



Larwood Academy Trust

Executive Headteacher: Mr Sean Trimble B.Ed (hons) MA NPQH

WEBB RISE, STEVENAGE, HERTFORDSHIRE, SG1 5QU
Email: admin@larwood.herts.sch.uk Telephone: 01438 236333
Website: www.larwood.herts.sch.uk Facsimile: 01438 236363

Larwood School

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

Brandles School

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



Dear Parents and Carers

25th June 2021

Please see below the weekly update

Covid-Delta Variant

It has come to my attention (BBC news reporting) that the Delta variant is presenting with different symptoms. This includes headaches and cold like effects. Based on previous advice, we have always advised that children dose themselves up and attend school if they can. However, as this now seems to be the main presenting symptoms, I would ask that you do the following for yourselves/children in such circumstances:

- Call in to let us know and keep your child at home.
- Seek Covid testing as soon as you can. If negative they can return as soon as possible
- Do not send your child into school until test results are known.

This will help to avoid widespread transmission. If a child did come into school with such a symptom and then becomes confirmed as having Covid; that time taken could equate to most of the children and staff having to self-isolate.

The Delta variant is known to spread very quickly, and even though we have bubbles, the taxis do not match our bubbles. It could easily happen and the only way to balance the risk is to react to such a situation as quickly as possible.

Several schools within the local area have seen groups having to self-isolate due to rapid spread of this variant. Therefore, this is also, why I am asking for your support as described above.

Sports Day

We are planning to have a Sports Day before the end of term. Several events will take place during the school day, ranging from the traditional athletics events to team sports such as football and ultimate frisbee.

New builds

The foundations for the new music room were laid this week so hopefully the room will be completed very soon.

All planning permission for the new classroom block of two classrooms next to the gym has been agreed and the construction will be starting shortly.

Drug and Gang Awareness

We were extremely fortunate to be able to secure the services of Paul Hannaford. Over the past 10 years he has built a successful career educating over 400,000 school children from multiple year groups. Paul offers workshops and talks about the dangers of addiction, drugs, and alcohol as well as involvement in gangs, knife crime and county lines. Through his own experiences as a former addict of over 20 years, he conveyed an incredibly powerful and hard-hitting message. I am sure that some of the boys have gone home after the workshop, discussing what they have learned.

Prizes and Awards Event on Tuesday 20th July

Following Mr Johnson's announcement about prolonging the wait before the easing of restrictions, the LA Covid guidance has made it clear that we need to avoid large gatherings. They specifically mention Presentation Events. Consequently, we have had to revise our plans. The event is very important to us, as it allows us to celebrate the boys' achievements and say a proper goodbye to our Year 11s, so we have modified rather than cancelled.

We are now holding the event in front of a small group comprising of one bubble in the hall and live streaming the event for students in classrooms in other bubbles, friends, and families. We are hoping to have the faces of the audience watching, shown on a screen so the boys can identify their friends and family and know they are there supporting them.

If you are available, it would be lovely to have you join the live stream and watch some of the presentations.

- The event will take place on Tuesday 20th July.
- The Year 7s and 8s will have theirs between 10am and 11am
- The Year 9, 10 and 11s will have theirs between 11:45am and 12:15am
- The events will mirror each other with the same live music, speeches from the guest speaker etc.
- Our IT technician will send out a link to all of you, so there is no need to RSVP.

Please join if you can as it would be wonderful to have your support.

Hopefully a fully live Presentation Day can be held next year.

Wishing you a relaxing weekend.

Yours sincerely



David J Pearce
Headteacher