



Larwood Academy Trust

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Larwood School

Deputy Headteacher: Mr Pierre Van Der Merwe – BA, NPQH

Brandles School

Headteacher: Mr David Pearce – BA (hons), PGCE, NPQH



21st May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Another week has flown by, and like the weather, change seems to be the constant!

Another constant is the really good feedback related to many of your sons and how they are making some great progress. Please note the word 'progress' is always used in the widest sense! This may be in the more traditional sense of academic progress in lessons, but it also includes progress with improved attendance, participation, making friends or keeping friends and being kind to others.

Update related to Covid-19

We have a few staff that are unable to receive the Covid Vaccine due to underlying health conditions. For this reason, all our protocols remain in place and will do for several weeks, despite some relaxations mentioned in the media. I will communicate any changes as they happen. Please note that it continues to be true to state that we must all do our part to keep on track with recent improvements regarding infection rates etc. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to emphasise the following:

- Please follow the rules and regulations when out and about at the weekends or evenings.
- If you or any of your family display symptoms, access testing as soon as you can and avoid going out.
- Do not send your child into school if they display any of the symptoms, I am sure we are all keeping a 'watchful eye' on the new variant and its impact.

New Mayor of Stevenage!

It gives me great pleasure to pass on the exciting news that our long serving Chair of the Trust - Mrs Sandra Barr has been duly elected as Stevenage Mayor. We are privileged to have Sandra continue to direct our Board of Trustees with such dedication and passion. It will also be nice to let the students know that the Mayor is coming to visit!

Challenge Partners

From Wednesday 19th May to Friday 21st we have undergone an extensive review of the school from an external team of assessors from similar schools. The purpose of the process is to identify what we do well as a school and what more we can do to meet the needs of the boys and their families. The process involved talking to the Senior Leadership Team, Teachers, LSAs, Support Staff, Parents, and boys.

In the next couple of weeks, we will receive a comprehensive report which will be shared with all the schools' stakeholders. Please look out for this on the website, as it was a very rewarding experience in which the school has celebrated numerous successes in all areas. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the support you show the school to allow us to be as good as we can be.

New Build

We are still working towards the building of a new double classroom block between the gym and the fire station. This will hopefully be in place for the start of term in September, and if not, soon after; providing some much-needed space for the boys, who are currently far too cramped and need more room to spread out.

Have an enjoyable weekend despite the weather.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Pearce', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Pearce
Headteacher