



Lowther School Family Newsletter

Issue 14

1st June 2015

www.lowther.richmond.sch.uk

A very busy and exciting half term!

It's the final half term of the school year— already! I can't quite believe it. During the course of the year I hope you have noticed the academic and social growth of your child. It is one of the great privileges of being a teacher—seeing children learn new and exciting things,

We now have nearly 400 (399 to be exact) enthusiastic, happy learners at Lowther. It's exciting to reflect that the Lowther School Family has grown so much yet still a day never passes by without children sharing their love of learning, their motivation to hit targets or their pride in success with me. I know this last half term will be packed full of more exciting discoveries.



Mrs Colenso's send off

Thank you all for your generous gifts to Alison and for so many of you coming to her leavers assembly. It was a very fitting tribute to someone who has done so much for our school. Alison will be back to visit in the coming months as there's always a little bit of Lowther that stays yours forever!



Happiness at Lowther

At Lowther we want your children to strive to be the very best learner they can be. We all genuinely believe that a happy child is a child ready to learn. The whole school family plays a vital part in ensuring that Lowther is a happy, caring and supportive place for your children to learn. Thank you for your support in building an atmosphere that is so welcoming for all. It's one of the many things that makes Lowther so special.



Lowther and Disney partnership

We're on the TV again! We love cooking at Lowther so we're delighted that the Disney Channels new cookery show for children "First class chefs" was filmed here at Lowther. It's due on air in June—check it out!

Sports News

We love sport at Lowther and so are always looking to see what we can do to further improve our provision and opportunities for the children. Here's the latest news.....

Clubs — Tania, Mr Pritchard and I are busy planning the club arrangements for next year. There are going to be some changes to the set up of clubs so watch this space where we'll keep you fully posted on all the latest news.

Sports Day—sports day is coming up soon. We like trying to keep things fresh so look out for one or two new events for this year. It should be great fun!

Girls Football — The girls football tournament, brilliantly organised by mum Carina, was a massive success. Our girls picked up medals in both group A and in group B. A super effort by all!

Basketball — well done to our basketball squads, both Y3/4 and Y5/6, as their last tournaments were their most successful—showing the benefits of regular training and commitment to practice.



Diaries at the ready!

Some key dates for what is always a very busy term.

June 2015

1st Creative Arts Week

1st Year 3 Orange Tree workshop

4th Year 3 Orange Tree performance

4th MUFTI DAY for Summer Fair.

5th Grounds Day

9th Nursery AM Hyde Park

9th Nursery PM closed

10th Y4 Hampton Court

Thursday 18th **INSET DAY**
(School closed)

Friday 19th **INSET DAY**

(School closed)

23rd PM Nursery Hyde Park

23rd AM Nursery closed

24th Y3 Kew Gardens

26th Sports Day

July 2015

1st Reception London Zoo

2nd Y6 Production

6th Y6 Isle of Wight

8th Y2 Kensington Gardens

9th KSI Pirate Day

11th Barnes Fair

13th LAFTAs

16th Teddy Bear's Picnic and KSI sharing assembly

21st **END OF TERM**—Wow what a busy term!

Please note the children return to school on **Thursday 3rd September 2015.**

Mums football team name

A group of mums are now playing football at the school every Thursday from 7pm until 8pm. Why not get yourself involved, it's great fun apparently!

They also want a name for their team — so any ideas let me know!



School Photographs

As you're probably aware there's a couple of us on the team at Lowther who like photography and we're always happy to share our photos with you for free. Likewise if you ever want to make a donation to school for a copy of any of them you're also very welcome. Last week we freed Mr Daniels up to take some photos around the school and the results are stunning. There's a gallery on the website but do ask if you'd like a copy of any of them. Here are just a couple of examples...

Nepal Disaster effort!

Thank you all—our Nepal mufti day raised the huge total of £654.65, which will really help a lot of people. Well done as well to Mischa, Alexis and Izzy in Y3 who raised £166 by organising their own sale. True Lowther spirit in action!



Y6 SATS

Year 6 have been working incredibly hard this year. They really focused on their SATs assessment week at the start of May. We think they've done a great job! We always use the SATs as a positive learning experience. It's about doing your best, working to achieve a goal and going for it! The results will be out in July and we'll publish them here and on the website. The children certainly deserve to do very well indeed. We wish all of Year 6 a very happy last term at Lowther before they graduate to secondary school. I know Mr.Pritchard has lots of great things for them to do including the big trip to the Isle of Wight. Look out for their play too— I'm sure they'll produce a cracking show.

RPA—more spaces

Some of you may have heard that there was a shortage of spaces at RPA for Y7 in 2015/16. We're delighted to announce that RPA have agreed to take extra children meaning pupils from Lowther are getting their places.

More fencing and the Teletubby hills

I hope you like the new fencing we've had put in outside Y2 and the fencing that has been fitted to help organise the scooter park. This was paid for by a super fundraising effort by parents at the Christmas Bazaar. The Foundation Stage Teletubby hills are now re-done too. I think it's been our best year ever of fundraising so thank you all for helping to really provide some superb great additional facilities for the children

Multi-Academy Trusts

There has recently been some talk locally of Multi-Academy Trusts. Although no local schools have made a commitment to this our Governors at the school are working with me to organise a meeting for parents where we can discuss the local proposals openly. We'll communicate the details of that meeting as soon as we can.

Teacher class allocations 2015-16

At this time of year I know parents begin to wonder about the schools' class arrangements for the coming school year. We're working through this very carefully and are usually in a position to share this with parents in late June. I hope you find this advance information useful,

Meeting for Parents this half term

I will be holding a meeting for parents on Tuesday 16th June 2015 from 6pm until 6.45pm in the main hall to share some of our new ideas and plans for an exciting future at Lowther. If you're unable to make it please don't worry as we'll make sure we share all the news through the newsletter and class teachers will also be available to talk through any matters. Exciting times lay ahead!



Jamie Oliver's Food Revolution Day at Lowther Primary School

Homegrown fruit and vegetables. Eggs from our chickens!

Lowther children prepared and served soups, fresh bread and a choice of dessert for the elders lunch in the community centre. Well Done Lowther!



Mr Bracken — our new Deputy Headteacher



Mr Gradidge — our new KS2 teacher

Staff Update—updates on who's who.

We're delighted to announce the new members of our team for next year. As you know Mr Bracken is joining us in September as our brand new Deputy Head (and will be in school on Monday and Tuesday of next week) We've also appointed a new teacher — Mr Gradidge, who will be teaching in Key Stage 2 next year. I'm sure you'll join me in welcoming them to the Lowther School Family. We will also have Miss Meacher leave the school this summer, Jenny is going to live in Norway next year and we wish her all the best for an exciting and happy future.

As we enter our final year of expansion we do also have a teaching assistant vacancy available. This role is for a September start and for the hours of 8.30—3.30 daily. If you're interested in applying for the position either enquire at the office or pop in and see me. The closing date is 10th June and interviews are scheduled for 15th June.