JANUARY 9TH, 2026, VOL. 15

Larwood School

Spring Term 1

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Online Safety Update

"Today, parents are confronted with a seemingly impossible situation: do you let your child go online, and risk them being exposed to harmful content? Or do you prevent them accessing a part of the world which is now a daily part of young adolescence.

My message is simple: you are not supposed to be your child's friend.

We are all aware of our own scrolling habits and the challenge of putting down the phone to be present. The solution therefore cannot be simply to rely on politicians or platforms to keep our children safe – parents must play their role with communication, much more of it, not just confiscation.

Talk early – and talk often. Meet your child with patience, compassion for them navigating this new and rapidly developing world."

Children's Commissioner Dame Rachel de Souza, December 2025

Spring has Sprung!

It was wonderful to welcome the children back to school this week.

The introduction of the new phonics programme last term has seen many of our students make great progress, and we're delighted so many have moved up into new groups.

Students are enjoying the opportunity to work with different adults and see the impact on their studies in class. By organising the students into groups based on the phonics level they are working at, we have seen excellent cross-year group collaboration and new friendships develop. Well-done everyone!

Fabulous, Freezing Forest School

Mrs Longcroft and Mrs Paul made magical memories with the students in Forest School this week. The children enjoyed hot chocolates and roasting marshmallows by the fire. One group was lucky enough to be able to "enjoy" a snowball fight!

RSE Consultation

Relationships and Sex Education is a statutory requirement for all schools, and we recognise the vital role that parents and carers play in supporting their children's understanding of healthy relationships, personal development, and wellbeing. Our aim is to ensure that our policy reflects the values and needs of our school community whilst meeting all statutory requirements.

As per the letter sent home on Thursday 8th January, we will be holding a workshop to provide further information about our RSE curriculum and to give you the opportunity to discuss the policy in more detail. These sessions will be led by Mrs Osobu, our Acting Headteacher, who will be happy to answer your questions.

The workshop for Stevenage will take place on Friday 30th January 2026 at 10am.

Please confirm your attendance at these workshops by email - admin@larwood.herts.sch.uk

A huge thanks to Global Ardour Recycling Ltd!

We were very kindly donated £1000 to support our work via the Space Hubs across Larwood. Donations like this have a huge impact on our ability to enhance our existing provision. Please do contact Mrs Osobu if there are any opportunities to work with your organisation.

GLOBAL ARDOUR RECYCLING LIMITED

PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS

HEADTEACHER AWARDS

Mrs Boon - George C - For working hard on his reading and writing at home.

Mrs Lewis Alby PD - For a positive attitude to learning.

Miss Gwynne Conor B - For settling in so well in his new class.

Miss Heritage - For the whole class for continuing to show resilience while the class is being split

Mrs MacGuinness - McKenzie for his amazing handwriting.

Mr Sheldon - Logan S for a great first week back. Well done!

Mr Gotobed - Edward for consistently demonstrating exceptionally good behaviour and attitude to learning

Miss Saunders - Finn - For excellent effort in Maths!

Mrs Boyo - Tobi- For amazing concentration during all lessons! Keep it up!

Miss Kimpton's Space Hub - Adam - for a positive attitude and a great start to the term.

ATTENDANCE AWARDS

Mr Gotobed's class start the term in pole position in the attendance league. Will they be able to do the double?

DATES FOR THE DIARY

January 2026		
week commencing 19th	To be confirmed by Class Team	Parents & Carer Progress Meetings
Friday 30th	10:00	Parents & Carers' RSE Workshop - replacing coffee morning

February 2026		
Friday 13th	All day (2.20pm finish)	Trip Fundraiser Red, white or pink clothing - £1 Bake sale - up to £3 for cakes Half Term
Monday 16th - Friday 20th	Inclusive	Half Term [school closed]
Wednesday 25th	All day	School Photographs (individual)
Friday 28th	10:30	Parents & Carers' Coffee Morning