



VOLUME: SIX

NEWSLETTER DATE: JULY 2017

ISSUE: SIX

Larwood

LOOKDOWN

The end of the summer term is here and as always, I am left wondering 'where did that year go?'

I would like to thank you all for supporting our recent sports day and our review meetings. Having read and commented on all the annual reports for pupils, it is really pleasing to see and reflect upon how much progress many of your sons/daughters have made. I will always be just as keen to notice and celebrate the 'softer skills' that cannot be measured via a test, such as holding a door open for others or by offering a caring gesture to a friend in need. We are lucky to see so many magic moments during the year and although there are always challenges that we face, we will 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 Mrs Kimpton who has served the school with dedication and determination for many years. She has had two stints at Larwood starting in 1996 and remains as passionate and dedicated as the day she started here! We all wish her and her family the very best of luck for her retirement. We will miss her!

We also say goodbye to Mr Quilty. He has spent just over two years at Larwood and he has worked with many pupils in his role of covering absent teachers and interventions, but also in matters such as creating and refining the Year 6 leavers DVD. A man of many talents! He moves onto a different role within a school setting and again, we wish him the very best for the future.

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. We have tried to ensure that this year has been the most comprehensive transfer of information that we have ever had. I would like to thank colleagues at Hailey Hall and Brandles for their support and time with this process.

2017-18

As usual we are, and will continue to review many aspects of our work and how well they have gone, alongside what we could do even better next year. Most of these reports are accessible via the school website and I would welcome any feedback that you may have in relation to your experiences with us.

Finally, my thanks are extended to all the staff and governors who have made this year such a positive one at Larwood School. The staff do an amazing job with huge dedication and our governors continue to challenge and support us to try and create the very best learning environment for your children.

All the best for summer
S D Trimble
Headteacher

BACK TO SCHOOL
THURSDAY 31ST AUGUST
USUAL START TIME

FIRST DAY OF TERM

THURSDAY 31ST AUGUST 2017

AUTUMN TERM 2017

INSET DAY:

WEDNESDAY 30TH AUGUST

FIRST DAY OF TERM:

THURSDAY 31ST AUGUST

HALF TERM BREAK:

MONDAY 23RD OCTOBER TO FRI-

DAY 3RD NOVEMBER

LAST DAY OF TERM:

TUESDAY 19TH DECEMBER AT 1:20

SPRING TERM 2018

FIRST DAY OF TERM:

WEDNESDAY 3RD JANUARY

HALF TERM BREAK:

MONDAY 12TH FEBRUARY TO

FRIDAY 16TH FEBRUARY

END OF TERM:

THURSDAY 29TH MARCH AT

2:20PM

SUMMER TERM 2018

FIRST DAY OF TERM:

MONDAY 16TH APRIL

MAY BANK HOLIDAY:

MONDAY 7TH MAY

HALF TERM BREAK:

MONDAY 28TH MAY TO FRIDAY

1ST JUNE

END OF TERM:

FRIDAY 20TH JULY 1:00PM

SCHOOL STARTS: **9.00AM**

SCHOOL FINISHES: **MONDAY —**

THURSDAY: 3.20PM

FRIDAY: 2.20PM

www.larwood.herts.sch.uk/termdates

YEAR 6 TRIP



PGL WOW! What an amazing experience we all had! We went to the Caythorpe Court site in Lincolnshire. The children arrived at school, very excited about the trip! We packed up the mini bus and off we went! On arrival, we were greeted by our PGL Rep, Hayley who basically organised us and made sure that all of our needs were catered for. After a bite to eat, we got straight into the activities. Our Learning Objective for this was team building and we took part in activities to help us achieve this objective. We challenged ourselves on the Giant Swing. Two children sat on the swing whilst the rest of the children heave hoed on the rope to pull the swing as high as it could go. Once at the top, the swing was locked in place and the children up in the air had to pull the cord to release themselves. The children also took part in building rafts with big plastic drums, logs and rope. Once the children had designed a raft, they got to build it and test it out on the big lake. We also took part in Aero Ball, Archery, Rifle Shooting, Fencing, and Abseiling. In the evening, after dinner, the activities continued! On the first night we played a game of Capture the Flag and then ate cake in the woods to celebrate Chenai and Kyle's birthday and on the second night the children took part in Robot Wars and wrote some rap poems. The whole trip was amazing from start to finish, and the children loved it!

