



# Lowther School Family Newsletter

Issue 3

21st October 2013

www.lowther.richmond.sch.uk

## Thank you for a great first half term

It's been a really exciting first half term of the school year. The children have settled in to their new year group really well. I know the teachers have been very pleased with the children's commitment and enthusiasm for learning. I hope that you all have a cracking half term break because next half term promises to be a very busy and exciting one!

## It's up!

Our new whole school picture is now up in the lobby. Why not see if you can spot yourself. This year we had an extra one printed so that over the 2 pictures you'd definitely be able to see everyone! The second one is outside the Headship office in the KSI corridor. Let me know if you'd like a copy of either of the pictures and we'll arrange it for you.



## Does my Goldfish know who I am?

I'm not sure, but this book definitely looks a lot of fun! You may remember a while back I set a homework challenge of writing a question for this book. Well it's been published now and we have lots of questions from children at Lowther in there! Well done to

Jules (Y2) Katie (Y6) Jake (Y7) Alex (Y4) Lucas (Y2) Andreas (Y3) and Djoumana (Y7) who are all featured.

All proceeds from the book go to the NSPCC and we're delighted to announce that as we feature in the book there is 40% off the RRP plus £2.50 p and p. To order copies at this special discount please call The Book Service on 01206255777 or email [cashsales@tbs-ltd.co.uk](mailto:cashsales@tbs-ltd.co.uk) quoting "schools offer" and the title of the book. A special thanks to Anna (Coco's mum) for organising this.



## Harvest Plans this week

This Wednesday (23/10/13) is our annual Harvest assembly. The plans for the morning and lunch time are detailed below. We hope to see lots of you there.

9.30 Harvest Assembly (running order below)

- Welcome from Y6 hosts
- KS1 – Y1 prayers (and artwork followed by Y2 news report and two KS1 songs
- KS2 – Choir and recorders followed by KS song finishing with some autumnal poetry
- FS – Two harvest songs

The arrangements for lunch time are as follows:-

- 11.45 Year 1 parents collect their children from classrooms (including those who are in other classes) and along with other Year 1 children go for school lunch in the **Great Hall**
- 12.00 All packed lunch children from Y1 and Y2 eat their lunch in **History hall**
- 12.15 Year 2 parents collect their children from classrooms (including those who are in other classes) and along with other Year 2 children go for lunch in the **Great Hall**

If there are parents who only have children in KS2 they will join their children at 12.30/12.45 in the hall.

- 12.30 Year 3 and 4 in **Great Hall**
- 12.45 Year 5 and 6 all in **Great Hall**

We will try and keep any waiting to a minimum but please do bear with us. It should be a really terrific morning.

## Smile Please!

This Thursday (24th October 2013) Matthew will be taking the individual school photos. Polish up those smiles, straighten the hair and get yourself looking super smart. These will be available to order from the office.

## Mr. Tuffney's Golden Award



Lowther Family Golden Standard Superstar

## Golden Standards News

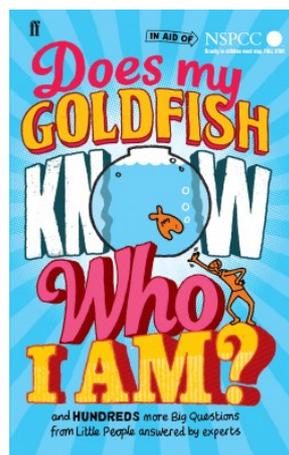
Well done to the following children who are the latest to be awarded the Golden Standard this year. Look out for their pictures outside the Headship room and on the new Golden Standard drop down on the school website.

- Holly (Y4J)
- Erisa (Y2E)
- Manith (Y4J)
- Bruno (Y5)
- Mariana (Y4B)

## Upcoming events

These events are all happening just before or just after half term. Check the website for the full list of diary dates.

