



# Lowther School Family Newsletter

Issue 16

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[www.lowther.richmond.sch.uk](http://www.lowther.richmond.sch.uk)

## Welcome back!

We hope you had a good half-term break. We are delighted that the children have come back ready to get stuck into some serious learning! We are now officially half way through the school year. I hope your children have enjoyed their first half of the school year and that they have made good progress with their learning. The team of adults at Lowther will be working hard to make sure we stretch and engage all pupils in their exciting learning journey. I look forward to watching the children fly this half term.

## Building update

There have been some delays with supply of steel work for the new building. The programme for development of the site has now been re-scheduled. We are still expecting the project to be completed on time (by August 17th 2012) Hopefully you've noticed some changes on the site this week as the steel frame goes up. We will continue to keep you updated on all the latest building news.



## School Council News

Our new school council have been enthusiastically working together to get the views of the pupils regarding "Health" at Lowther. They are looking at developing a number of projects related to this topic. Watch this space for exciting news from the school council.

## Homework Help

Please do give us your feedback on a new part of the website. We have set up a homework help section. The idea behind this is that we will be able to put tips and ideas to support both children and parents with homework. To start with we have made a small number of "help" videos for Maths and an Art video too. We're hoping to get the children involved in helping with this in the coming weeks. Do let us know if you'd like to see more of this sort of thing.

## Parent Day

We know you all have many skills and interests—but have you ever thought of sharing them with the children here at Lowther? Well during the summer term we'd like to invite you into school for a special parent day.

The idea is that we all share our different interests/hobbies and skills with the children. This includes the adults that work at the school too. So whether you love to paint, are a carpenter, a photographer, a sports nut or have a passion for books please come and share your skills with the school.

## Parent's Evenings

These will be held for the whole school on Monday 12th March and Tuesday 13th March. Sign up sheets will be available from Monday 27th February, so do sign up to discuss your child's progress.

## Dads breakfast

We have decided to postpone this weeks Dad's breakfast—we'll put a new date in the diary and will let you know. Apologies for the short notice.

## Parent Governor vacancy

We have a vacancy for a parent governor coming up. The office will send a separate letter about this but we thought you might like the advance notice. Governors play a massively important role in driving the school improvement. Visit the website to see our current governing body.

## Community Day 2012



Our annual Community Day is on **Friday 23rd March**. There will be lots of great things happening for both adults and children including our annual SPORT RELIEF fun run. We'll be asking for a £1 donation for sport relief but more importantly we'd love you (parents and families) to be involved. So put the date in your diary and look out for the full plan very soon. It should be a great day.

## Rewards at Lowther

Each class has a reward scheme established for the children. These systems recognise great contributions to school life — great learning, excellent behaviour, consideration for others and being fully involved in their own learning. In addition to the class systems there are other school rewards such as

- Certificates
- Stars
- Medals
- Prizes
- Stickers
- Golden standard award

As well as the key part of all this—the positivity and encouragement from all the adults that are part of the Lowther school family. We want children to embrace a positive disposition to learning and as adults we have a key responsibility to model this. Lowther has a positive and warm feel because everyone in the school family contributes and embodies these core values.



### Late Day

Thank you for your support with the "Late Gate day" Our Educational Welfare Officer was impressed that the vast majority of families were on time in the morning, Timekeeping is of course an essential life skill. School starts at 9.00am so arriving by 8.55am is essential. Please do continue to help support your children with this.

### More fun in the snow

The last day of term saw the snow return. We decided to take full advantage of "experiencing the snow". It was great that parents joined in with the children and staff for some genuine snow fun! I have to say how impressed I was after our 30 minute snow frolic with how the children returned to class so well behaved and so able to settle and focus on some excellent learning. Well done everyone on a great morning! Want to see more? Check out the online movie of our snowy fun!

### Community Action!

It is great to see our community in action. We have the support and involvement of Ward Councillor Rita Palmer, Lowther school and parents, Castelnau Centre Project and many local residents in our campaign to improve dog fouling in the area. Get online and sign the e-petition. When we reach 1,000 signatures Richmond Council have to call a debate to discuss the issue and solutions. The link is here

[http://www.richmond.gov.uk/received\\_petitions?mgl=mgEPetitionDisplay.aspx&Id=71](http://www.richmond.gov.uk/received_petitions?mgl=mgEPetitionDisplay.aspx&Id=71)



## No more mess!



It's not my fault I need to go! My owner should be scooping up the poop!



### Lowther Poster Competition

There is a lot of dog mess on the paths around school and we don't like it! We need your help to design posters to put up around the local streets to tell dog owners they should be picking up the poo!

Design a poster and win a prize! There will be a selection of prizes to choose from.

Posters should be A4 sized.

We will choose the 10 best posters get them copied and put up around the area – your work will be famous and you'll be helping make North Barnes a nicer place to walk.

Dogs are cute but their poo is not!

All entries into the office by next Friday (2<sup>nd</sup> March 2012)

Good luck!

I know I'm super cute but I bet you wouldn't want to step in one of my doo-doo!



### Poster

#### competition

As you may know there are new yellow signs about dog fouling that have been put up along Stillingfleet Road. I am sure you feel the same as the rest of the local community about the amount of dog mess that is on our local streets. We have set up a competition for the children to design a poster to remind dog owners about their responsibilities. Please support your child in entering the competition.