The Rap Poems

**PGL Ring the bell.
We will smell,
We all forgot the hair gel.
Yah, Yeah. We don't care.
We will do any dare in underwear!
We are about to sell you.**

**PGL
PGL is the best ting,
At best you are going down in the heat,
Then cry in your seat.
You imitate innit, intimidate
PGL does it best,
Does it irritate.
PGL is the best if you work as a team.
We do what we want,
You cringe,
Old mean as teams
You will not beat the team
Best team ever.
PGL**







**WORK, WORK, WORK,
WORK, WORK!**

Miss Kimptons' Class

In Topic this term we have been looking at Volcanoes and Earthquakes. We have watched volcanic eruptions and discussed why they happen during an eruption. We have made models of the earth using modelling clay. We added different colour clay to a red centre to represent each layer of the planet. With each layer we discussed the importance of it and how it helps the Earth do what it does. This activity was fun and everyone had a great time - especially trying to make the land look like the real planet.



In literacy, we have enjoyed a topic on persuasive writing. We have looked at the pros and cons of zoos and animal sanctuaries. The class have debated this well, and shared some interesting view points. We have based our writing on Monkey World in Dorset. The class have produced information leaflets with the pros and cons of the Ape Sanctuary. The pupils have enjoyed watching clips of Monkey life and learning about the great work and achievements of Jim Cronin. Miss Barrett and I are very proud of the quality of work the pupils have produced and the effort they have put in, some of which is available to see on Pobble.

Mr Scales' Class Achieve, Believe, Expect & Enjoy!



As our year began to draw to a close we spent some time reflecting on the achievements we had accomplished as a class. We looked a little more in depth at the Larwood values and what it means to 'Achieve, Believe, Expect and Enjoy'. Each child picked a word that they felt summed up their year and reflected on why they chose that word. Everyone then managed to write a detailed piece (which they then presented to the class) about what they had done to warrant their selected word. Their reflective accounts of themselves were fantastic to read and were well received by their peers. Furthermore, each child then selected someone else in the class and explained what word (and why) summed up their year. It was a really magic moment to see how the class felt about one another. The words they self-selected were as follows:

Tony: **Enjoy**, Harrison: **Enjoy**, Cameron D: **Enjoy**, Jack: **Enjoy**, Cameron M: **Achieve**, Luke: **Achieve**, and Aiden: **Believe**.



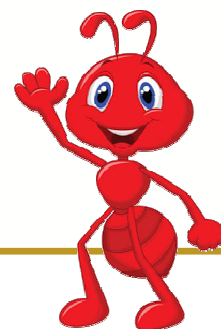
KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE

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 Osobu: Assistant Headteacher, supported by our other DSP's Mr Sean Trimble: Headteacher & Mrs Sian Ford: Family Support Worker



Busy

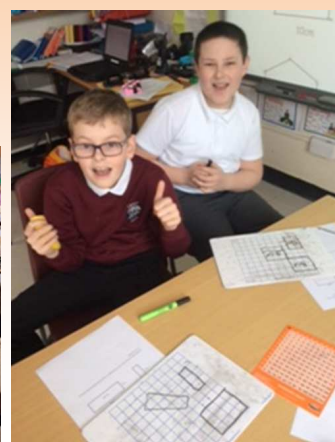


Mrs Poles' Class

Mrs Poles' class have been investigating how the human body works, in Science, by learning about the heart, circulation and digestion. The pupils created some attractive artworks based on magnified images of blood cells, and had fun investigating osmosis and diffusion using Skittles, an egg and jelly sweets.

In Topic, we have researched how erosion affects our coastlines and rivers. The pupils created some excellent coastal features using clay.

As the year comes to a close, it is great to see the progress and the confidence of the children grow in Maths and English. It's great to see children offering to help and encourage others, and choosing to do Maths and English activities in their own time. Well done!



Miss Trott's Class

In Miss Trott's class we are looking to improve the quality of our writing by working on creating detailed descriptions. The boys are working extremely hard to write in a way to draw their reader in. George and Joel, in particular have both really improved their writing this term. We hope you enjoy reading their pieces.

