

Newsletter Date:
March 2013

Dates for your diary:

- Start of Summer term-
Monday 15th April 2013
- Summer half term-
Monday 27th June-Friday
31st June 2013
- End of Summer term-
Friday 19th July 2013
- Start of Autumn term for
pupils-Tuesday 3rd Sep-
tember 2013
- Half Term-Monday 28th
October until Friday 1st
November 2013
- Monday 4th November-
INSET day, pupils return
to school on Tuesday 5th
November 2013
- Monday 2nd December-
Occasional Day-No pu-
pils in school. Pupils
return on Tuesday 3rd
December 2013
- Friday 20th December-
End of Autumn term 2013
- Monday 6th January-Start
of Spring Term 2014
- Half Term-Monday 17th
Feb-Friday 21st February
2014
- Friday 4th April-End of
Spring term 2014
- Tuesday 22nd April-Start
of Summer term 2014
- Monday 5th May Bank
Holiday 2014
- Half term week-Monday
26th June-Friday 30th
June 2014
- Friday 18th July-End of
Summer term 2014

The Larwood Lowdown

Time for change!

You may look at the headline and think of the weather? As we come to the end of the Spring term, it seems that I have seen more snow and freezing conditions this year than I can remember. Thankfully, the children's education has not been affected and with the dedication of a number of staff we have kept the site open for the vast majority of time. My thanks go to all staff involved in this process.

As we adjust the clocks during the coming weekend, we do enter the Summer term. With one term finishing and another starting we say goodbye to three members of staff. Ms Thomas, who has been a class teacher at Larwood since 2011, is moving to another school following promotion. Ms Budge who has worked as part of the Fox team has been with us since 2009. Also Mrs. Tyrell has decided to return to move back to her previous role. May I take this opportunity to wish them all the very best in the future on behalf of our school community.

We also welcome some new staff, two of whom have already started with us. Mr. Radford and Ms Yenney have joined the team as Learning and Support Assistants and we also have Mrs. McCalla as a Learning Support Assistant after the Easter break. Mrs. Chapman returns to us and will take over Ms Thomas's class and Ms Hipkin also returns on a part time basis. I am sure they will all be made to feel very welcome.

The term has been packed full of activities and events. We have had pancake races, red nose day, sports activities, Science week, new assembly times and activities, the introduction of sets for Year 5/6, as well as pupils preparing for end of term talent show and gym and dance display (next term). I think everybody deserves a well earned rest!

S D Trimble
Headteacher

Achieve

Believe

Expect and

Enjoy

House News

Easter is upon us once again,. Most of this half term we have been without Mr Pilgrim as he was absent due to illness; he was greatly missed by both the children and staff.

I would like to take this opportunity to praise the older house for their continued positive attitude towards each other and the great improvement in their ability to control their own behaviour. You should all be proud of your children. This includes the great effort that the five boys have made to earning their points. The younger house has made some good progress in their ability to get on with each other; they have also made very good progress with keeping their bedrooms clean and tidy.

We are looking forward to getting out and about with the good weather coming in the summer term. We will try to extend our activities to include sailing, cannoing, raft building and climbing. Mr Pilgrim is going to teach the year 6 children the skills towards their 'Bikeability' certificate in the evenings.

We have some spaces for Year 5 and below to experience the residential setting or extended day,. If you are interested please contact Mr Reid Head of Care for an informal meeting.

Here we have some of the boys enjoying the after school sessions at the park



Physical Education at Larwood School



Mini Olympics 13th February 2013

After the success of the mini Olympics for Key Stage 1 pupils, we were lucky to be invited back for the Key Stage 2 event. Our students had fun competing against each other in a combination of activities. The pupils enjoyed the rugby activity the most and particularly as students were allowed to use the pads and defend their areas. Other activities were trampolining, basketball, cricket and bowls. Our students learnt about different sports and how to compete in a sporting and fair way.

Outdoor Education as part of the skills curriculum

Every Tuesday, a small group of pupils take part in an Outdoor Education lesson. They have completed sessions on site at Larwood as well as working with older pupils from Hailey Hall School. They have taken part in activities such as climbing and developing camp craft skills. Due to the adverse weather they have not been able to put these skills to the test in another environment, however, they are hoping to do this after the Easter break.



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

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 - <http://familylives.org.uk/>

The website provides advice and a range of resources that aim to ensure that families get the support they need.

Curriculum enrichment at Larwood School

During the week, pupils enjoy a range of activities at different times. This includes Tuesday afternoons which is our skills curriculum, and a new course which has just started on Thursday afternoons, in association with North Herts College. Some more information on the latter is included in this edition, but both sessions are organised by Mr Van de Merwe.

Please see below some of our pupils in action during classroom and enrichment activities.



It's time for experiments, particles and fun! It must be Science week!

In anticipation of Science week 2013, Larwood School had the privilege of having the Science Wizards come to visit. Mad Jack was an amazing scientist and he engaged all of our pupils in wonderful and easy to replicate experiments. One student was even overheard saying 'I love science now!' Students participated in hands on experiments making paper helicopters, goo, and exploding vitamins. Ask your children what they learned today!





Curriculum enrichment in association with North Herts College

Larwood and North Herts College re-launched their trade skills Thursday afternoon sessions. Students have the opportunity to gain experience in bricklaying, carpentry, decking and painting and decorating. Students from NHC are gaining work and teaching experience and Larwood students are gaining knowledge to prepare them for a possible trade in the future.

Pupils have really enjoyed the ability to work with older students and we look forward to the results of their hard labour during the coming weeks. Our thanks go to North Herts College and Mr Van de Merwe for the creation of this unique opportunity.

