



Lowther School Family Newsletter

Issue 13

7th March 2013

www.lowther.richmond.sch.uk

Two things, one newsletter

This newsletter is mainly to update you all on two things. On this side there are all the details for our upcoming Community Day. This has been an annual event for quite a few years now. It's always great fun so if you are able to join us for some or all of the excitement then please do. On the reverse of the letter are some details that we have recently received regarding school performance that we'd like to share with parents and families.

COMMUNITY DAY 2013 — FRIDAY MARCH 15TH

Friday 15th March is Community Day — and again this year it coincides with Comic Relief. This year we will be raising money for Comic Relief and a Ugandan charity — Project Le Monde. To help support the charity we'd like you to have a "Bad hair day" just simply bring in £1 and wear your hair.. wellcrazy! If you'd like to complement this look with "silly socks" too that'd be excellent (no extra donation required)

The Ugandan charity is "Project Le Monde". Do look at their website for more information www.projectlemonde

The Project Le Monde ethos

We believe that providing underprivileged communities in Uganda with good quality school buildings can significantly improve the educational experience and life prospects of thousands of children. We also believe that by working with trusted local people in Uganda, we can deliver this infrastructure in an efficient, transparent manner, while striving for value for money.



The timetable for Community day is listed on the right hand side of this letter

After breakfast we will be having our "Lowther Fun Run" around the local roads (the police have kindly agreed to close the local streets again) Why not come and join us — it's one of my highlights of the year. The children in Reception, Y1 and 2 have to complete one circuit of the course whilst children in KS2 tackle two circuits. Amongst the other things we have planned which you may enjoy joining us for are work in the allotment with your child for the big clear-up and Spring planting, sports, arts and craft and music activities around the school. The end of Community Day sees two other events—our Fairtrade Tea (which is bound to be delicious) and parent/staff sports matches. The fair trade tea will take place in the Great Hall from 3.15 for tea/coffee and home-made Fairtrade cakes. The money raised on the day will be divided between Comic Relief and Project Le Monde. It should be brilliant, please feel free to join us for some, part, or all of the day.



A little reminder of how much fun last years Community Day was.

More Ping less Pong

The outdoor ping pong table is proving a great hit with the children. We'd always intended to buy two but wanted to see how popular it was first. The PTA have very kindly agreed to buy a second table - this is fab as it will allow even more children to enjoy playing.

Skipper's Scoop — second edition

Will hit the streets this week. I've just had a sneaky peek at edition 2 and it's a cracker! I can't wait until it goes live!

Lowther parents and Mr Tuffney's chance to visit RPA together

Richmond Park Academy have very kindly offered to do a "Lowther only" open morning for parents who'd like to know more about the school. I have decided to invite myself so will be going along too! The morning is the 18th April, at 9.15am, Please let the office know if you intend to come. This is a really great opportunity to find out more about your local state secondary school.

Schedule for Community Day 15/3/13

The overall timetable for the day is as follows:-

8.15 – 8.50am Breakfast Fry up
(Places are limited so please book your place via the office)

8.55am Children register in class as normal

9.10 am Short assembly in the Great Hall to start our Community Day

9.20 - 9.50 The Lowther Fun Run (come and join in the run — it's great fun)

9.50-10 Children re-register and get ready for activities

10-11 Activities 1 -3 for the children

11- 11.10 Morning Break

11.10 – 12.30 Activities 4 – 7

12.30 – 1.10 Lunchtime

1.10 – 1.20 Registration

1.20 – 3.00 Activities 8– 12

3.00 Closing ceremony (children then go back to class)

3.15 – 4.30 Fairtrade Tea

3.30 – 4.30 Parents and staff football/netball (please sign up at the office in advance)

15 hours free childcare for two year olds

From September 2013, you could be eligible for 15 hours per week free childcare for two year olds if you are receiving one of the following: income support; income-based Jobseeker's Allowance; income-related employment and support allowance; support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999; the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit; Child Tax Credit, provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190, as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs. All looked after children will be funded (where benefits are not applicable).

For further information contact: the Family Information Service on 020 8831 6298, your local children's centre, health visitor or other professional.

www.richmond.gov.uk/ifs



Did you know? Facts and figures about your school

Our school performance data was published just over a week ago. This is a large 94 page document that focuses mainly on academic performance of schools but also looks at other key areas such as school demographic, attendance and so on.

We have updated the academic results section of the school website but thought it might be interesting (and useful) for parents to have some of the key information here via the newsletter. If you'd like to know more about any of the data here do pop in and see a senior member of the team.

Value Added Scores

Value Added tells the story of the progress children make whilst they're at the school. It takes account of the many different starting points children have. It reflects the success of their learning journey and academic development. As you can see from the table below the pupils progress is very good, and the school has consistently been in the top 13% of schools nationally for the last 7 years.

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Value Added <i>Richmond Rank</i>	1st	1st	4th	= 5th	3rd	6th	7th
Value Added <i>National Rank (as a percentile)</i>	1%	1%	6%	9%	13%	5%	8%

Academic Attainment

The SATs as they are called, record your child's level of knowledge and understanding in Maths and English in a national test. The basic results are just a snapshot and *do not* tell you about where he/she started and the progress made during his/her 7 years at school. They do not tell the full story of your child's social, emotional and creative growth, self confidence and love of learning that are all part of primary education at Lowther. Our results nevertheless are something the children should be very proud of.

Maths					English				
National averages Level 4 = 85% approximately Level 5 = 35% approximately					National averages Level 4 = 85% approximately Level 5 = 35% approximately				
Year	Level 4	Level 5	% of children making better than expected progress	National Percentile rank for Value Added	Year	Level 4	Level 5	% of children making better than expected progress	National Percentile rank for Value Added
2007	86%	55%	92%	1	2007	91%	23%	92%	13
2008	95%	32%	94%	19	2008	100%	27%	96%	6
2009	86%	36%	87%	12	2009	79%	23%	87%	51
2010	95%	32%	94%	17	2010	95%	32%	100%	15
2011	91%	50%	91%	4	2011	91%	27%	86%	10
2012	96%	48%	100%	7	2012	91%	30%	95%	12

Science				
National averages Level 4 = 92% approximately Level 5 = 43% approximately				
Year	Level 4	Level 5	% of children making better than expected progress	National Percentile rank for Value Added
2007	100%	64%	100%	2
2008	100%	73%	100%	4
2009	100%	68%	100%	2
2010	100%*	63%*	100%*	n/a
2011	100%*	77%*	91%*	n/a
2012	96%*	65%*	100%	n/a

Other facts about your school

- There are 302 pupils on roll (the national average is 251)
- There are a further 52 pupils part-time in the Nursery
- Over the forthcoming 3 years we expect our school numbers to go up to approximately 400 pupils.
- 48.3% of our pupils are girls
- 36.8% of our pupils have English as an additional language
- 43.2% of our pupils are white British
- Or school attendance was 95.4%. The national average is 95.6%. This is something we must improve and will be reflected in our feedback from a future Ofsted inspection. Please help us with this.
- Our overall ranking for added value was in the top 8% of schools nationally