

# Low Ash Primary School

## January 2015 Newsletter

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### Good News

The official attendance figures for the whole of last year have just been released and Low Ash's attendance has improved dramatically!

Previous (2012-13) attendance figures of 94.6% were below the national figure of 95.2%. However, we are now above the national figure and achieved an end of year (2013-14) attendance figure of **96.6%**! This is excellent, so thank you for your support. Good attendance is vital if children are to learn well.

### More Good News

**City of Bradford MDC** Low Ash were given the opportunity to take part in a school review by the Local Authority (similar to an Ofsted Inspection) last week. A Local Authority Officer and two Headteachers, one who was also an Ofsted Inspector and the other a National Leader of Education, spent the whole day in school. Although their report hasn't been published yet, they confirmed to the Senior Leadership Team and Governors that rapid improvements have been seen and that Low Ash is very close to a 'Good' grading overall. This is great news as it is only a year since our Ofsted Inspection (1<sup>st</sup> anniversary this week). The Review Team were confident that, if we continue to make the same kind of progress, OFSTED would grade the school 'Good' when they next inspected us. That could be any time from this Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January up to next January 2016.

### Even More Good News

Congratulations to three of our sports teams who have recently qualified for Bradford Finals in their sports. The Under 11s Athletics Team finished top of the North Bradford Area Competition and will compete against 11 other Bradford Schools on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February – we wish them well.

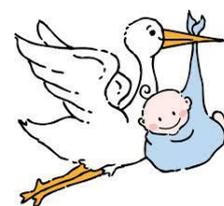
### Athletics Team



Good luck to the Boys Under 9s Football team and the Girls Under 11s Football Team who will compete in the Bradford Finals soon too.

### Staff News

Would you believe it, we have another pregnancy – now 5 in total! Mrs Douglas, our Early Years Leader, will be going on maternity leave in mid-May. We hope all goes well and look forward to seeing her back in September. Details about new teachers joining the school will be announced soon.



### Music Service

Key Stage 2 children were entertained by the Bradford Schools Music Service last Friday. Music from Beethoven, Louis Armstrong, Elvis, Abba, Michael Jackson and Take That thrilled the children and, no doubt, created interest in learning to play a musical instrument. Thank you to Mr Anderson for organising the event.



### **Bad Weather**

School managed to stay open last week during some quite difficult weather conditions at times. A special thank you to the Site Team who worked extremely hard ensuring access to school was safe.



A reminder, as the forecast is for more snow - School will only close if there are serious worries about the safety of children, parents/carers or staff, or if several teachers are unable to get to school.

If this is the case, I will contact Bradford Local Authority and let them know that the school will be closed. The Authority will then inform local radio stations of the closure. You will also be able to find out if the school is closed by accessing the School website - [www.lowash.bradford.sch.uk](http://www.lowash.bradford.sch.uk) or by 'Googling' the 'Bradford Schools Online' website. Once on this site, click on 'Emergencies' on the contents list on the left, then click 'Emergency Closures'. The school will also use our texting service to inform you of a closure.

### **Consultation Evenings**

Next month's Consultation Evenings will be in the first week **after** February Half Term – Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 3.30 to 5.30 and **Thursday** 26<sup>th</sup> February 3.30 to 7.00. Details of how to sign up for a consultation will be sent out in the next few days.

### **Behaviour Improvement**

It is pleasing to report that there have been no reported incidents of poor behaviour/language before school by some children in and around Wrose Recreational Park over the past few weeks/months. Through parental support, more senior leader visibility, and supportive visits from local police officers, a strong message was sent out that inappropriate behaviour at any time in and around school will not be tolerated. Let us hope that children will remember the school message that good behaviour, respect for others and having the right attitude will always 'win' and be rewarded.



### **Important Dates Coming up**

<b>Phonics Workshop for parents of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2</b>	<b>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January at 9.00am in 'Old' Hall</b>
<b>Close for Half Term</b>	<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February</b>
<b>School Re-opens</b>	<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>
<b>Sign up for Consultation Evening</b>	<b>Week commencing Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February</b>

Many thanks for your continued support.

Mr Terry Woollin (Headteacher)