



Lowther School Family Newsletter

Issue 5

15th October 2012

www.lowther.richmond.sch.uk

The Learning is in full swing

I am delighted to report that the children are really working hard - we've seen some wonderful work and have been really impressed with so many different things including some wonderful work done at home too (which we always love to see) It got to a point last week where I had actually ran out of the infamous "Bling blings" (don't worry I have since received a fresh batch) One of the great joys of the job is seeing children making progress and being proud of their achievements. I am delighted that the first few Hong Kong Phooey blue belts have been awarded (well done Ivan, Amy and Theo) and can report that we now have children who have achieved the Golden Standard. Learning is something all children should enjoy and it is our job to make sure that happens.

Workshop	Date	Host School
Increasing resilience	6 th November	Kew Riverside Primary School
Bullying	13 th November	East Sheen Primary School
How to say No and have it work	20 th November	St Mary Magdalen's Primary School
Self Esteem	27 th November	Queens Primary School
Helping children make healthy choices	4 th December	St Osmund's Primary School
Positive Behaviour Management (KS1)	11 th December	Barnes Primary School
The bright and challenging child (KS2)	15 th January	Sheen Mount Primary School
Talking to your child about sex	22 nd January	East Sheen Primary School
Helping your child stay drug free	5 th February	Lowther Primary School
Preparing your child for transition to secondary school (KS2)	12 th February	Barnes Primary School

Parent Workshops

There are a number of workshops being made available to local schools (see left). These are all being run by Gill Hines who is a very experienced practitioner. Unfortunately some schools released their newsletter before ours and so some sessions have already become fully booked. I apologise for that. We are however endeavouring to get the most popular ones repeated in the very near future. If you'd like to see if there are spaces left and for more information and booking go to www.gillhines.co.uk/page8/Freeworkshops/index.html

Website news

Check out the school website for some fab new videos

- Nada's brilliant building video (played at the grand opening)
- Y6's fantastic dance routine from the grand opening

We've also finally dug out the opening to Lowther's Got Talent from last year.

We hope you enjoy them. Look out for new updated class pages coming soon.

Great Behaviour at Lowther

Our observations of class and lunchtime behaviour over time have been consistently very good. Children play nicely together and enjoy being at school. We do though want to ensure all members of the school community are clear about what is expected in terms of behaviour. At the end of the last school year we revisited some of the behaviour strategies across all of the 3 phases (Foundation stage, Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2) We have now completed them as well as reviewing our full behaviour policy.

All 4 documents are now online for you on the school website (under the policies drop down) Attached to this letter are the guidelines relevant to your child's class. We hope these give clarity to all and support children in making excellent behaviour choices at school. We are very proud of how kind and supportive children are to each other here and so our main emphasis will continue to be on praise and rewards—indeed this weeks behaviour target is "to earn lots of rewards". Please support us with these new changes. Thank you in advance.



New Catholic Secondary School

You may have noticed in the local press a new Catholic Secondary school (St Richard Reynolds Catholic College for boys and girls) is due to open in Twickenham in September 2013. If you'd like to know more then why don't you visit. They are having an open event for parents on Saturday 20 October between 11am – 1pm.

Richmond Park Academy: research amongst Lowther school parents

A message from the governors at RPA, your local secondary school.

"As part of our drive towards excellence at Richmond Park Academy, we are keen to listen to the opinions of parents in our community. Please take a few minutes to answer the survey questions about the issues which are important to you when evaluating a secondary school for your child.

<http://www.snapsurveys.com/wh/surveylogin.asp?k=1348571>

23 Thank you!

A big thank you to the 23 parents that have taken the time to complete the online Parentview survey. As key stakeholders in the school your views matter. We have, do and will make changes to the way the school operates and functions as a result of parent feedback. As well as Parentview do feel free to share your ideas with Mrs. Colenso or myself or indeed any of the team in person. We all want to work together to improve Lowther for the children.



