



Larwood LOWDOWN

VOLUME: TWO
ISSUE: ONE

NEWSLETTER DATE: OCTOBER 2013

Diary Dates

- ⇒ Mon 4th Nov-
INSET day
- ⇒ Tues 5th Nov-
Pupils return
- ⇒ Monday 2nd Dec
-Occasional Day
- ⇒ Tues 3rd Dec-
Pupils return
- ⇒ Friday 20th Dec-
End of term-
pupils leave at
1.00pm
- ⇒ Mon Jan 6th-start
of Spring Term

Read all about it-The Year of The Number!

As we approach the end of our first half term in 2013/14, it is with great pleasure that I am able to write this introductory post for the new look Larwood Lowdown. My thanks go to Mr Newman for this revamp and his work connected to every issue.

As part of my job, it is essential to take stock and reflect upon events as a school year progresses and particularly as it ends. Having done this, and having set various targets at the start of the year, it is possible to draw some conclusions. However, the most important part of the process is then to act upon the conclusions made. Therefore, you will notice the following this year:

- ⇒ **The Year of The Number.** Looking at our data which reflects progress in class and attainment in tests for Yr 6 pupils, this is weaker than literacy, during last year. Therefore, we have changed the timetable to allow more time for numeracy.
- ⇒ Mrs. Kimpton is leading on the **Year of The Number.** We are running a number of events to encourage greater use of numbers, such as certificates for timetables and a Math Olympics competition
- ⇒ As mentioned last year, we now have all of our pupils in broad ability groups for both literacy and numeracy sessions

We continue to maintain equal status for literacy and our data from last year demonstrates improved progress and attainment for the majority of pupils during last year in this area.

Whilst both the above are very important, we continue to have our pupils represent Larwood in a variety of sporting events. Year 6 are starting the Arts Award, and we maintain our weekly singing assembly. By the end of this half term, all pupils will be in Houses and will have competed against each other with 'runs' (points) being awarded. Finally, we have some exciting projects taking place during and after half term. This includes more iPads arriving at school so that every child will have access to their own, and some building works. Exciting times ahead.

Kind regards
S D Trimble
Headteacher



Cricket



After numerous lunch time practices Mrs Mckeever, Mr Taylor and I took the Larwood Cricket team to the cricket festival held at Stevenage Cricket grounds on Thursday 26th September.

The weather was perfect for cricket and it seemed to inspire us in our first match which we won by over 30 runs! This alone would have been impressive but adding to this was the fact that these 10 pupils hadn't yet had a full practice together, making the result even more impressive. In true Larwood fashion the boys were polite and graceful to the defeated team, shaking the hands of all involved.

After a quick team talk on areas to improve on (our bowling) we moved on to the next team, which again we beat. This time by catching most of the them out! Alfie Turner was a great captain throughout the day, encouraging all of his players.

With two victories, we moved on to the next team, who we had already been warned about and had been beating all their other opponents, so far. With this in mind we discussed tactics, with Joshua Mockridge adding in his input as vice-captain. We fielded first as we had in previous matches, but this didn't work in this match and we lost by 11 runs. Still as graceful in defeat as in victory the Larwood boys congratulated the other team. Whilst at lunch we had the nervous wait to see whether we would play again! And we did!

Two other games took place, with most of the boys hitting fours and six's which meant that we were winning and even our bowling had started to improve! All we needed to do was win the next match and we would be in the final of the teams we were playing.

After yet another prep talk (more from each other now) the Larwood Cricket team went out in a courageous and sporting manner. Every run counted, the boys tried to hit every ball and dive for catches when fielding. However, it just wasn't enough and we lost by 6 runs!

Larwood came 3rd out of the six teams they were competing against.

Well done boys! Harold Larwood would be proud!

Mrs Whitaker.



LOWDOWN



Helpful Contacts?

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

Hertfordshire Additional Needs Database is for parents or carers of children with an additional need or disability. Register for free and receive a termly newsletter, concessions on leisure facilities, information on benefits, activities and support groups.

<http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/handinfo11.pdf>

The Citizens Advice Bureau offers free, confidential, impartial and independent advice to help people resolve their problems with debt, benefits, employment, housing, discrimination, and many more issues.

<http://www.adviceguide.org.uk/england.htm>

The KIDS East and West HUB services offer information and support to the parents and carers of disabled children and young people across Hertfordshire.

http://www.kids.org.uk/information/106458/106700/kids_east_and_west_hubs/

www.hertswomenscentre.org.uk

Hertfordshire County Council provides extensive information about services in your local area. This includes links to the Family Services Directory, HertsHelp and local events.

<http://www.hertsdirect.org/your-community/>



Residential News

We currently have 14 pupils boarding with us and 5 pupils having extended days. The boys and girls have settled down really well during this first term.

The House team of staff play games with boarders, encourage the development of skills such as team work, independence, and self esteem, as well as helping with homework.

Our boarding criteria and admissions guidance sets out when boarding is thought to be suitable for any pupil and if you are interested, I would encourage you to make contact with Mr Reid-Head of Care at school.

Math Olympics

A great time was had by all on Thursday 24th October, when we held our first ever inter-house competition. It was Math Olympics! This involved our pupils being split into small teams and then attempting to solve some number problems!

This involved brains, team work, leadership and lots of movement as pupils went from station to station throughout the school. Pupils and staff were doing lots of mental maths, scratching heads and at times looking for the answers!

This competition was all about numbers but others in the future could be to do with art, sport, reading and spelling.

Who will become the first ever Larwood School House Champions?





Math Olympics



*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.

Can you solve the problem. Here is one of the activities that pupils and staff had a go at?

Can you solve it within 3 minutes?

Brahmagupta's Problem

This problem is based on one written 1400 years ago by the great Indian mathematician Brahmagupta.

Brahma gave out all the apples in a Bag

He gave one third to Rupa

He gave one quarter to Bashir

He gave one fifth to Glita

He kept 13 for himself

**How many apples were
there in the bag?**



Scarecrow Competition!

Here are some of the entries for the scarecrow competition.



LOWDOWN