- 23/10 — Harvest assembly
- 23/10 — Harvest lunch
- 24/10 — Individual pupil photos
- 25/10 End of half term
- 4/11 Return to school
- 5/11 — Y4 to Hampton Court
- 6/11 — Y1 Pine to Richmond Museum
- 7/11 — Y1 Beech to Richmond Museum
- 8/11 — Whole School Danceathon
- 12/11 — Y2 Elm to Richmond Museum
- 13/11 — Y2 Maple to Richmond Museum
- 13/11 — Reception classes to Wisley Gardens
- 13/11 — Y3/5 Drama Workshops
- 15/11 — Teacher takeover day



## Amazing Artwork

At Lowther we love art! Do look out for the displays of children's artwork that are springing up around the school. There's some really awesome work— well done children!

## Parents evenings

Thank you for supporting our recent parents evenings. I hope you found the sessions with your child's teachers helpful. We really want to work side by side with parents to support your child. It definitely really helps our work. If you haven't yet seen your class teacher please do.



**London Children's Flower Society—Lowther wins!**

I am thrilled to announce that Lowther's allotment has been awarded the Duchess of Gloucester's Award this year. The Trophy Award Ceremony was held at the Guildhall and Mrs. Wriglesworth took representatives from the Gardening Club to receive the award on our behalf. It's a beautiful silver trophy to add to our collection!

**Clean-up Saturday Success**

Thanks to our rather super PTA who planned and organised clean-up Saturday on 5/10/13. Of course an even bigger thank you to the 40 strong army of helpers who worked their socks off doing various jobs around the school. Our community really did us our proud as they weeded, cleared, dug and swept all around the site. A really fantastic job was done, and we had a great time to boot too!



**Home Start**  
Support and friendship for families

**Do you have parenting experience? Would you like to help local families?**

If you can spare a few hours a week to help local families with children under 5, Home-Start Richmond can train you to support those who are having a difficult time. Free course, one day a week, in school hours. Can be accredited NVQ level 1 or 2. Starts Thursday 9th January.



To find out more, contact Angie Ahmed  
020 8487 8500  
info@homestart-richmond.org.uk  
www.homestart-richmond.org.uk Reg. Charity No: 1108975

**Lost Chicken**

Sadly we lost one of our chickens last week to a fox, the hen house door was left open on Friday after school and was not noticed until Saturday morning. This is a gentle reminder... children are not allowed to be in the allotment unattended at any time. If you wish to take your child/ren in to look at the chicken please make sure they do not open any of the hen house doors and that the gate is closed when you leave. Thank you.

**Website Updates**

There have been a number of updates to the school website. We really want this to be an up to date source of information for families about life at Lowther. Look out for these updated sections — School Improvement Plans and How are we performing data.

Also coming soon further updated sections—The Golden Standard, School Council, more videos and updated class pages.

**School Improvement plans**

Each year senior leaders, alongside governors and the local authority, put together a plan which focuses the school on areas that it wants to improve. This is a detailed document which gives us as a school specific things to work on. The 5 main priorities for 2013-14 are outlined below. If you'd like to see a little more detail the main headlines are live on the school website. We are all fully committed to continuing to improve and further develop school life at Lowther.

**SIP 13/14**

**Aims, Objectives and Main Actions**

**Top 5 Priorities for School Improvement 2013 -2014**

**1. Raise quality of practice to outstanding (A)**

- 100% of practice to be good or better
- 25% of practice to be outstanding

**2. Ensure consistent high quality verbal and written feedback (A)**

Give pupils improved opportunities to respond or reflect on written and oral feedback about their learning and progress in class.

**3. Further develop and monitor the new leadership structure (E)**

Middle leaders to take an active role in driving improvement through checking the quality of teaching and learning within their areas of responsibility.

**4. Ensure progress for all groups exceeds national expectations (B)**

Reading, Writing and Maths targets are met by all pupils

**5. Improve quality and enjoyment of writing across the school (B)**

Each class to exceed national average at L4 and L5 equivalent for year group L4 85%+ L5 30%+