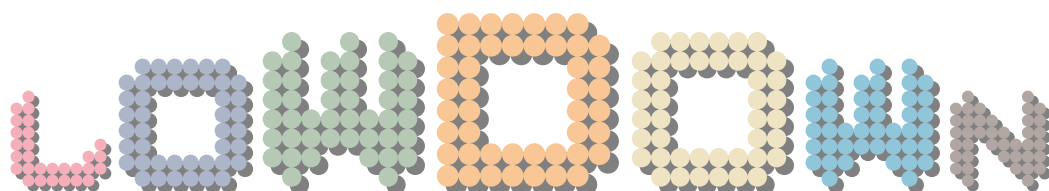
Mr. Bobo staggered up the stairs, dragged himself down the hallway, flung his classroom door open and mumbled "Hello". He crept through the class silently as he sat down nicely at his desk. He aggressively typed on his old, broken computer as it started to malfunction. All of a sudden, Mr. Bobo got a great shock of electricity from the old computer and it burst into flames. Soon after the deafening fire alarm went off. Everyone sprinted out of class except for Mr. Bobo, he was left in class all alone as the sprinklers drenched him in water.

By George

I am a bird... As I fly I see all the things that used to be enormous, now tiny. I can also see other birds swooping from above effortlessly. I also hear my friend calling loudly, I dive in speedily towards them to join their fun. We fly close to the water; close enough to drink it. Compared to other animals I'm merely a meal, but whilst I fly gracefully above their heads they are the small ones. As I fly I feel like I'm on top of the world, sometimes I relax and start gliding and descending slowly to the ground.

As it gets darker I get back to the nest. I'm so small that in the dark I'm almost invisible. As I fly through the cold night my feathers keep me moderately warm. I make it back to my cosy nest against the tree branches. After flying all day long, I wake up to see the beautiful orange sun over the horizon. I fly off in the distance again and as I swoop down and take a refreshing gulp of water I join my friends for another astonishingly relaxing flight.

By Joel





Mrs KAMENE'S CLASS **READY, STEADY, GROW!**

In science, the children have created a class allotment. They grew broad beans, courgettes and have nurtured their own plants watering them.



They also grew beans using hydroponics which is the method of 'growing plants in water'. They watched and recorded what happened to them after a week. So the children learnt that plants can grow in water, as long as the water has the right food in it to keep the plants healthy

Broad beans planted

1 week later

2 weeks later

Ready to eat!



FOX CUB

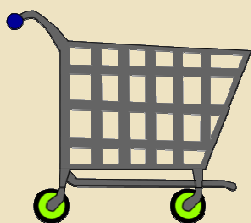


Our main focus this half term has been transition and change, preparing pupils for any changes they may have in school from September. We have all completed an "All About Me" booklet ready to give to our new teacher and to share with our new class friends. Our art activities this half term in Cub have been focused on getting presents ready for the special men in our lives which has been great fun. (Dads/Grandads/Uncles/Brothers). Everybody took a great deal of pride in the message T-shirts they coloured in. We hope everybody got to enjoy the benefit of these when they were taken home. The children also took home a lovely plaque, of which I'm sure has pride of place at home somewhere special.



*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

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



SCHOOL

MR JACOBS & Mrs Williams' Class

The children have been

learning about the Anglo-Saxons and teamed up to produce an Anglo-Saxon settlement during Arts and Craft. The two classes united again to visit the Anglo-Saxon settlement at Mountfitchet Castle. After many days of bright warm sunshine the boys had to endure a constant down pour but this did not dampen their spirits. As soon as they saw the perimeter fence and two beautiful peacocks parading around their picnic area, they were excited to walk up the hill and into the castle area itself.

Upon entering the castle grounds we were greeted by the sight of the castle jail and the gallows which heightened the boy's curiosity to learn more. They sped off in pairs to get close to the Grand Hall, the chickens, ducks and turkeys wandering around the castle, and towards the model horse and jousting area where they were also able to try on various styled helmets. They were then brought together so they could group round the open fire and walk up the look-out towers to witness the view as the Mountfitchet warriors had done many years before.

Despite the wet weather, the children enjoyed their experience and I strongly believe our visit helped bring their Anglo Saxon learning to life so they could see, smell and feel how life was in Anglo Saxon times.



Miss Gwynne's Class

In science Miss Gwynne's class have been looking at the art of being human.

We have looked at blood composition and created factual posters. We have also studied the human heart and how it functions, creating our own 3D versions of the human heart.





SPORTS DAY

On the 4 of July 2017 Larwood Academy held it's annual Sports Day, which turned out fantastically with lots of support from parents and carers. The day was split into two halves with Mrs Kamene and Mr Jacobs class having the morning session and the rest of the school in the afternoon. It was a fun packed day with lots of memories for our leavers (year 6) to take away with them. Everyone at school pulled together on the day and what a success it was! Here are some photos from the day.





