

Lowther

We love learning at Lowther

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

It's been a fantastic half term of learning at Lowther and a super start to 2023. We've already seen the children experience so many great learning opportunities.

We've now received the draft copy of our Ofsted letter and so we expect to have the final edition available to share a few weeks after the half term break. As soon as we are able to share this with you we will. We'll also be offering a virtual meeting to share this and answer any questions parents may have.

We hope you have a truly fantastic half term holiday with your children.

Mark and Alastair

Assembly themes this week

E-Safety

This week was E-Safety week and so Mr Ripley got things started on Monday with an assembly on "Safer Internet Day". We discussed this year's theme of "Want to talk about it?" and why it was important.

Being safe online

On Wednesday we looked at some of the different things we can do to stay safe online. We talked about how important it is to share what you're doing online with parents and to talk to parents openly and regularly about the sites and games visited. We also looked at some different scenarios and what would be the best way to deal with them.

News from around the school

Earthquake appeal: Please do support our efforts to raise much needed funds for the earthquake appeal in Turkey and Syria. The mufti day on Friday is a donation of at least £1 please and you can also make donations here

MozaiK Foundation

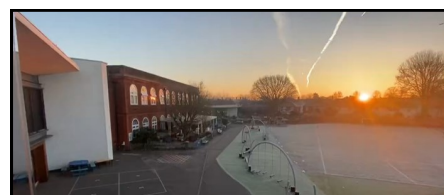
<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/kahramanmarasearthquake>

Piano stars: It's always great to hear about the amazing work our pupils do. Miss Cooper, (Richmond Music Trust, Piano Teacher), wrote to me to say how proud she was of her pupils Nicholas and Rani, who were both awarded a 'Distinction' for their performance in a piano competition on 29th January, organised by the European Piano Teachers. Well done Rania and Nicholas!

Photos of the week



Chinese New Year! We celebrated Chinese new year across the school in class and in lessons and this culminated in a fantastic assembly last Friday led by Miss Palmer. The children performed brilliantly.



Check out one of the many beautiful sunrises we've had across the site these frosty morning. Our grounds and facilities really are top notch.

Upcoming events and diary dates

- ⇒ **Half Term holiday**—children finish on Friday 10th February and return on Monday 20th February
- ⇒ **Parents evenings** are on Monday 27th and Tuesday 28th March. Bookings available after half term.
- ⇒ The next **Teachers strike day** is currently scheduled for Thursday 2nd March
- ⇒ **World Book Day** on Friday 3rd March

Reminders

Please remember that across all of year groups we allow fresh fruit as a snack.

We recently added plain breadsticks and plain rice cakes to the agreed allowed snacks for playtime. Please ensure these are the only items your child has for a break time snack. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

Action Attainment: Over the years we, along with other local primary schools, have had a good relationship with a local organisation Action Attainment that supports pupils with Special Educational Needs. One of their many, very good, programmes in "On the ball" The details are below.

On the Ball is a sports based programme of fun and learning. Starting in the Spring & Summer terms it supports parents and their neurodiverse children, aged 5+, who may have hidden communication needs. On the Ball starts with an essential parent workshop followed by applying for our family activity sessions. On the Ball is run in partnership between Brentford FC Community Sports Trust and Action-attainment CIC. Many families who join On the Ball become regular, weekly attenders of our football groups run in East Sheen, at Palewell Common and Richmond Park Academy. Families then explore other sports through our holiday programme Fun in the Sun.

On the Ball explains how neurodiverse children's hidden communication and sensory needs can affect them socially, educationally and into employment. It demonstrates simple strategies for inclusion through playing games and having fun together as a family. We include parents and siblings if that helps a child to gain confidence and skills to join in.

On the Ball can help with understanding:

- strategies to build concentration
- communication/listening difficulties – with examples of language modelling
- supporting children's development in sport and school through parent/professional partnership
- finding a peer group and support network for children and families

Contact information:

Email: tom@action-attainment.com

Phone: 07791689826

Website: www.action-attainment.com

General School reminders

Uniform

A polite request that all families ensure their children are in the correct uniform. This ensures all children look smart, is fair for all and is also safe. We're going to be monitoring this closely after the half term break. Thank you in advance for your support regarding uniform matters.

Please note the following and ensure your child has the **correct Lowther uniform**.

- **ALL uniform** (including coats and hats) to be named please. We continue to find a lot of unnamed jumpers and coats around school.
- **No boots** to be worn at school.
- **No jewellery** is allowed at school (except stud earrings) and watches
- **No shoes with logos** that are not in black.
- Shoes/trainers must be all one dark colour (ideally black)
- **No Lowther sports hoodies** to be worn to school please — these are just for PE lessons in the winter months.

Packed lunches

Please note ALL packed lunch boxes should be stored carefully (before and after use). We also politely request that plastic bags are NOT used for packed lunches as this isn't in line with our school's attempts to minimise our use of single use plastics.

Before and after school

- NO ball games (unless at a sports club)
- Children should not use the swing and the large climbing frame equipment at this time.
- NO scooting or cycling on school grounds for safety reasons please.
- School finishes at 330pm. Please ensure you are on time to collect your child.

Thank you for your support in these important matters.

Basketball Camps: Our great friends at Richmond Knights Basketball Club run a super series of half term holiday camps. The details are below.



KNIGHTS NATIONS HOLIDAY CAMP

AGES
5 to 12

DATES
Monday 13th February to
Friday 17th February

VENUE
Waldegrave School
Twickenham

TIME
10.00 AM to 3.00 PM
(Early drop-off available from 8.45 AM)

Knights Nations
basketball jersey
included with
every 5-day booking.

Scan here
for further info
and bookings

Lowther Values

Did you know our 5 core values for our school community are being

- ⇒ CREATIVE
- ⇒ CONFIDENT
- ⇒ INCLUSIVE
- ⇒ RESILIENT
- ⇒ AUTHENTIC

We're doing some work to ensure we share these 5 key values clearly to all of our community. This will include around the school and on the website.

The children have a good understanding already of what these values mean and why they're important.

E-safety

It is essential in 2023, as parents and teachers, that we are all confident and able to advise and support children in keeping safe online. At Lowther we take our commitment to e-safety seriously and detailed below are the different topic areas the year groups have been looking at in their PHSE (Personal, social, health and economic education) lessons regarding E-safety. Do talk to your children about this at home.



PSHE

Being Safe on Devices

At Lowther, children will develop their knowledge and understanding of online safety and using electronic devices.

E-safety is an important and essential aspect of children using different devices and accessing the online world- whether this is through gaming, social apps or the internet. It is imperative we equip children with skills they can, when navigating the new and ever-changing electronic world. Lowther Primary will be developing children's computing skills and ability to use electronic devices safely. Children across the school will be more-able to make positive decisions when using devices and make positive decision around how to behave online.

Year 6- Spotting Fake News

Year 5- Photo Editing

Year 4- Gaming Content- purchases when gaming and in-app purchases

Year 3- Positive communication online

Year 2- Age restrictions and their importance

Year 1- Password importance and privacy sharing

Reception- Rules for Being Safe on Devices



**Sharp
Alert
Secure
Kind
Brave**