



Lowther School Family Newsletter

Issue 18

9th May 2011

Welcome back!

We all really hope you enjoyed all the special holiday time — Easter, bank holidays and of course Royal weddings (did anyone else notice that one of the page boy's surname was LOWTHER!?) I know Mrs. Wriglesworth has plans afoot for our own special royal day — but I won't steal her thunder now.

I hope all the children got the chance to relax and enjoyed spending time with their friends and family. Now comes the serious business of some serious learning. I look forward to many a target being smashed and lots of huge progress being made in the coming weeks. Let's make this a really special "mini" half term for the whole Lowther School Family.

Every Day really does count

This half term is extremely short — a mere 3 and a half weeks.

We thought about that in assembly last week — such a short time but one where a LOT of learning can be done.

3 and a half weeks at school equates to:-

- 18 school days
- 90 hours of learning (and over 20 of social skill building and playing!)
- 5400 minutes of learning

We EXPECT all children to aim for 100% attendance this half term. Please help us achieve our whole school target which is 95%. At the moment the oldest children are paving the way. Come on Key stage 1 and Foundation Stage — get competitive! So far this year

1st = Year 5 97%

2nd = Year 4 96%

3rd = Year 6 = 95%

With the term being so short this is a marvellous opportunity for ALL classes to beat the magic 95%.

Diary Dates - more details to follow

13th May	Pink Day for Pink Power Walk	11th June	Summer Fair
23rd to 27th May	Walk to School Week	13 to 15th June	Arthouse
24th May	Royal Wedding Grounds Day	23rd & 24 June	INSET Days school closed
27th May	Mufti for Summer Fair	30th May to 3 June	Half Term Week
6th June	Creative Arts Week	1st July	Sports Day
		22nd July	End of term



Community Cooking Last week a group of Y5 chefs worked alongside Chefs Sarah and Clare to prepare a wonderful lunch for elderly members of the North Barnes Community. Well done to all involved — you did a brilliant job. Do let us know if you have ideas for how we can work with the wider community.



Dogs—Please remember that **NO** dogs should be brought onto the school grounds. If you do need to bring your dog to school then it should be tied up safely **OUTSIDE** school grounds. Please help us with this as children's safety is paramount.

STOP PRESS: Peta Fragarria gave birth to a baby girl on Sunday 8 May, mummy and baby are both doing well.

Year 6 SATs

Monster homework packs completed—the Year 6's are ready to bust their targets! Mr. Dodman and I have been extremely impressed with their hard work and commitment to learning. We all wish them the very best with their tests this week—I know they'll do Lowther proud—but most importantly that they'll do their best to try and achieve their own personal targets.

Views on SATs tend to get a mixed reaction but seeing the Y6 rise to the challenge has been a privilege. They certainly deserve to do very well.

Danish Visitors

Last week we enjoyed a visit for the 4th year in a row from our partner school in Denmark. I must comment on how welcome the Lowther School Family made all our visitors—whether it was giving guided tours, playing cricket with them or engaging in conversation at lunchtime— your children were outstanding

Aladdin Pictures

We have a small selection of photos from the KS2 Aladdin show now online — do let me know if you took some good pictures that could be added to the gallery. A DVD will be available soon, we will send home details on how to order.





This newsletter can also be found at <http://www.lowther.richmond.sch.uk/newsletters.html>

EGG and Superhero homework challenges!

The superhero and egg homework challenges were done brilliantly. If you'd like to see the quality of the work do have a look at the school website where there are 2 E-books that showcase the children's amazing work. The next homework challenge is just around the corner!



Classes and teachers next year

The children are always excited to find out who will be their teacher next year. We will announce who will be teaching which class at the start of the last half term. How exciting!

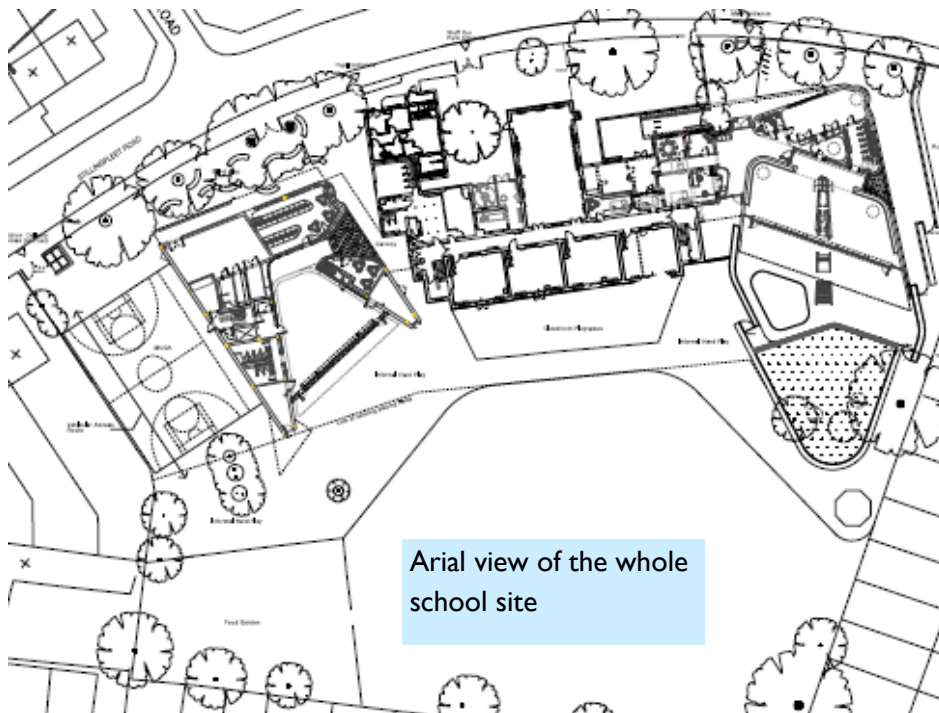
What is happening in the Summer?

The building work will start during the summer holidays. This is a summary of what is due to happen.

- Demolition of the old Nursery and canteen (hoorah!) - we will be marking this with a little surprise!
- Boarding of the site for safety
- Tarmacing of small sections of the grounds to increase hard play space—this will be the small patch between the old Nursery and the allotment and the creation of a path around the edge of the Foundation stage play area.
- Movement of the sheds to the rear of the field
- Improving the access to the Foundation Stage playground at the side of the Foundation Stage.
- Conversion of the Library and the small SEN room to a Y1 classroom.

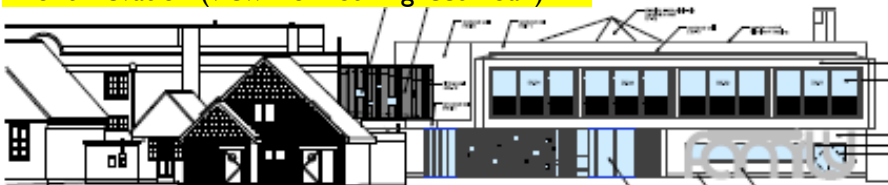
Building news

These are the latest designs—these have been submitted for planning permission. Work is due to start during the summer holidays.



Arial view of the whole school site

Front Elevation (view from Stillingfleet Road)



Rear Elevation (view from the school field)

All the changes should begin to create an even better physical environment for your children. There will obviously be some disruption during the works next year but we are working hard to plan strategically to keep this to a minimum. Please do come and see me if you'd like to discuss any aspect of the building work.

It's all very exciting!