Thank You!

To:

Stevenage Sporting Futures Team

They're a team of enthusiastic Sporting Professionals who love to inspire children to achieve their goals. Larwood School, works in partnership with the SSFT along with over 30 other primary, secondary and special schools in Stevenage. This year we have taken part in several festivals including: Mini Olympics, Tag Rugby, Speed Stacking, Kwik Cricket, Athletics, Bell Boating and Dragon Boating. The children have enjoyed all of these events and the staff from SSFT have been amazing with the children and met all of our requests without question. Thank you, for all of your help and support this year.



Stevenage Fairlands Valley Park

Larwood School has worked along side the staff at Fairlands Valley for over a decade. We use SFVP for our Bell & Dragon Boat Training, our Thursday Skills sessions; activities include: Raft Building, High Ropes, Climbing Wall, Sailing, Kayaking, Canoeing and many other team building and engaging activities. We also use the park for our Friday Reward and end of term activities. Thank you to Gavin, John, Craig, Charlie and the rest of the team for your continued support and all that you have taught our children this year. We look forward to working with you again in the next academic year.

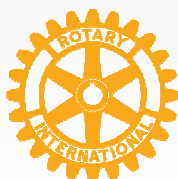
Fairlands Valley Activity Centre will be open throughout the Summer break, if you would like to take part in any of the activities they offer, give the centre a call!

Open: 8.00am Tuesday – Saturday : 01438 353241 : fairlands@sl.co.uk



360 PLAY!

We use 360 Play for our Friday and end of term rewards. We've been going to the play centre most weeks and the staff are really friendly, helpful and again, meet all of our many needs we have when we do an offsite trip. 360 give us a discounted rate so that we as a school can financially sustain our visits to this centre and the children love it! Some of the 360 staff have been into school and helped a few of our children with some dance routines. This is another local company where we have built up a good working relationship and the children can have fun in a clean safe environment. 360 have evenings especially for children with special needs. If you mention that your Child attends Larwood School, the admission rate is £6.00 per child and the adults are free. These evenings are held on specific dates: August 4th, Sep 1st, Oct 6th, Nov 3rd, Dec 1st (Christmas Party). Call the centre: **01438 365744** and get involved!



Hitchin Priory Rotary Club

The Hitchin Priory Rotary Club, have taken us under their wing again this year and raised money for us to take part in the 'Kids Out' charity event at Whipsnade Zoo. Special Needs school from all over the South East attend this very well organised event and the children have a great time, the Rotary even organise a huge packed lunch for us all. This year we watched the bird show, attended the butterfly farm, a train ride around the park, adventure play and then round to see all of the amazing wild animals. Thank you to Peter Hull for organising this event and the rest of the Hitchin Priory team for making this happen for us, very much appreciated.

THE STEVENAGE SPORTING FUTURES TEAM:

Louise Gallagher-Smith

Partnership Manager

Julia Burrows

Competition Lead & Senior Community Coach

Chantal Malan

Partnership Community Coach

Mary Szulikowski

Inclusion Lead

Charlie Barrow

Sports Development Apprentice

Adam Baker

Go 5 Project Co-Ordinator

Anne Wellings

Secondary link - Thomas Alleyne Academy

Colin Hardiman

Secondary Link - Barnwell School

All the sport leaders and apprentices





THANK YOU!



At the beginning of each academic year, Ginnette Waters, the Hertfordshire Liaison Officer for the Masonic Fishing Charity, organise a day out for some of our children to attend the Westmill Farm Fishing Lakes near Ware. We take 10 children to this event, where they are assigned a member of the Masonic Fishing Club, they teach the children how to fish and fly fish throughout the day and we are fuelled at lunchtime with an amazing BBQ; children have the choice of chicken, beef burgers, sausages and salad. It's always a lovely calm, peaceful day and the children really enjoy this outdoor activity. Thank you Ginnette and the Masonic Fishing Charity for raising funds to enable our children to attend this event.

