



Lowther School Family Newsletter

Issue 10

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www.lowther.richmond.sch.uk

The latest news and updates

This half term is going to be a cracker, I can sense it! We have 5 weeks of superb learning planned as well as some school events I know you're going to love. I'd like especially to draw your attention to our annual community day on Friday 13th March. We'll be doing our run and cycle/scoot around the local streets as well as having lots of activities planned for the day—all of which we'd love parents to come and get involved in for as little or as long as you like. We also have World Book Day on Thursday 5th March which this year I'm sure will be great fun. I'm really looking forward to the excellent learning and exciting opportunities we have ahead.

Sporting Success

On a rain swept last day of term the football team produced a superb performance beating Barnes 2-1. Coach Mr Green described the performance as "One of the best I've seen." Thank you also to Mr Ahmed who organised the team having an amazing new kit.

They looked sharp and played sharp!

Our performance at the recent swimming gala is now officially our best ever (since records began, or at least in mine and Mrs Webster's memory!) We had really strong performances by the whole squad with a number of children narrowly missing out on a place in the finals by just one place. A special well done to our Borough finalists.

Eshan Yr 4 Boys individual freestyle

Alex Yr 5 Boys individual freestyle

Ben G Yr 6 Boys individual breaststroke

Boys Medley Relay team - Xavier, Ben, Alex

Boys Freestyle Relay team - Alex, Kai, Xavier, James

Thank you also to the Crowley family for their donation of the new Lowther swimming hats—they helped make the children even more streamline!

In the recent Tag Rugby tournament Mr Pritchard was delighted to see the team's superb performances produce some excellent match results. Again great progress from Team Lowther!



Homework Quality

I must say I've been incredibly impressed with the range and quality of children's homework over the course of this year. A massive thank you to all of you for how you support the children with this learning. It's awesome!



Punctuality Target for the whole school next week

Next week (w/c 2nd March) our school behaviour target will focus on ensuring all pupils are at school on time. The morning routine we expect for pupil is as follows

- Between 845am and 854am — Arrive at school
- 855am — School bell is rung and pupils line up ready for class
- 9am - All pupils are in class working

Mrs Colenso and I will be on the school gates each day next week. Any pupils arriving late will be issued a late ticket, which will affect their class' chances of winning gold at the end of the week, not to mention the effect it has on their own learning. Please support us in educating all the children the value and importance of good time keeping. It would be marvellous to have no lates next week.

But it's only 5 minutes.....

Last half term the school had to record 304 late incidences so we absolutely have room for enormous improvement here - but we need your support. We understand that there will always be unavoidable circumstances for one-off lateness, but regular lateness really should not happen.

So does being 5 minutes late really matter? Being five minutes late every day equates to 25 minutes of learning lost per week, 5 hours of learning lost per term, 15 hours of learning lost per year AND a whole month of lost learning over your child's time at primary school!

Also - on a day to day basis;

- 5 minutes late means your child misses important start of the day messages
- 5 minutes late means your child misses out on pre-school social time
- 5 minutes late means missing important learning points for handwriting, maths, or a section of a story.
- 5 minutes late causes a distraction to the rest of the class
- 5 minutes late means the teacher has to stop the learning of the other children to repeat what the late child has missed.
- 5 minutes late = an embarrassing walk into assembly!

...and as an adult;

5 minutes late equals a missed train, a missed interview, a missed job opportunity!

Please do support us in teaching your child the importance of punctuality. Next week's behaviour target will be focusing on punctuality and the classes with the least number of lates will win the coveted gold certificates. Thank you for your continued support.



A midsummer's nights dream

We're delighted to announce that the Y4 and 5 production this year will be a Midsummer's Nights Dream. We've not done this particular show before and I know it's bound to be a cracker. The children are busily preparing and are very much looking forward to putting on a great show. Get the date in your diary now!

Monday 23/3 7pm

Wednesday 25 /3 530pm



Music Concert Review

This was the first time we've ever attempted such an event and if you were part of the audience or a performer yourself we're sure you will agree that it was amazing. Part of the success had to be due to the broad and varied programme that was put together—instrumental and vocal soloists; children's choirs from both ends of the school; parent groups; the community choir; the 'Rocking Recorders' and the staff band all contributed to a really memorable evening for all. Seeing how far music has developed at Lowther over the last few years and giving the children in particular the opportunity to perform to a large audience were certainly highlights. The buzz in the days following was truly tangible and we want to build on this success and create more and more musical opportunities for all. The event itself raised £401! We have decided to put this money towards purchasing a 'trusst arch' to further enhance all aspects of musical and theatrical performances.



Do come and join us for lunch

I have school dinners every day and thoroughly enjoy chatting with the children and sharing their news. We thought it would be nice to offer parents the chance to come and have lunch with the children again. The Chefs have planned this for Friday 13th March (Community Day) If you would like to come and have lunch with us please book a place via the office by Wednesday 4 March—the cost is £2.50 per meal. Lunchtime on Community day will be between 12.10—1 for Reception and KS1 and 12.20—1.10 for KS2. Do come and join us for a socialable and tasty meal.

Y3 Basketballers

Miss Hallam was super impressed with the improvements shown by the Y3 basketballers at the recent Y3/4 tournament. Our squad was made up of Y3's competing against schools with squads of Y4's. The team did remarkably well competing hard in all their games and securing their first victory of the season. A special well done to Jack (3C) who was awarded the most valuable player award for the whole tournament—impressive stuff.



Target evenings—next week

This is a key event in the school calendar. It is essential that all parents attend these meetings. In Key Stage 2 we expect children to be present at the meeting — this is really important as it allows the child to really take ownership of their learning and gives them a great chance to hear how well they've done and what they need to do next to move their learning on. In Key Stage 1 it is up to families to decide if they'd like their child to be present for some or all of the meeting. I hope you all find them a really positive experience.

Looking sharp (all the time)

Looking smart in uniform is an important part of school life. We've tried to develop our uniform over time so that it is smart, comfortable and practical. We've noticed recently there are one or two children not wearing the correct uniform—the most common things we've noticed are;

- Incorrect footwear (should be plain and dark coloured—NO BOOTS, including ankle boots)
- Jewellery (none should be worn, though stud earrings are allowed)
- Sports base layers should not be visible under school wear (e.g. a long sleeved base layer with a short sleeved polo shirt)
- No make-up, including nail varnish should be worn
- Long hair should be tied back appropriately

We're going to be doing some spot checks over the next week or so and will let you know if there's something that your child needs to change about their uniform. Thanks in advance for being so supportive of this.



Our commitment to learning in different ways

We really aim to provide learning experiences for children that stimulate them and interest them. We want to provide learning in different environments and creative ways that provide a rich experience.

Lowther on the TV

I hope you enjoyed seeing Lowther on the TV recently on Channel 4's very interesting "The secret life of a 4 year old" We've been on TV a few times now, which you can catch via YouTube if you'd like to.

Branston Pickle Advert <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oPXnAVUpqfw>

Asda School uniform advert <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TyvWrKv0bGs>

The TV companies seem to like our rather wonderful facilities, I can't think why!