	Number of pupils		Number of pupils
Brentford School for Girls	5	Burlington Danes	1
Richmond Park Academy	6	Richmond Park Academy	5
The Moat	1	Isleworth and Syon Boys	1
Christ's	1	Christ's	4
Orleans	1	Grey Court	4
Latymer	1	Putney High	1
Chiswick	3	Chiswick	4
Grey Court	1	Waldegrave	1
Fulham Cross Girls	1	Fulham Cross Girls	1
Moved away	2		

Where do Lowther pupils move onto?

Pupils from Lowther go on to a whole range of different secondary schools across west and south west London. It's really important that when thinking of the secondary you take the time to visit the school and plan well in advance. We have had fantastic success stories from all our partner schools. We are aware however, that some children find the transition to secondary challenging—we try to work alongside our partner schools to ensure as smooth a transition as possible. Do let me know if you'd like to know about secondary transition or if there is more we could do as a school.

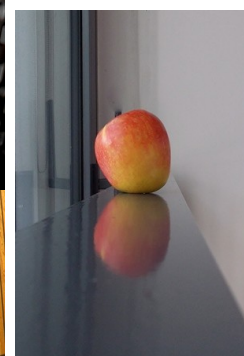
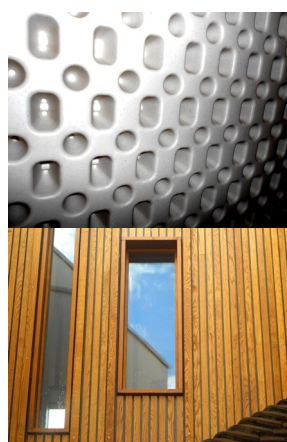
Target Setting

I hope you find the target setting evenings useful. When school and parents work closely side by side good things happen.

A Spotlight on.....

Fawz from Year 6 successfully applied to be my personal assistant this year. Following Raouf's awesome efforts with keeping you all updated with news about the building this year Fawz will run a new website feature. Every fortnight she will produce a spotlight page on one of the many different clubs we have here at Lowther. Her first "Spotlight on..." will be photography club. You will be able to see this information on

the Clubs part of the school website.



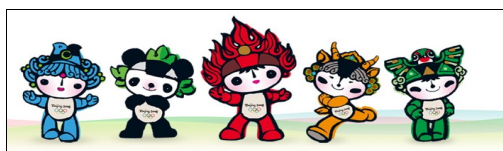
Mr Tuffney's Homework Challenge Number 1

We're launching a school magazine – written by the children - for the children (and adults and wider community and anybody that would like to find out more about Lowther). We're hoping to have a plethora of features including; school news, sports and clubs, trip reviews, competitions, stories, cartoons, healthy options, letters, top tips – the list is endless and the children involved in putting it together are raring to go, BUT we need your help! We need a name for the magazine! We also need a mascot (that will feature in every issue and guide you through the pages).

Homework Challenge Part A

Think of a **name** for the magazine. It needs to be short and snappy. Here are some ideas: THE SCOOP THE LOWTHER TIMES

Homework Challenge Part B



Remember Mandeville and Wenlock (mascots from the Olympics)? We'd like you to create a mascot (or two) for the magazine. You can draw them on paper; create them on a computer; make them out of play dough or Lego or anything!

- Deadline for entries – Friday 26th October
- All entries will receive a Bling Bling
- The best entries will also receive a certificate
- The winner for part A will see their name idea chosen as the name of the school magazine
- The winner for part B will see their mascot in each edition of the magazine.

Good luck!

Bonus Challenge! Year 6 are due to take part in a world record attempt at the O2 arena soon. They are going to be part of the biggest group ever to complete the Rubik's cube. If anyone from across the school (grown ups included) can complete a side quicker than Mr Tuffney or Mrs Colenso then a Bling Bling is yours. Happy cubing!