



Lower Farm Weekly



Friday 1st March 2024

Congratulations to everyone for an amazing week here at Lower Farm Academy.

Maternity Leave

Mrs Sheikh will be starting her maternity leave from today. She will be missed by all the staff and children. We wish her all the very best and will keep you updated on the baby when it arrives!



Year 2 Mothers' Day Event Friday 8th March 2024 at 14:30



We would like to invite one special lady from each child's family in Year 2 to join us for refreshments and celebrate Mothers Day on **Friday 8th March**.

Value Awards



Following our Ofsted inspection at Lower Farm this week, we are celebrating all of our children who have been amazing and it has been a privilege and a pleasure seeing how well they have conducted themselves throughout the week. Well done everyone!

Attendance For week beginning 26th February 2024

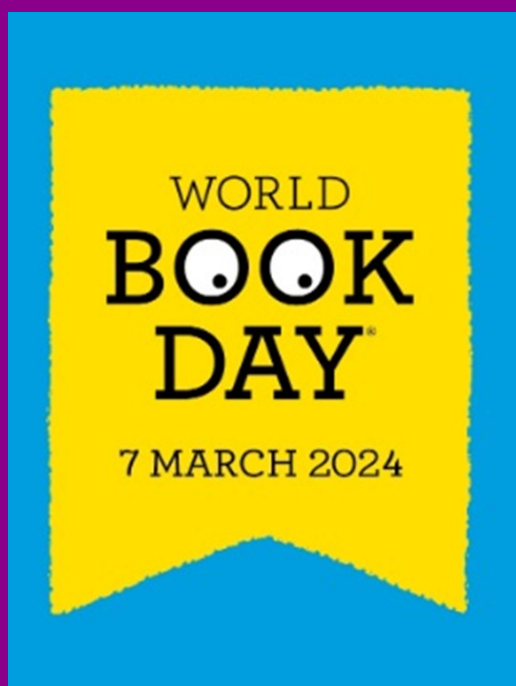


Beech Class	98.6%
Birch Class	99.3%
Cherry Class:	95.3%
Chestnut Class:	95.7%
Elder Class:	90.8%
Elm Class:	96.0%
Hazel Class	96.2%
Holly	98.5%
Oak	93.7%

Congratulations to those classes that have reached an attendance of **97% or above**. It would be great to see every class reach 97% next week.

World Book Day 2024!

Thursday 7th March



We are happy to announce that we will be celebrating World Book Day at Lower Farm Academy on **Thursday 7th March.**

We invite children to dress up as their favourite book character (please make sure the clothes are appropriate and children can talk about the character) or alternatively in their pyjamas as a 'bed and book theme'.

We would also like children to bring in their favourite book as we will be sharing this with their friends later in the day.

The children will be celebrating 'all things reading' during the day with exciting activities such as live zoom meetings with Helen Stephens (Key stage 1) and Micheal Rosen (Key stage 2). We would also like to invite you to come and share a book with your child and their friends in the classroom. We will open the doors from 2.30pm where you are welcome to come and read with your child, feel free to bring a favourite book from home. We can't wait to celebrate reading together!





Friends of Lower Farm Academy

EASTER



THURSDAY 21ST MARCH
5-7PM

ENTRANCE: SIDE DOOR OF SCHOOL HALL

**PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE FOR
FREE ENTRY TICKET**

**£5 FOR 6 GAMES
(OR £1 EACH)**

PRIZES TO BE WON!

**REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE
(CASH PREFERRED)**



Scan to book your
FREE ticket!



Families welcome, parent/carer supervision required

WWW.PTA-EVENTS.COM/FRIENDSOFLOWERFARMACADEMY

Each person must have a ticket. Entrance tickets **MUST** be shown on arrival

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 7th March: World Book Day - see details on separate page below

Friday 8th March: Year 2 Mothers' Day 14:00 - 15:00

Thursday 14th March: Parent/Carer Share Event 14:30

Friday 15th March: Red Nose Day-details to follow

Thursday 21st March: Easter Bingo and Raffle

Friday 22nd March: School closes at 13:30 for Easter holidays

Easter Holidays: Monday 25th March – Friday 5th April

Monday 8th April: Staff Inset Day – School closed

Tuesday 9th April: School opens for summer term

Monday 6th May: Bank Holiday

Friday 17th May: Parent/Carer Share Event 14:30

Friday 24th May: Non-uniform day – bottle donation

Friday 24th May: Year 1 Pirate Tea Party - Children in non-uniform or pirate costume. Year 1 parents invited at 14:00 until home time.

Half Term: Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May

Friday 7th June: Non-uniform – gift donation

Friday 14th June: Year 3 Fathers' Day 14:00 — 15:00

Saturday 29th June: Summer fayre – sports day

Monday 8th July: Parent/Carer Share Event 14:30

Wednesday 10th July: Transition Day

Thursday 18th July: School closes at 13:30 for summer holidays

LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME

UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time (*Platt v Isle of Wight* 2017). The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

The regulations regarding Leave of Absence (The Education (Pupil Regulations) (England) Regulations 2008 as amended by Education (Pupil Regulations) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013.) advise:

- Head teachers **shall not grant any** Leave of Absence during term time **unless they consider there are exceptional** circumstances relating to the application.

If the leave is granted, Head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

It is for the Head teacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. When making an application for Leave of Absence in advance parents are advised to give sufficient information and time to allow the Head teacher the opportunity to consider all the exceptional circumstances and to notify parents of their decision. It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is their responsibility to ascertain if the leave is authorised prior to the start of the leave.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent is the parent with whom the child normally resides.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Where a leave of absence is requested, but additional days taken either prior to or after the request may be considered as part of the leave of absence and could result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case-by-case basis and on its own merits.

Leave of Absences which are not made in advance cannot be authorised in line with legislation. This will result in the absence being recorded as 'unauthorised'. This may result in legal action against the parent, by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice. All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council.

It is important to note, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £80 per child if paid within 21 days).

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority

Warwickshire School pupils recorded 96,366 half day sessions of absence due to holiday in the Academic year 2021/22.