

LARKSWOOD NEWS

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been an eventful week at Larkwood; the Year 3 children braved the elements on Monday when they went to Suntrap as part of their Science learning. The children had a wonderful time discovering different plants, trees and leaves.

A group of Year 6 children were given the amazing opportunity to take part in a mentoring programme with the Prince's Trust. These children enjoyed nine weeks working alongside mentors focusing on confidence, independence and developing a positive outlook. Every child completed the course and attended a graduation ceremony at the prestigious law firm Norton Rose Fulbright in London Bridge. Their hard work and dedication was celebrated at the graduation which ended with what could have been a scene out of High School Musical - every child got dressed up in a red robe and threw their caps in the air! In addition to the graduation ceremony, the children also visited Westminster University this week, taking part in various interactive tours and quizzes. The children enjoyed the experience immensely.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents for the positive feedback received from parents evening so far. As always the Larkwood team appreciate your support.

Best wishes,
Clare Reynolds

Year 3 Sun Trap Centre

Year Three had a wonderful time at Suntrap on Monday learning about Plants. The children acted out the different parts of a plant and identified the purpose of each part. They then explored Epping Forest, identifying different leaves and trees based on their shape and the feel of the bark. The children finished of their day by creating a tree collage using natural resources from the forest.



ATTENDANCE CONGRATULATIONS

Week 16th – 20th April 2018

Whole school attendance – 96%

5KS and 5JM 99.3%

Well Done!

Classes with 96% and above:

RLW / RAE / 1JA / 1MW / 2MC / 3DW / 3ED /
4NB / 4CF / 5CR / 5JM / 5KS / 6JW

Celebrating Punctuality

Lowest number of late marks:

KS1 – RAE / 1MW & 1KJ / 2ND
KS2 – 3DW / 4CF & 4GK / 5JM / 6JM

EVENTS AND VISITS

9 th May	Year 5 Hunting Lodge - 5JM
10 th May	Year 5 Hunting Lodge – 5CR & 5KS
13 th June	Year 6 visit to Matilda the Musical
18 th June	Year 6 Residential / Activity week 2018
30 th June	Summer Fair 12.00 – 4.00pm

WEEKLY EVENTS

Under 5s stay and play - Monday 9.30-11.00am
Drop in with Members of SLT - Tuesday 7.30-9.30am

CLASS ASSEMBLIES 2017-18

Sign in at main reception - 2.40pm

TUESDAY		THURSDAY	
1 st May	RLB	3 rd May	RLB
8 th May	RLW	10 th May	RAE
5 th Jun	6BC	7 th Jun	6JM
12 th Jun	6JW	14 th Jun	6KP

Attendance Matters

Further to the Attendance Matters leaflet we sent out last term, attendance and punctuality is a key focus for us across the school. We are concerned with the current attendance figures across the school. The information below is drawn from attendance figures from the start of the school year.

Our aim is for all children to achieve 100% attendance

The Government expects all children to achieve 96% attendance as a minimum. As a school we track all pupils' attendance on a weekly basis and start to closely monitor any child who falls below 96%. If your child's attendance falls to between 90-96% you may receive a phone call or a letter to make you aware and to ask you come in to see us and discuss how we can help.

Once a child's absence falls below 90% this is classed as Persistent Absence, and as a school, we are obligated to report this to the London Borough of Waltham Forest Behaviour, Attendance and Children Missing in Education Officer. From then the Local Authority will intervene and take over the monitoring of your child's attendance, working with the family and the school to improve your child's attendance.

Following intervention from the Local Authority, if your child's attendance continues to decline, then once it falls below 85% the case will be referred to the county court and the parents or carers may be issued with a fixed penalty notice.

As you can see from the graph below, our current attendance figures for the whole school need to improve and this was something that was picked up within our OFSTED inspection. A big well done to the 9% of children who have attained 100% attendance throughout the school year and also the 46% who are hitting the Government requirement. However it is of concern that 13% of our pupils are classed as persistently absent and 32% require monitoring.

We fully understand the challenges and difficulties of getting children to school every day, and that the younger children do get ill, but we need your assistance to address this alarming situation. As we enter the last term of this academic year we ask for your support to address the whole school attendance so we are all better positioned to see significant improvement for the whole of next year. It is proven that children make much better progress academically and socially when they are in school so please do give us your full support.

Their Future is in your hands...

There is a link between good school attendance and high level attainment.

Whatever the reason, the fact is if your child is absent from school they are missing out on learning time.

Whole School Attendance 2017-18

