



Lowther School Family Newsletter

Issue 6

10th December 2013

www.lowther.richmond.sch.uk

This makes good reading.....

Our recent book sale made a very healthy £298 profit—we've already spent it! We have purchased 9 sets of 6 guided reading books with the profit. Thank you for your support with the sale.

Mega-Christmas Fair

Wow! Now that was a really amazing Christmas fair. I really hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did. It takes a huge amount of time, effort and teamwork to put on such a great event—so a massive thank you to our very wonderful PTA, especially Jo, Kal and Harriet, for organising it all. I had a comment from a visitor to the fair "Your PTA is marvellous!" - I replied "I know!" If you'd like to get involved in the PTA in any way please do, they're a really friendly bunch who always are very happy to see new faces. Initial estimates are that the fair raised over £2500 for the school. Now where did I put that school shopping list.....We will of course update you on what we decide to spend the money on. Thanks again for being so supportive of our school family.

Happy Christmas!

It's always a very special time of year for families, so from one family to another—we wish you the very happiest of Christmases! We are looking forward to seeing you in (gulp!) 2014.

Looking smart!

We did a uniform check last week. I'm delighted to say that the children looked really super — very smart indeed. The results of this check are below. As you can see footwear is the only area as a school we should improve—remember it's PLAIN dark coloured footwear for school—and no boots please! We are aware it's cold at the moment—but children shouldn't be wearing long sleeved tops or bright colour t-shirts underneath their polo shirts. Thanks for your support with this—it really is marvellous seeing the children looking so smart and proud in their uniform.

	Foot-wear	Jump-er	Shirt	Trousers Skirt	Jewel-ery	Make up	Hair	Base layer
Oak	1	1						
Willow				1				
Beech	1	2						
Pine	1			1				
Y2 Maple								
Y2 Elm	1							1
Y3T	1							
Y3S	1							
Y4J	1							
Y4B								
Y5	1							
Y6	2							

Updated KS2 Behaviour policy

We've made some small changes to the KS2 behaviour policy—the guidance is online under the policies drop down.

Skipper's Scoop update

It's on it's way..... You should receive your lovely new shiny copy before Christmas. It promises to be another bumper edition.

The Lowther Joke Book

Well done (and a huge thank you) to all the children that sent jokes in for the first homework challenge. Henry (Y2) and I have now collated them (with a little help from children in Y6) into an online book for everyone to enjoy. Head to the Study zone and choose the Homework Challenge section from the drop down.

Children's work online

Have you been on your class' page of the website recently? Most classes have lots of pictures and examples of children's work on their part of the site — go explore!

No gifts please!

We always really appreciate the thoughts of cards and gifts at Christmas but Mrs Colenso and I would prefer families to donate gifts to a worthwhile cause this year. We'd be delighted to continue to receive cards. Many thanks in advance.

Mr. Tuffney's Golden Award



Lowther Family Golden Standard Superstar

Well done to the latest children to be awarded the Golden Standard this year

Sara (Y2) Georgia (Y4)

Ylli (Y1) Kazia (Y1)

Julia (Y5) Amy (Y4)

All Golden Standards from this year can be found on the school website.

Data available for parents to look at

We've just updated the website with further information on pupil attainment. We've also included some additional information that parents might find interesting—including our school context and a brief explanation of the points system. It's under the "How are we performing" drop down. Do ask Mrs Colenso or me if you would like us to explain any of it further.

Key dates to look out for

It's always a busy term with events galore. This is what's happening in the last 2 weeks.

Wed 11/12 Nativity

Thu 12/12 & Fri 13/12

Foundation Stage Nativity

Wed 18/12 Panto & Xmas lunch

Thurs 19/12 Last day of term

Thurs 19/12 Church Service 10am

Mon 6/1/14 INSET day

Tues 7/1/14 Children return to school

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter—we update the feed pretty regularly—it's an easy way for you to keep in the loop about school events and news.



We sent two squads to the Richmond Knights Basketball tournament. The Y3/4 squad posted their ever first win with an amazing match winning shot by Max against Barnes. The Y5/6 squad played really well and finished the tournament in a very pleasing 3rd place. Both Miss Ross McCall and Mr Tuffney were delighted with the children's work rate and enthusiasm and the way both squads played as a team. Great work children.

All pupils at Lowther make great progress!

We were recently sent some data that showed we are 5th in Richmond and Kingston (out of 62 primary schools) over 3 years combined for the progress made by children entitled to a free school meal. Our own school data shows that all pupils at Lowther make very good progress with their academic learning.

Super Chef!

Our very own super Chef Sinead represented Richmond at the ISS Chef of the Year Competition 2013. The competition was intense with 15 chefs battling it out – Masterchef style !

The Result

Sinead won 3 awards for:

- Working Safely during the event
- The Heat winner
- The overall best dish of the day – Asian Chicken Noodle soup with grilled chicken dumplings

Sinead's winning menu was:

MAIN COURSE—ASIAN CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP WITH GRILLED CHICKEN DUMPLING

DESSERT— ORANGE & GINGER STICKY TOFFEE PUDDING WITH ORANGE CARAMEL SAUCE

Look out for an exclusive review of Sinead's food in the next edition of Skipper's Scoop. At Lowther we love cooking!



The Nativity 2013

Well done to Y1 and Y2 for a cracking show. Look out for an online gallery of pictures coming soon. In the meantime here are a few to give you a flavour.



Governor news

Our school governors play a vital part in driving school improvement. Their role is around challenging and supporting the Headship team to make decisions that move Lowther forward. At Lowther we are lucky to have fantastic governors that really understand our school. Indeed this has been noted in our last two Ofsted visits.

If you'd like to know who our school governors are there is a drop down on the school website which provides all the details. In addition governors have set up a new email address to allow parents to contact them should they wish. The email address is

governors@lowther.richmond.sch.uk

Staff news

Miss Shaw, our Year 3S teacher, has made the decision to return to working in television. This has been a big decision for her and we wish her well and thank her for all that she has done for the Lowther School Family. Miss Shaw's last day will be Thursday 19th December.

Lunchtime Supervisor vacancy

Emma, who works at lunchtime, has managed to secure a job as a chef in our very own Lowther kitchen—which does mean we now have a vacancy for a lunchtime supervisor—the hours are from 12 –12 each day. Enquire at the office if you're interested in applying.