



VOLUME: ELEVEN

ISSUE: ONE

Larwood

LOWDOWN

THE 2022 - 2023 ACADEMIC YEAR BEGINS!

I must say that it has been a stunning start to the new academic year, and pupils and staff are relishing the joyful moments and experiences at school. I can report that there has been a drastic reduction in incidents across the school and new pupils are conforming to the Larwood ways, which enables them to get going with their learning.

There has been a rise in covid cases that have affected both staff and pupils. I am happy to report that we managed to keep the school open through difficult times and endeavour to do so moving forward. I also want to extend a great big thank you for staff that have covered staff absence to allow us to keep going. Could I please ask that you test your child if they are sent home with covid like symptoms. If you do not have access to a test, we could send some home for you. If it is not covid related, we ask that you keep your child at home until they are symptom free. Any episodes of sickness, diarrhoea or vomiting are off until 48 hours after the last episode of sickness.

We have reverted back to keeping most activities, skill sessions and Friday rewards class based. Lunch times are split into three groups, but pupils are still accessing the dining room. I hope that this will be a temporary measure, but we need to ensure the safety of your child and our staff.

We are making some exciting changes to the reward system with regards to blue, yellow, and black shirts. Mrs Longcroft will be leading on this project moving forward and will share the changes with you after half term in a newsletter.

As we move into the festive season, there will be a lot on offer at Larwood i.e., Halloween, Guy Fawkes, Christmas and more. We will keep you updated at regular intervals.

I wish you all a pleasant October break and look forward to a host of exciting opportunities when we return.

Mr Van Der Merwe

Pierre van der Merwe
Headteacher

On behalf of all at Larwood Academy Trust, have a wonderful break!

PLEASE NOTE: ALL PUPILS TO RETURN TO SCHOOL, AT THE USUAL TIME ON: MONDAY, 31ST OCTOBER 2022



Achieve

Mrs Wood

'Points mean PRIZES!'

This half term has been very exciting as we were welcoming 8 new points to the class. Bertie started with us and then was excited for the other pupils to join. Each week we had a few more pupils joined. We became a class of 8 at the end of September. The boys have enjoyed planting their beans and watching them grow, in maths looking at place value and adding, in literacy starting a whole school talk for writing and they are able to retell the story of Jack and the beanstalk using pictures and actions. In art we have done all autumn themed work. Each pupil in the class has enjoyed earning house points, stickers, and their points each day and getting their Friday afternoon rewards. Mrs Longcroft and Mrs Wood are extremely proud of each pupil in the class for their hard work, enthusiasm, and kindness they are showing each other.



Mrs Williams & Mrs Saunders

'Ratners!'

During our history in Mrs Williams and Miss Saunders class, we have been looking at the Kingdom of Benin. We used our stunning starter to explore different aspects of Benin and learn about what life was like. We made some jewellery, used clay to make masks and cooked some plantain. Most of the children liked the plantain and took some home for parents to try. Tied in with this, we also looked at black history month and learnt about famous people of colour throughout history and discussed the impact they had at the time.





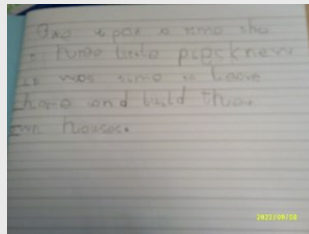
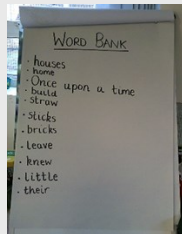
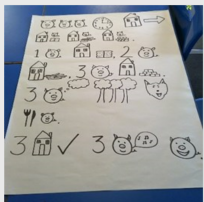
Believe

Mrs Osborne

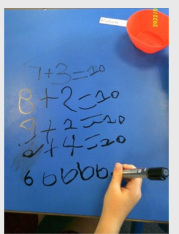
'The same, but different'

What a busy half term! Our topic this term has been 'The same but different'. We have talked about similarities and differences between each other.

