



Lowther School Family Newsletter

Issue 12

27th February 2013

www.lowther.richmond.sch.uk

The second half of the school year

We begin the second half of the school year raring to go. The focus is very much on learning and supporting the children in making excellent progress in all areas of school life. In my assembly this week we looked at skills for concentrating, thinking things through carefully, asking and answering questions and working as part of a team. Thank you for support and commitment to working alongside the school. This is so evident in lots of different ways—it really does make a difference to how the Lowther School Family functions. Here's to another exciting half term packed full of learning and opportunity.



Do come and join us for lunch

I have school dinners every day and thoroughly enjoy chatting with the children and sharing their news. We thought it would be nice to offer parents the chance to come and have lunch with the children now and again. The first day we have planned for this is Wednesday 6th March (roast dinner day!) If you would like to come and have lunch with us please book a place via the office by this Friday, the cost is £2.50 per meal. Reception classes have lunch from 11.45, Key Stage 1 from 12pm and Key Stage 2 from 12.30. Do come and join us for a sociable and tasty meal.



Being on time

We were so impressed with the improvement in time keeping during the last week of term. We ended up awarding ALL the classes a well deserved gold award so thank you for all your tremendous efforts in helping the children be in class ready to learn at 9am. I know this is a real challenge for some families due to travel etc. but it is vital we all model the importance of punctuality. Thanks again for all your help.

We're off to see the wizard

Look out for tickets for the upcoming KS2 show "The Wizard of Oz" The children have just started rehearsing — more details coming soon.

Congratulations!

Well done to Jake (Y6) and Ella (Y5) who won the recent film critics competition. They'll be attending a special preview screening of "Oz the Great and Powerful." You'll be able to read their reviews in a forthcoming edition of Skipper's scoop.

Home Start

Support and friendship for families

Do you have parenting experience? Would you like to help local families?



If you can spare a few hours a week to help local families with children under five, Home-Start Richmond can train you to support those who are having a difficult time. Free of charge, one day a week, in school hours. Can be accredited NVQ level 1 or 2. Starts 17th April.

To find out more, contact Angie
020 8487 8500
info@homestart-richmond.org.uk

www.homestart-richmond.org.uk Reg. Charity No: 1108975

Statement from ISS (our lunch provider) regarding food quality



Statement

Monday, 18 February 2013

Concerns about the supply of Horsemeat

As a responsible caterer ISS Facility Services Education is taking the current concerns relating to the introduction of horsemeat into the human food chain very seriously and have been in constant touch with all our authorised suppliers.

We can confirm that no horsemeat has been found, and are confident that none will be found within our school food. This is primarily because our standard menus in Richmond have been awarded the Soil Association's Food for Life Silver Catering Mark.

The Food for Life Silver Catering Mark ensures all the meat is traceable back to the farm and meets or exceeds UK legal minimum welfare standards. Schools in the borough receive lunches in which;

- 95% of food is freshly cooked from scratch each day
- The meat used is Farm Assured or Red Tractor certified
- Local produce and producers are sought where possible
- Menus are based around food that is freshly prepared on-site from principally unprocessed ingredients

To date we are confident that every step has been taken to ensure the integrity of our food chain but we are not complacent about this, so we will be maintaining a high level of contact with all suppliers, who, we know are working very closely with the Food Standards Agency.



Twitter

Please do check the school website for the latest news via Twitter. We usually "tweet" a couple of times a week so it should prove a useful way to keep up to date with everything.

More Website updates

The website is continually updated. Check out

- 2 videos used at the KS2 open evening
- Basketball tournament pictures
- A new gallery of the school facilities
- The latest newsletter
- New tweets





Football stars

On the last day of term the football team went to a 7 a-side tournament at St. Paul's school. The team played fantastically and finished with a win (a stunning 4-0 defeat of East Sheen) a draw and a loss. They were really unfortunate to not make it through to the semi-finals having scored 5 goals and only conceded 2. A big well done to all of the team on a really superb effort.



POSTPONED!

No giddy up this Friday at the PTA race night.

Due to unforeseen circumstances The Race Night planned for this Friday (1st March) has had to be postponed. Look out for a new date soon. Sorry for any inconvenience caused.

Parking Request

We appreciate it can be busy in the morning and at pick up but we kindly request that parents do not park in front of our neighbours drive ways or on the zig zag lines outside the gates. Thank you for helping us to be good neighbours within our local community.

Wednesday 6 March, 9:30am-4pm
Castlenau Community Centre, Stillingfleet Rd, SW13

Free event! Save money & stay healthy with help from RHP

Who is going to be there

Asda, Barclays, Barnes Job Club, Barnes Workhouse Fund, Dignity Funeral Care, JobCentre Plus, LiveWell Richmond, London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, Mears, NHS Smokefree, RHP, RHP's Urban Academy, Richmond Aid, Richmond Citizen's Advice Bureau, StepChange Debt Charity, Thames Water, Thamesbank Credit Union, Way to Work, West London Waste

Workshops and drop-in sessions

Café Area

All day

11am – 12pm

1.30pm – 2.30pm

IT Suite

9.45am - 4pm

Upstairs

12pm - 3pm

Take the taste test

Named brands cost more than supermarket brands and we often think they taste better... but can you tell the difference?

Cooking on a budget

Learn how to make a healthy and delicious meal on a budget!

Reusable nappy demonstration

Reusable nappies have come a long way since Terry Towels! West London Waste can show you how to make huge savings using NEW reusable nappies instead of disposable nappies.

Drop-in job advice with Alan Adams

Need help creating a CV or uploading it online? Let Alan help!

IT for beginners with RHP Digital Champion

A member of the RHP team will be on hand to show you how to do things online - like setting up an email account, grocery shopping or swapping energy tariffs.

Make and mend

Button dropped off? Want to take a hem up or learn to sew on a zip? Buying clothes is often expensive, but this workshop can show you how to save money.



Outdoor Ping Pong (aka Wiff Waff!)

Mr Green has now put up the outdoor ping pong table so we have another fun activity for the children to enjoy at playtimes and lunchtimes. It should prove to be great fun.

KS2 Open evening

A huge thank you to all of you that came to the recent KS2 open evening. We hope you found it a useful evening. A very big well done to the children from KS2 that showcased their school. Following your feedback we intend to run similar evenings in the future.

Trophy Winners



The Year 5 and 6 basketball squad secured a fantastic tournament win at Christ's school. They won all of their matches in the tournament. Their play was characterised by hard work, determination and team work. Their commitment to coming to training and to listening to advice really paid off. We certainly celebrated in style too. Well done to the whole squad.



Year 3 and 4 basketball



The Richmond Knights will be running basketball sessions for Year 3 and 4 on Monday lunchtimes. This is a great opportunity for children to learn more about a sport Lowther has excelled at in recent years (we've won 5 trophies in the last 3 years) The potential showed by the Y3/4 players at the last tournament was impressive especially considering they'd had no training. Enquire at the office if you'd like your child to join the club.

Skipper's Scoop—second edition

After the storming success of edition 1 the editorial team are just putting the finishing touches to edition 2. The next edition should be out by next week.

The spotlight's on you

We've added some spotlights to the astro pitch to allow us to use the pitch all through the entire year. We will always look to see how we can further improve the school facilities for your children.