



Larwood Christmas LOWDOWN Edition

VOLUME: THREE
ISSUE: TWO

NEWSLETTER DATE: DECEMBER 2014

DIARY DATES

SPRING TERM

First day back -

Tuesday 6th Jan

HALF TERM

Monday 16th

Feb to Friday 20th

Feb

END OF TERM

Thursday 2nd April

2.20pm

SUMMER TERM

First day back -

Monday 20th April

HALF TERM

Monday 25th May

to Friday 29th May

END OF TERM

Friday 17th July

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Wishing all of our pupils, families, friends, colleagues, and governors a very Merry Christmas 2014. I hope that you get the time to enjoy yourselves, after what has been an incredibly packed autumn term. We look forward to continuing our work with you all in 2015.

As always, we have witnessed some very special events during the last few weeks. A nativity play produced by our youngest pupils and organised by Mrs Hayes, Ms Gelliot and Mrs Otero. We also had a musical extravaganza in the form of the Elves and The Shoemaker with some amazing singing, acting and dancing. Again my thanks are extended to all involved but particularly to Ms Clulow for the months of work preparing pupils for the show. The festive spirit was also demonstrated by our school choir who performed at Knebworth House in front of many people and they sang beautifully.

As always our team of staff certainly do need the welcome break that the holidays bring and our team will be slightly different in 2015. We say goodbye to Mr Dunham, after many years of service as part of the site team and as a governor. We also said goodbye to our Bur-sar –Mrs Grigsby in November who retired. Retirement also beckoned for Mr Pilgrim from the care team, another member of staff with many roles during his time at Larwood. Finally we wish Mrs Whitaker all the very best as she heads off to take up maternity leave.

By now you may well have noticed that our website reported the result of a two day residential inspection by Ofsted, during this term. Again, it was noted by Ofsted how much good work is produced by our residential team and they were awarded 'good' in all areas.

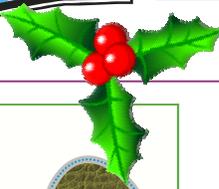
All of these events signify the importance of how we are at our best when work closely together and I hope that we can continue to forge such positive relationships next year. Please remember that Monday 5th January is an INSET day, with all pupils returning on Tuesday 6th January 2015.

S D Trimble
Headteacher





Merry Larwood



The ELVES and the Shoemaker

I am so proud of the children who were involved in the Christmas play. They practiced and rehearsed diligently for hours every week since September. Their hard work definitely paid off and everyone who came to see the play was treated to an excellent show. Finlay and Kester led the amazing cast of 'The Elves and the Shoemaker':
A Musical' including: Joshua, Tia, Christopher, Tyrone, Harvey, Gracie, Callum, Richard, George, Olivia, Katie and Kiar.

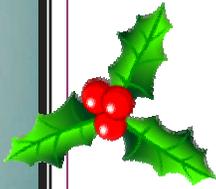


They sang and acted superbly leaving everyone in stitches! I would not be surprised to see any of these children in the West End one day! Well done to everyone involved. Special thanks to all staff, parents and carers for the role you played in helping the children to get ready and perform. We couldn't do it without you!

Christmas Jumper Day

This year Larwood School staff and children participated in 'Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day.' The money we raised has not yet been counted but thanks to the generosity of staff and children the day was a success. Everyone looked very Christmassy!





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/>



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 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.



Great Work!

CHRISTMAS SAVED

A short story by **Ngaio**

50 years from now...

Rudolph the red nose reindeer crashed and broke his leg so he wasn't able to fly. Unfortunately it was the second of November and Christmas was right around the corner. It turned out that Rudolph was actually a girl and weirdly she laid an egg. Two days later the egg hatched and surprisingly a baby penguin hatched. Santa nearly fainted! Santa and Mrs. Clause were about to yell Christmas is over, but the penguin spoke. Both of them stood still, right then both of them thought that maybe Christmas was still on.

Santa announced that the penguin was going to be called Pingu. Then Pingu said to Santa "I like that name. Isn't it a TV show?" Santa replied "Ummm yes, but can you fly?" After that Pingu tried to fly but failed.



On the 22nd of November the other 8 reindeer taught Pingu how to fly but he just couldn't do it at all. Pingu went to his pen crying. While he was walking to his pen, he fell into some strange liquid and could suddenly fly. Christmas was saved!

Writing Competition



At the start of this half term 3 children from Larwood entered the Stevenage Educational Trust writing competition. Kester and Finlay each received a certificate and honourable

mention in the categories of short story and poetry, respectively. We are very pleased to announce that Christopher won his category of descriptive writing. His piece was titled 'Getting Lost.' We are very proud of him and the other two entrants.



LOWDOWN



Busy



In R.E. Miss Kimpton's class were looking into different aspects of the Jewish religion. Last week they discussed Hanukkah and looked at some of the foods served during this time. The pupils made potato latkes. They were quite yummy!!



Adam has been a busy boy recently! Brushing up on his cooking skills and now writing songs to play on his guitar during his music sessions with Mr Simler

Here is a short song that Adam has written:



I was one and I was young, I could see lots of sun.
Hullabys and lullaby's, sing songs and sing songs and laugh songs.
And bath songs, electric songs and daft songs.
Songs and ding, dang, dong, bash, rash, clash and flash songs.
Lickety lackety songs.



Mrs Hayes' class have been making Christingles. A Christingle meaning 'Christ Light' is a symbol of the Christian Faith. The name may not be familiar but you'll certainly recognise the familiar looking fruit and foil decoration. They're great fun to make during the festive period. Lovely work Mrs Hayes' class, well done!



Mrs Williams' class has been learning about WW2 and created a WW2 airbase. We were thinking about making Anderson shelters but decided to make air craft hangers. We made sure that we had camouflaged them so the enemy couldn't spot them.



H **A** **P** **P** **Y** **C** **H** **R** **I** **S** **T** **M** **A** **S**



N **A** **T** **I** **V** **I** **T** **Y**



The school nativity play was a great success and greatly enjoyed by both pupils and staff. The children worked really hard in rehearsals so they were word perfect for their performance in front of the whole school. Well done children, great performance!

Jumpers and Girls Cardigans



You can now purchase your Larwood School jumpers and cardigans online at Tesco. In January 2015 there will be a link under the 'Parents Zone' tab for future purchases, until then, there is a temporary link on the front page of our website www.larwood.herts.sch.uk. Tesco also donate 5% of sales back to Larwood School. Some of you have already made purchases online and our current 5% cashback to the school is £20.00



EXTRA EXTRA

L A R W O O D
S C H O O L

H O U S E
R U N S

TRAFFORD	LORDS	TRENT	HEADING- LY
659	651	689	678
3RD	4TH	1ST	2ND

**CHILDREN BACK TO SCHOOL: TUESDAY 6th JANUARY 2015 -
SPRING TERM BEGINS**

THANK YOU

To everyone that has contributed to our school fundraising , supported the school, sent treats in for the staff etc. whatever the contribution, it's very much appreciated. Enjoy the Christmas break, see you in the Spring Term!