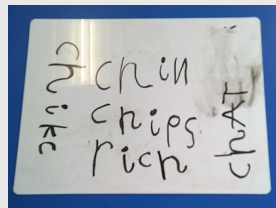
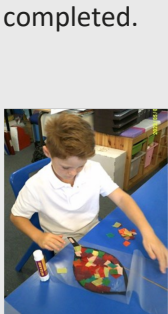
In literacy, we have been following a programme called 'Talk for Writing'. The children are told a story and as a class, create a story map. Next, we made actions to tell our story. We made a word bank to help us with writing our story and then we wrote in our literacy books.



In numeracy, we have been learning about numbers.



In science, we have completed work about ourselves and planted some wild plant seeds. We have looked at the weather and completed some autumn art activities. In geography, we have been learning about the country we live in. We have worked really hard this term, doing lots of different things. Below are pictures of some of the activities we have completed.



Stevenage Sporting Futures

Over these Covid times; Stevenage Sporting Futures Team have been highlighting different activities and tasks that children can complete from home during quarantine. We will be continuing to do this throughout the rest of the year giving children ideas of how they can stay physically active at home as well as activities that can be completed in school. Go check out some of the activities that we have posted online. We hope this is a useful resource for you all throughout the remainder of the year. Please find the links to our website and social media pages below:

Facebook: Stevenage Sporting Futures Team <https://www.facebook.com/stevenagesportingfuturesteam>

Twitter: @stevenageSFT

Website: <http://stevenagesportingfutures.co.uk/covid-19/>





Expect

Space HUB

'Celebrations all round!'

Wow! What an excellent start to the year for Space Hub; we have welcomed children from other classes in Larwood, and three new faces who have joined Larwood by starting with our Space Hub family. The way everyone has settled in together has been truly inspiring. Space Hub Lead this year is Mrs. Kamene. We have pushed independence and life skills. Children are thriving and getting excited about learning and participating in various skills. Our topic of the ancient Greeks has been successful with the pupils as they experienced the life of the Ancient Greeks and discovered what makes them such a fascinating and prosperous civilization.



During the Knowledge of the World Week, the pupils learned about Canadian Thanksgiving Day, a harvest festival; they shared with others how they are grateful for what they have. We learned that in Canada, they speak English and French. Mrs. Kamene taught us how to say hello, good morning, and goodbye in French. All pupils were proud of their artwork. They made turkeys using dry leaves and coloured in some pictures, which was beautiful. The best part of the day was having the delicious Canadian Blueberry breakfast muffins that Mrs Parkin made.



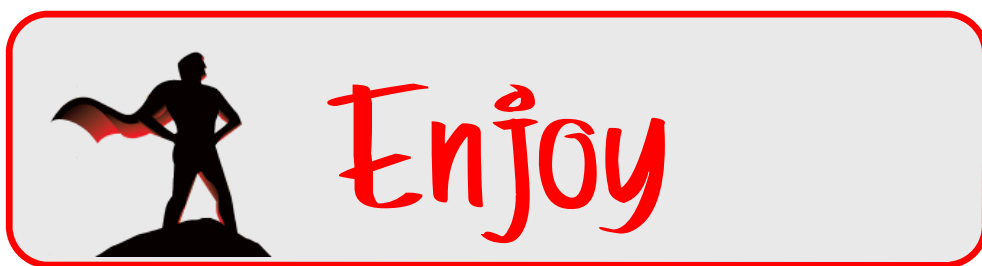
Miss Kolthammer

'DIY - Do it yourself!'

In Miss Kolthammer's class this half term we have been very busy, this includes getting to grips with a new learning module Talk for Writing. The children have really brought into the idea and its been fantastic to see how much the children are engaging in creating actions in order for them to learn a piece of text by heart.

We have also been busy gardening out the front of the school, by completely digging up the old flowerbed outside the office that had been overtaken by weeds and wilting plants. We spent an afternoon planting new plants which had been donated by B and Q. I think you can agree it looks much better out there and we plan on making some flower bombs in class to create wild flower meadows to encourage bees and wildlife to flourish.





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WIN £100 OF SUPER
MARKET VOUCHERS
SEPTEMBER 2022
TO JULY 2023**

**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**

All qualifying names will be put into a
hat and picked by Mr Van.

