

7th October 2016

ISSUE 4



LOWTHER SCHOOL FAMILY NEWSLETTER

There's lot to catch up in this weeks newsletter. I've included some updates on some of the exciting things that have been happening around the school as well as some information about how well the school is performing and other areas of school life that we'd welcome further parent support and feedback with. I do hope you'll take 5 minutes to complete the online parent survey. This gives the school important feedback about how well we're doing and what areas of school life parents' would like to see us try to improve.

Cake sale success!

A massive well done to the Year 5 chefs who organised a brilliant cake sale and raised over £100 profit. More importantly (!) the cakes were absolutely delicious! Well done chefs!

Say Cheese! It's the Whole school photo!

Yesterday we had the new whole school photo taken. This annual photo, of the whole school family, always take pride of place in the Welcome Lobby. Look out for it there soon!

New faces

Since the start of term we've appointed a few new members to the wider school staff team.

In Key Stage 1 Alyssa Fought and Achraf Mahi have joined the team and in Key Stage 2 Peta Frageria, Eleanor Abrams, Natarsha Crawley and Bertha Hayfron have all joined the Lowther School Family. Finally, new to our lunch team is Rio Kellier. The support team we have at Lowther is excellent and we're delighted to have appointed such great quality people to our team.

Y3/4 athletics

The now annual locality sports competition between ourselves and the 9 other local primaries took place last week. I must say I was massively impressed with the skill, effort and sportsmanship shown by our young athletes. We finished in a superb second place overall and had some notable individual and relay successes. Well done children in Year 3 and 4!



Data facts

When looking at school data it is important to note

- That the national curriculum and school performance indicators have changed with no more levels.

- The expected standard for pupils in 2016 is higher than the expected standard in previous years.

If you'd like to know any more about school data and performance do drop in and ask, I'm very happy to explain it further.

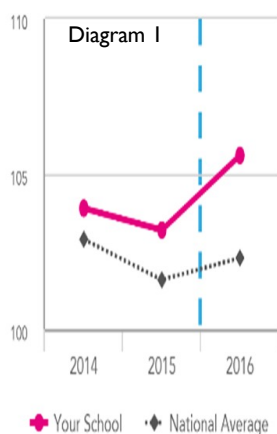
School Data snapshot

In the last newsletter I mentioned that senior leaders at the school are beginning to review and analyse the school performance data from last year. We'll be sharing this fully with parents in November through our annual "Data meeting". However, I thought you'd welcome seeing a couple of the headlines. The 3 diagrams below illustrate school performance for school year 2015/2016.

Diagram 1 shows overall how the school performed compared to the national picture.

Diagram 2 shows the pupil attainment— how well pupils actual attained by the end of Y6. As you can see this is an extremely positive picture, especially in Maths and Reading.

Diagram 3 shows value added – this indicated the progress pupils have made since Year 2. Again it's a very positive picture for our school.



KS2 Attainment 2016 - Actual results

46 pupils

Average Scaled Score (Re, Ma)

105.9



Significantly above the national average (102.7) ▲

% Expected standard+ (Re, Wr, Ma)

57%



In line with the national average (52%) ▲

Diagram 2

KS2 Progress 2016 - Value Added

37 matched pupils

Average Scaled Score (Re, Ma)

+4.2



Significantly above the national average (0) ▲

% Expected standard+ (Re, Wr, Ma)

+7%



In line with the national average (0%) ▲

Diagram 3

Parents evening and target setting

We've recently reviewed our target setting system and you'll be able to find out more about it at the upcoming parent's evenings next week. The system is outlined below and we strongly recommend you read through it so that you're familiar with it before next week.

In addition Ms Fitch (our SENCO) is available on Monday from 3pm - 5 pm if you wish to discuss any aspects of your child's learning with her. Please make an appointment, either in person or there's a sign up sheet on Ms Fitch's door in the new building.

Target Smashing News!

We are launching a new Hong Kong Phooey target system next week that will set the children targets with new rewards and extra excitement!




The format is essentially the same but there are only three levels- bronze, silver and gold.

Your child will have two targets for each subject (Maths, Writing and Reading) at each level. When they have hit both Bronze Belt targets twice in any given subject, they can then move on to silver and so on.

We hope that your child should will achieve in each subject their Bronze Belt in the Autumn term, Silver Belt in Spring and Gold Belt in Summer.

First your child will receive a certificate for the individual subject belt. When they achieve all 3 of their bronze belts they will receive a bronze coloured badge in their Phase Assembly. If your child completes all targets for all 3 belts, in all 3 subjects they will get a trophy in Certificate Assembly!

You will receive a target card for your child's bronze belt during Parent's Evening, which will set out all their new targets so you can help and encourage them to achieve their targets.

	Name:	Bronze Target 1	Bronze Target 2
	Maths		
	Reading		
	Writing		

Trips and activities

There's always lots going on so please do keep checking the online Calendar—available via the website and also keep checking twitter—don't forget there are no more paper copies of the newsletter.

A date for everyone's diary is our Harvest Assembly at 9.30 on Friday 21st October.



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Reference: PE Kit

Dear Parent/Carer,
Wearing the correct uniform is an important aspect of school life. This includes PE kit. Today _____ did not have the correct kit with them. This meant they had to use the school's spare PE kit. Please ensure they always have their kit with them, the school recommendation is that children bring their kit to school on a Monday, leave it here during the week, and then return it home on Friday to be washed.

Essential correct kit for PE is

- Plain Red T-shirt, plain black shorts and trainers (these do not need to be black)
- Additional options include wearing the school sports hoodie, plain black or grey joggers in the winter and girls may also wear plain black leggings.

Please ensure in the future your child has the correct kit available with them for PE.

Kind regards

Mark Tuffney

Mark Tuffney
Headteacher
Lowther Primary School

Keeping up to date

Please do use the school website and parent mail for keeping up to date with all the news. You can see from the screen shot below we're now up to tweet number 1,111! The feed is on the homepage of the school website.



We want your views!

We'd really like all parents to sign up to Parent View and give their views on the school. This gives us important feedback. It's easy to do and just requires you to go Parentview.ofsted.gov.uk and answer 10 tick box questions. It honestly only takes 5 minutes. Thank you in advance for your help with this.

Parent View

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How to use Parent View

Give your views

Register/log in

If you have already registered with Parent View, please log in to complete the questionnaire.

Email addresses are used to help prevent site misuse. Only Ofsted will have access to this information.

This survey is not designed to receive complaints about schools. If you wish to make a complaint or have a serious concern about your child's school, you can find more information about how to do so on our [complaints page](#).

Not registered yet?

If you haven't registered with Parent View yet, just fill out the simple form on the link below. You will then be able to log in and give your views.

[Register now](#)

[I have forgotten my password](#)

Please log in

If you have already registered, please enter your email address and password to log in.

Email address

Password

[Log in](#)

PE Kit and Uniform

This week I did a random couple of spot checks on classes to see how many pupils were in correct PE kit. Whilst most were there was also a significant minority that weren't. Having the correct kit is important for many reasons.

In future pupils will receive a note home (illustrated to the left here) to remind parents of the importance of children having the appropriate kit with them. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

Year 6 helpers

I have been delighted to receive some very good letters of application for positions of responsibility around the school from the pupils in Y6. This is long held Lowther tradition that promotes pupils taking an active role in leadership and helping the school. Successful applicants not only have to write a formal letter they also attend an interview. If successful they are then appointed to a specific role around the school. These jobs can vary from being the chef's helper, to being my personal assistant to being a sports captain.