

Lowther School Family Newsletter

Issue 10

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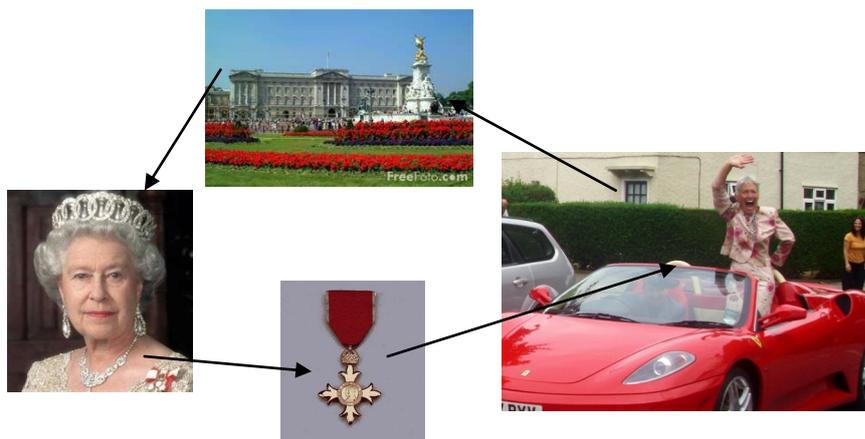
www.lowther.richmond.sch.uk

Welcome back to a BIG term of LEARNING!

The spring term starts here and it promises to be a wonderful term of learning. The Spring term is a really key term for learning and is often the term we see children really fly and develop hugely. We look forward to sharing your child's success as their learning journey continues into 2011.

Introducing Mrs Pat Henchie OBE!

A while back a group of governors and staff put an application together to nominate Mrs.Henchie for the New Years Honours list. We were delighted to hear confirmation on December 31st 2010 that Mrs.Henchie is now indeed an OBE. She received the award in recognition of her outstanding contribution to education and community. I'm sure you'll all agree this is truly well deserved and a fantastic achievement. We are planning a celebration event - further details to be announced.



The sweet sound of Success!

I have received some wonderful songs by the children about Lowther. Each of the entrants have received a CD copy of their song. We're hoping (if our webmaster can organise it!) to put the songs on the website so that everyone can enjoy them. Well done on some awesome homework. Look out for Homework Challenge 4 coming soon!

The Richmond School Sport Partnership (RSSP) needs your help!

The RSSP, based at Twickenham Academy, provides sporting opportunities and competitions for all children in Richmond upon Thames state schools. Unfortunately, as a result of the government spending review direct funding of School Sport Partnerships will soon cease, potentially having a devastating effect on the quality and quantity of sporting provision available to the young people in our borough. It would be impossible to fully describe the positive impact that the RSSP has on our children, however, you may have read our recent Sporting Link Magazine or you can visit our website which showcases just some the work we do in the borough. As this will have a direct impact on your children we are appealing to you as parents to support the efforts to save School Sports Partnerships by emailing your local MPs vincent.cable.mp@parliament.uk and zac@zacgoldsmith.com. Thank you for your support.

100% Attendance Week

After **Term 1** our school attendance was **94.77%** - our target is **96%**.

These are the standings for the classes after Term 1.

Oak 92%

Willow 96%

Beech 93%

Pine 95%

Y2 94%

Y3 95%

Y4 96%

Y5 97%

Y6 95%

We realise there have been lots of illness and bugs and even an outbreak of Chicken Pox recently and in the first term but we really want to get back on track. Over recent years Lowther families have improved attendance to a level well above the national average and have bucked the national trend where attendance has actually got worse. On week commencing **17th January 2011** we are having a **100% attendance week** — our challenge is to get as many children with 100% attendance that week. There will be prizes and incentives. Please remember all absences should be authorised by the school. Every day of LEARNING counts. Please help us achieve 100%.



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

On your bike!

The Brilliant Bike Club (run by the Turning Hub team) is a fantastic opportunity for 8 –12 year olds to have some fun on their bike! There are fun bike games and bike polo. The sessions only **cost £3 for 2 hours**. The sessions start on Saturday 15th January from 130 — 330 at Richmond Park Academy and will then run for a total of 10 weeks. Parents must accompany children for the first session to sign a permission slip.

Call 07538 185174 for more information or ring if you haven't got a bike but would like to come. It should be brilliant fun so get down to Richmond Park Academy for cycling adventures!



A swift return from retirement!

Mrs.Henchie was recently approached by the Local Authority to take up a short term acting headship at the Queens school in Kew. Mrs.Henchie has accepted and so will be the head there for up to the next 2 terms. We wish her a successful and happy time there.



School or packed lunch?

Please do inform the office if your child changes from packed to school lunch or vice versa. Many thanks.

The teachers have been delighted with the children's enthusiastic and positive return to school this week. It's been a great mini –week. Keep up the fab work children!

Just before Christmas a small group of Year 5 pupils asked me if they could organise a “Lowther’s Got Talent” show. So here it is! Jade, Emilijana and Jamie are delighted to announce the first ever “Lowther ‘s Got Talent” show

There are 6 different categories

- Music and Singing
- Dance
- Comedy and Drama
- Sports skills
- Magic and tricks
- Alternative



There are auditions being held from 1-3 on Tuesday 25th January in the school hall. (schedule to be published)

Only a small number of performances from each category will be put through to the grand final which will showcase up to 14 different acts on Friday 28th January from 3– 5pm.

Parents are very welcome to come to either the auditions and/or the final showcase.

Acts can be individual or groups and can contain a mixture of any age of child from 5-11.

If you would like to enter please fill in your details on the chart on the staffroom door from Monday 10th January. We will then publish an audition list. The deadline for application for an audition is Friday 21st January.

Look out for posters around the school designed by the girls which will give you all the details.

We look forward to seeing a whole host of varied and talented acts. Good luck and get practising — Let's show Lowther is over-flowing with TALENT!