#AttendanceIsImportant

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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

Miss Kimpton

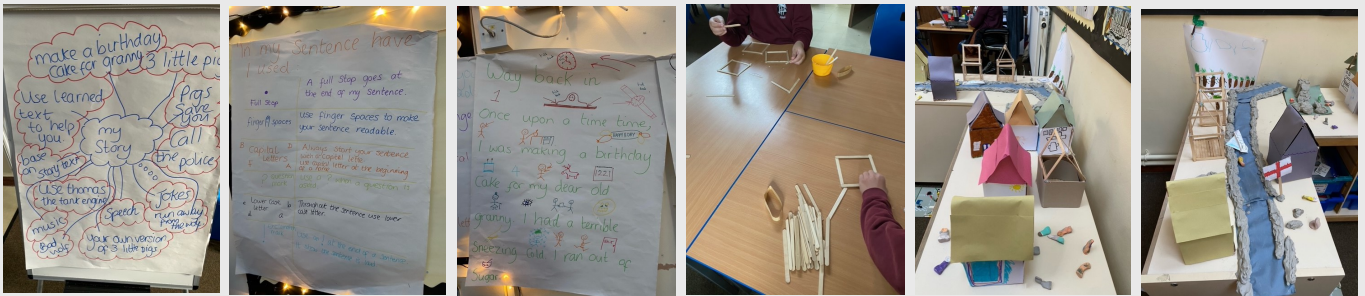
'Huffy puffy'

In literacy we have been looking at an extract of text from the story: The true story of the three little pigs. As the hook in the beginning the children built and designed their own houses. From the houses they built and designed a village. The children have enjoyed learning an extract from story and coming up with pictures to help them learn it. Over the last few weeks, the children have looked into the character of the Big bad wolf through drama, they created a scene based upon the extract. They also created a freeze frame based upon the story. They very much enjoyed being creative!

They prepared questions to ask the Big Bad wolf from the police perspective, again they amazed me with their engagement and creativity.

This week they have been preparing to write their own story using what they have learned - they have planned with enthusiasm and the same creativity they have shown over the last few weeks.

I am very much looking forward to reading their stories - which they are looking forward to writing!



Miss Hanam

'Busy bee's!'

We are super happy to be back in school after a fantastic summer break. We have had some lovely new pupils join our class and settle in wonderfully not only into a new class but also a new school!! The children have wasted no time and got straight back into the swing of things. This term, we are studying the Benin's as part of our topic. We hosted a very successful stunning starter which entailed a carousel of Benin cooking, gaming and various arts and crafts activities.

Skills in class is an area that we have particularly enjoyed this half term, we have done some fantastic cooking where children collated ideas and set up and decorated their own cafes. Pupils even planned and delivered their own lessons one week and much more. We look forward to doing skills with the rest of the school after the half term break. We have been doing lots of hard work across all subjects, but we have seen significant progress in the children's manners and kindness towards each other and the adults. Hopefully, this great work continues for the next half term!



Miss Gwynne

'Creative!'

In Miss Gwynne's class we have thoroughly enjoyed being creative and being allowed to get messy. We worked extremely well together and shared ideas to create different autumnal art.



Online Safety

It can be hard to know how to talk to your child about online safety. From setting up parental controls to advice on sexting, online games and video apps, we can help you to understand the risks and keep your child safe.

www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety

Whether you're puzzled by parental controls or would like to get knowledgeable about gaming, Childnet can help. We all know that it can sometimes be challenging to keep up to speed with what children and young people are doing online. On this page you'll find a whole host of useful ways to help keep your child safe.

www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers

Miss Gwynne, did an assembly about keeping safe online. The power point presentation that was used, is on the Larwood School website : www.larwood.herts.sch.uk



BE AN ATTENDANCE HERO!

ATTENDING SCHOOL IS IMPORTANT & YOU COULD WIN UPTO £100 IN SHOPPING VOUCHERS!
#ATTENDANCEHERO

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

ALL QUALIFYING NAMES WILL BE PUT INTO A HAT AND PICKED BY MR VAN

Keeping our Children Safe **Keeping our Children Safe** Keeping our Children Safe **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 (DSP) for child protection is Mrs Bianca Osobu: Deputy Headteacher

Supported by our other DSP's:

Mrs Emma Williams: Assistant Headteacher

Mrs Sian Ford: Family Support Worker

Mr Marcus McKechnie: LASA - Lead Behaviour Support

Our Safeguarding Governor is Mrs Laura Williams