Thank you, to our professional visitors who work with our children:

Janet Eccles: Speech and Language Therapist

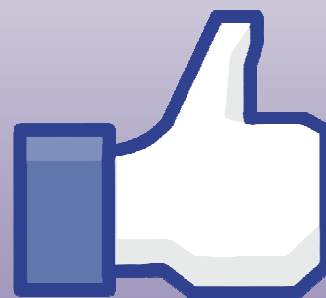
Bill Pilgrim: Independent Listener

Nick Beasley: Councillor from School Counselling Services

Chris Lodder: GLAS Adolescent Services

A big thank you to our Governing Body who manage and support the school in their own time and on a voluntarily basis:

Sandra Barr: Chair of Governors
John Thurgood: Vice Chair of Governors
Jacky Baker: Parent Governor
Louisa Barr: Community Governor
Stuart Jacobs: Teacher Governor
Pete Myers: Parent Governor
James Walker: Parent Governor
Laura Williams: Parent Governor



Thank you to everyone that has supported Larwood this year! You have contributed to yet another successful year!

Independent Learning

We have a new and exciting learning environment for the children at Larwood. We have transformed one of our classrooms into a room with seven separate learning pods.

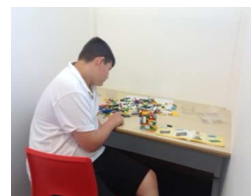
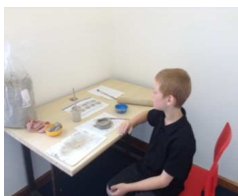
Each Pod has a name and an individualised learning program. In the maths, coding and literacy pod the children have use of a laptop. The other four Pods are for science, construction, mechanics and art.

The children are encouraged to work independently without distraction in their Pod. Each Pod is set up with all the resources and equipment they need to succeed and achieve the task which has been set for them.

We have some amazing new resources in each Pod which the children can access, enjoy and learn from.

We have had some great positive feedback from children and staff involved.

The aim is to further refine and develop Pod to cater for pupils with a variety of needs and abilities.





Mr Jacobs Community Skills Group

Over 20 children have enjoyed our new community skills group on a Thursday afternoon with different groups of children given the opportunity to take part in community group activities each half term. Over the past year we have taken part in a number of community projects. These included helping Giles infant school to develop their flowerbeds and vegetable patches. We have put forward a funding application to help support and raise awareness for the homeless people of Stevenage. We have supported children at Greenside SEN School to complete cooking and art learning. We have maintained a cleaner and safer environment around School and Fairlands Park, and provided Jubilee Court with clean gardens and had a fun art and craft activities with their residents. The passion of our children and the raised self-esteem they have gained from our community projects will ensure the school continue to support our community for many years and help make positive changes to the people of Stevenage. From the young to the old to the able and the less able, we will unite other schools to make Stevenage a friendlier and happier place to live for everyone.



Larwood Student Council: Chaired by Mr Jacobs

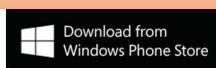
The Larwood student council grows from strength to strength involving every pupil in the School. The council meet every half term following class meetings where council representatives chair a class meeting with the support of their teacher, to engage their peers in conversations about life at Larwood.

The views of each class are then communicated through the student council meeting where each class representative has the opportunity to share the thoughts of their class which is then shared with the School governors and Senior Leadership Team. Over the past year the children have helped shape our Friday afternoon activities, decide on the choice of venues for our end of term trips, and set about change in their play areas with new playground equipment fitted throughout the school play areas.

They have also shared their views on educational issues with positive feedback on new initiatives including "What's the big idea". I think a stand out suggestion from the year was the request to have a new friendship bench located in the play area so anyone wanting to make new friends could sit on the bench, inviting others to become friends. A beautiful idea that has helped forge new friendships at Larwood.

STAY UP-TO-DATE WITH OUR EVENTS AND THE LATEST SCHOOL NEWS BY DOWNLOADING OUR SCHOOL NEWS APP FROM YOUR APP STORE TODAY

Want to be the first to know important information, or if our school is closed on a snow day? Download our app, for free, from the Apple Store, Windows Store or Google Play today.



SEARCH "SCHOOL NEWS" IN THE APP STORE TO DOWNLOAD TODAY!



Good luck year 6!

It's time to say goodbye to our year six children. Well done to each of you, good luck in your new school's and remember;

Achieve, Believe, Expect & Enjoy!





The End!



HOUSE RUNS

TRENT	TRAFFORD	HEADINGLY	LORDS
4836	4628	5880	4641
2 ND	4 TH	1 ST	3 RD

WELL DONE TO HOUSE:
HEADINGLY

Back to School:

Thursday 31st August 2017

