



Lowther School Family Newsletter

Issue 7

10th November 2010

www.lowther.richmond.sch.uk

The Results are in!

We have now received the confirmation of the pupils results from the last school year (School year 2009/2010). Pupils at Lowther have a deep commitment and enthusiasm for learning. Their attitude to school and to learning is extremely positive — this is vital. We have seen over time very good attainment and progress at Lowther — so much of this is down to your wonderful children's love of school and learning.

Pupils overall **attainment** in Key Stage 2 was significantly above the National Average and additionally significantly above the National average in both English and Maths. This is a fantastic achievement by the children. 95% of pupils achieved Level 4 or higher (the national average is 80%) in English and 95% of pupils achieved Level 4 or higher (again the national average is 80%) in Maths.

The **progress** that learners make at Lowther continues to be outstanding. The value added ranking that recognises the progress children make has placed us in the following % nationally over the last 5 years

2010—Top 13% of schools (this is particularly good as 2010 was the first year Science was not included in the results - a subject we have ranked in the top 4% of schools nationally for the last 4 years!)

2009—Top 9% of schools

2008—Top 6% of schools

2007—Top 1% of schools

2006—Top 3% of schools

When I have the full details of how pupils are progressing at Lowther I will share them with you via the newsletter.

I am though delighted that pupils at Lowther continue to sparkle academically as well as socially.

Attendance

Attendance is key for children to make great progress in their learning.

For the first half term the school attendance was **95.1%** - which is good—but we want it to be outstanding! We want to beat **96%** for the year. Please remember all absences from school must be authorised.

Week 1 after half term—we hit the magical 96% - with 3 classes— - getting a whopping 99% - awesome! Let's keep up the outstanding work.

Over the last few years Lowther families have been recognised as bucking the national average for attendance as your children's attendance has improved year on year (last year we had **95.5%** - the national average was 93.8%) Thank you for your continued support with promoting the importance of excellent attendance.

Let's go on a trip!

At Lowther we are passionate about offering children the opportunity to learn in different ways — whether that be working on the allotment, using drama or computers — learning can be approached in so many exciting and interesting ways. Our fantastic London location offers a wealth of opportunities for trips out to places of interest and invites to special visitors in to run workshops. Why not come along on one of the trips - we really value parent help on these exciting learning adventures. Did you know we had 13 different trips across the school in the first half term which ranged from trips to the Children's Proms at the Royal Albert Hall to river trips and exploring the Natural History Museum. We have 13 more planned for the second half term. That equates to 2 trips per week. Each class averaged a total of 10 trips over the last school year. This doesn't include all the other different learning opportunities like gardening, nature walks, trips to the library and so on. We are always interested to hear of new and exciting places to take the children so if you know of somewhere then please do let us know.

Do try and come along to these important events if you can:-

Community Building Consultation

Wednesday 10th November from 2.30 – 7.

Where you will be able to see in detail the plans for the growth of the school and feedback directly to the architect your thoughts and ideas.

PTA Spirit of Winter Evening

Thursday 11th November 6-9pm

A night of fun, indulgence and relaxation is on offer here at Lowther. Last years event was a tremendous success—come along and join in.

Fry-Up Friday

Friday 19th November 8.20—9 (then reading 9-9.30)

A chance to have a proper good old fashioned fry-up and then spend some time reading with your child—comics, books, newspapers all allowed! Mr. Green, Mr. Dodman, Mr. Agarwal and I are all looking forward to you joining us for a breakfast treat!



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

Meeting Zac!

Mrs. Wriglesworth took a group of children to a Greener Upon Thames meeting in Richmond. Speakers were asked to explain the detrimental impact of plastic bags on our world. The children asked poignant questions and will be leading an eco assembly later in the term. To help support this our school behaviour target this week is to only use 1 bin bag per class—thus reducing our amount of waste.

Zig Zags

We must stress that the zig zag lines outside the school are a NO parking zone. This is for all the children's safety—thank you for your co-operation with this.

Medicine

Any medicine (prescription or otherwise) for children must be handed into the office with your child's name written clearly on it. The school support team will then make sure the medicine is correctly administered. There are certain exceptions e.g asthma pumps—please ask at the office if you are unsure.

Help the children are “Taking over!”

I have now started receiving some very professional looking letters from the children for Takeover Day. It's not too late - but time is running out. Get those letters in to be part of one of my favourite days of the whole school year.

To apply for Takeover Day 2010 children must write a formal letter of application to Mr. Tuffney, Mrs. Wriglesworth or Mrs. Webster. The children will then be invited to a formal interview. Job offers will then be made to successful candidates.

The key dates are

- Deadline for written applications Monday 15th November
- Interviews w/c 15th November
- Job offers will be made by Friday 19th November
- **Takeover Day is Friday 26th November 2010**

New choice of charity to support by Parents

The new choice of charity for parents to support is Born too Soon. The charity caters for sick and premature newborn babies. They offer support to babies who need extra observation, care and treatment which cannot be provided on a maternity ward by Midwives and their support staff. I'm sure you'll agree this is a very worthwhile cause.

Swimming News

Pupils are invited to take part in Swimming Trials for the St Paul's swimming club. SPBSC will be holding trials on 4th December at 11.30am at St Paul's boys' school. Ask at the office for



The Golden Standard Lowther Family Superstar Award

Each week Mrs. Webster, Mrs. Wriglesworth and I nominate children for this award. Children receive the nomination for making an outstanding contribution to the Lowther School Family. Their picture and the reasons for their nomination are located outside the headship room.

Children receive a special “Gold” certificate and a badge which they can wear on their school uniform.

Community Gardening Day

The morning was great fun with digging, weeding, planting, cutting, fertilising all going on. Thank you so much to the families of Elia (Y2), Xavier (Y2), Jack (Beech class) Freya (Willow class) Connie and Madeline (Y3 and Oak) and Imogen (Year 2) and of course our sustainability champion Mrs. Wriglesworth

Mr. Tuffney's Lowther School Family Homework Challenge!

Please do have a look at the books the children have created about the Lowther School Family. Their pictures, writing, posters and models give a real insight into their views of the Lowther School Family. I received so many completed homeworks I've got to buy a second book and have had to create a new display wall to showcase the children's work! WOW what a brilliant attitude the children have to learning!

The books will be in the Welcome Lobby for all to read from Monday. Many of the entries were stunning and so will be awarded superstar certificates!