maths set working hard. We try to make as many lessons as active and fun as possible. Here are a few examples of the group working cooperatively and learning from each other. They have worked very hard over the past year.



*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.

## 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.



# WORK



## Mrs Pole's Class

Class 5's English group have enjoyed listening to and imitating styles of poetry, including limericks and Haikus. We have been particularly inspired by Michael Rosen with his very witty performance poems and have enjoyed reciting class favourites, 'No Breathing in Class' and 'Chocolate Cake' - which gave us a perfect excuse for an extra cookery lesson. (It would have been rude not to!)



### Celebrating the Queen at 90 & Class Work



#### Class 5's Limerick

There was an old man called Jeff  
Who always turned up to ref  
He lost his red card  
Which made reffing hard  
But nobody knew he had bad breath

As part of the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations in June, the children (and adults!) enjoyed a Malteser Challenge where they willed a Malteser to roll down the whole length of a metal measuring tape and land in their open mouths. Great fun!



### JOKES

Why do bananas use sunscreen?  
Because they peel.  
What do you call a snowman in July?  
A puddle  
What do sheep do on sunny days?  
Have a baa-baa Q  
Why don't oysters share their pearls?  
Because they're shellfish  
Why are gulls named seagulls?  
If they were by the bay, they'd be bagels

### HIRE OUR FACILITIES

Are you looking for a professional conference venue for staff training / business meetings / conducting interviews ?  
Take a look at our high quality conference / meeting room facilities available at competitive rates. Catering service available also.  
**A great opportunity for local businesses in Stevenage to contribute directly to our community - All revenue goes to funding school activities and resources!**



*For further information: please call Sandra Fitzpatrick, School Business Manager, on: 01438 236333*





# Larwood Residential Care

## OUTSTANDING

### Ofsted Outstanding! Yes, that's what we are!

Mr Trimble (Head Teacher) and Mr Reid (Head of Care) were not only very pleased but also proud to receive the recent Ofsted report for residential care. The report had confirmed our own self evaluation that we were now outstanding in all areas of residential care. Mr Trimble has thanked all staff for their work in this area but particularly praised the Care Team for their hard work and commitment, to provide the very best possible experience for all of our residential pupils. It was also noted that pupil voice and parent comments featured strongly in the inspection process and report itself.

### A few quotes from the inspection:

A parent said: 'My son has a fantastic opportunity here. He enjoys doing his homework and he is making really good progress. He is calmer. He is not confused, he likes the boarding routine. He likes boarding a lot and he is learning about how to look after himself. He is doing things he would not have done before.'

A parent said: 'They have really helped me understand what is happening for my son; they involve me and don't shut me out. I feel I am valued as a parent and my views count.'

Using consistent routines and responses, staff support children to identify their feelings and develop self-regulation skills. Where the head identifies gaps in services for children he appoints staff and fills service voids. This provides expedited access to specialist advice and support for home, school and the care team.

Children identify the risk of cyber bullying and meeting strangers during games, they play at home. They attribute this to staff helping them understand about internet dangers.

The business manager meticulously maintains records of recruitment within the school, and records in respect of people living on the school site. Robust agreements require non-school employees to adhere to a number of requirements, which focus on the protection of the children in the school.

The experienced governing body appropriately scrutinise and challenge decision making in the residential provision. They meet with children and understand the challenges children and leaders experience in a school with a residential provision.

One governor said: 'The heads are constantly looking to improve, constantly asking what can we do next? They strive to make things better for children. Children come first and without a shadow of a doubt everybody here cares.'

The leadership team consult with staff, parents, carers, and children to inform improvement planning. The head teacher visits similar provisions outside of the school's local authority to share experiences and learn from other's positive practice models and successes. The recent recruitment of specialist staff and successful engagement of parents and carers continues to maximise the benefits to children in school and at home. A specialist member of staff said: 'The school are being creative in engaging me, and there is healthy partnership working. They are looking at the best they can do for their pupils. They are completely focussed on the individual children.'

### OFSTED JUDGEMENT

#### GOOD

A school providing effective services which exceed minimum requirements. Children and young people are protected and cared for and have their welfare safeguarded and promoted.



#### OUTSTANDING

A school where the experiences and progress of children and young people consistently exceeds the standard of good and results in sustained progress and achievement. The outcomes achieved by children and young people are outstanding and the impact the boarding/residential provision has had in supporting this progress and achieving these outcomes is clearly evidenced.





# KINGSWOOD

This June, the year 6 pupil's went on their annual resi-

dential trip to Kingswood Overstrand in Norfolk. The children participated in lots of adventurous outdoor activities like archery, laser quest and the beach as well as team building activities like air ball, orienteering, Jacobs ladder and jungle vines. Overall, the children were well behaved, participated in the programme and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Some of the children said they'd never forget their experiences and that they'd had 'the best time ever!'





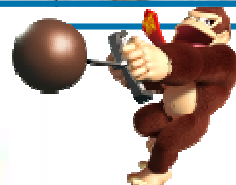


# SPORTS DAY

Mr V, hosted another successful Sports Day for everyone at Larwood The children went round a carousel of events, earning points for their house teams. The events were; Shuttle Run, Javelin, Speed Jump, Discuss, Obstacle, Helicopter, Standing Long Jump all followed by an Egg & Spoon race, 60m race, 200m race and then the parent and carer race! A lot of fun was had by all. Thank you, to the parents and carers that attended the event, it's always nice to have your support at these occasions.

Well done to **TEAM TRENT!** 2582 points earned for their house and came in at 1st place, followed by **TEAM LORDS** who earned 2480 for their house, **TEAM TRAFFORD** came in at 3rd place with 2452 and well done to **TEAM HEADINGLY** who earned 2435 points for their house.

HOW DOES THIS CHANGE THE FINAL HOUSE SCORES!? FINAL POINTS ARE ON THE BACK PAGE!







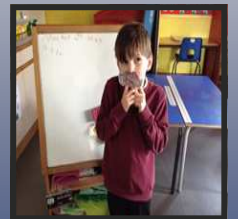
## Mrs Osborne's Class

In preparation for the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, we painted pictures of the Queen in the style of Modern Art. We made a cake for the Queen's party.



In maths we have been using arrays to help us learn about multiplication. We have been solving division problems too.

Miss Trott had some eggs which hatched into ducklings. We spent time in her class holding the ducklings and some of the older children told us how to care for them.



In literacy we have been trying to improve our writing. We have learned that adjectives make our writing more interesting. We have also practised grouping sentences about the same idea together to make paragraphs. We have learned about the Olympics and the Ancient Greeks. We created pictures of Olympic sports when the Olympics were first founded and pretended to be *Pierre de Coubertin, founder of the modern day Olympics*.

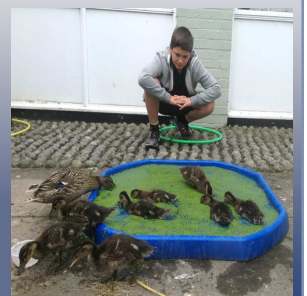


## NEWS



In early June we had a new family join FOX. A Mallard duck called Flo hatched eleven ducklings. Unfortunately three didn't make it but we have eight active and inquisitive babies growing bigger and stronger every day. We took advice on care and feeding from our new resident school duck experts, Miss Trott, Miss Cox and Miss Gwynne. Flo is a great mum who is looking after babies very well.

The children and adults in the school have taken a real interest in our ducking's, they have been coming to see them and helping to look after them. The children have been collecting pond weed for them to eat which is a real favourite, filling up the paddling pool and water bowls, it's lovely for us all watching them grow and develop.







GOOD LUCK TO ALL OF OUR YEAR 6 CHILDREN

## Miss Gwynne's Class

In Miss Gwynne's class we have been looking at the positives and negatives of zoos. We then researched different animals and created fact files. For an art project we mixed up different animals to create our own zoo.



## MRS KIMPTON *Horse Riding at Todds Green*

This term we have been working really hard to improve our horse riding skills at The Courtaulds riding stables. The children all earned their rosettes and badges last term for level 2 so this term they have been working hard to ride "off" the lead rein. Wow what a success! Our final lesson came, and with the children in storm-trooper costumes,

they performed their ride to the Star Wars theme tune completely off the lead reins which included cross-overs, switches and a trotting section. We would like to thank the staff at the RDA for their time and fantastic dedication. We also thank the parents for making the whole ride worthwhile by coming to watch the last lesson of the year. A huge well done to Kyla (Princess Leia), Aiden, Ollie, Mika and Jim (Storm Troopers) and to Jodie our very own Darth Veda.



## Mr Jacob's Class

With the summer holidays around the corner class 6 have enjoyed a vast variety of topics including The First World War, Anglo-Saxons, and our recent topic on Dinosaurs. The boys have researched facts about the different species combining their Geography knowledge to locate fossil findings around the World. I was taken back by their general knowledge of dinosaurs and impressed by their improved ability to use internet resources to research key information. They have combined their own knowledge to produce detailed fact files, a world map of fossil discoveries, clay models and drawings of various dinosaur species and using paper and Modroc to produce landscape models of what the dinosaur terrains were possibly like millions of years ago.

The children are full of excitement in anticipation of the schools end of term trips. Various end of term activities on site including the year six leavers assembly, and what classes they'll be part of next year. The boys have been a pleasure to teach this year and provided Miss Humfrey and I with a number of fond memories to take with us into the holidays and beyond.

They have made academic progress across the curriculum and developed social skills which have helped them forge closer relationships within and outside the classroom. I wish them all a very happy summer holiday with a message not to spend every day playing computer games but to enjoy time with friends and family.



# The End!



## HOUSE RUNS

TRENT	TNAFFORD	HEADINGLEY	LORDS
3990	3718	3006	2821
1ST	2ND	3RD	4TH

**WELL DONE TO HOUSE:**  
**TRENT: 2ND YEAR RUNNING!**

## Back to School:

Wednesday, 31st August 2016

