

Low Ash Primary School

January/February 2018 Newsletter

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Nursery Place Available Still
Full-time (30 hours) and Part-time (15 hours)
Nursery places still available for
September 2019 -
contact the office for more details

Academic Successes

Following the release of the National School Performance Tables by the DfE in late December, I can now confirm the following **excellent results** for Low Ash Primary...

- Low Ash are the **26th best** performing primary school in Bradford out of the 165 schools listed, based on achieving the expected national standard in reading, writing and maths. This is equivalent to the **top 16% of schools in Bradford**
- For the Greater Depth (Higher) standard in all 3 subjects, Low Ash were the **11th best** performing primary school in Bradford (**top 7%**)
- Also confirmed was that Low Ash are in the **top 20% of schools in England** for the amount of progress made in reading, writing and maths by the time the children leave Year 6



I'm sure you will agree that these are fantastic results – the best the school has ever had. Your part in achieving those results has been vitally important. Thank you.

Sporting Successes



Congratulations to our Cross Country Team who competed so well in the Bradford Schools Cross Country Finals on Wednesday. We had children who came in 2nd, 4th, 9th and 12th, with others finishing in the top 20 of their various age groups. It's too early to say if we have won any team trophies, but many children will be representing Low Ash in the West Yorkshire Finals – well done to all who took part.

Our **Under 11s Badminton Team** finished a really close 2nd place in the North Bradford Competition; just missing out on winning by just one point.

The Bradford School Games Finals will be held on February 9th. You will remember that the **Under 11s Athletics Team** won the North Bradford Area Finals at Hanson and will take part in the finals. Also taking part will be **two of our hockey teams**, our **Under 9s Football Team** and our **Under 11s Girls Football Team** – we wish them all well.

Well done to all our teams, with a special thanks to our sports coach, Mr Renardson, who organises and trains the teams so well.

It has also been lovely to see our Reception children really enjoying their new yoga sessions on Thursday mornings and the fun the Year 1 and 2 children are having at their dance and gym clubs - all run by specialist coaches. It's important to offer our younger children a chance to do something different to just PE lessons so that they enjoy staying healthy. These kinds of activities and the efforts of Mr Renardson, Mr Robinson and the teachers have meant that Low Ash were, once again, recently awarded the **Gold Standard** for sport by the West Yorkshire Schools Games Partnership. Well done everyone!



Your Child's Progress Sheets

You should have received a Parent/Carer '**How well your child is doing**' progress sheet last week. We hope that the information about the 'next steps' your child needs to focus on will be useful to you. These sheets, along with the Open Evenings in September, Parents' Evenings in November and March and end of year reporting should keep you up-to-date with important information about how well your child is progressing throughout the year.

Parental Questionnaire Outcomes

Following analysis of the on-line questionnaire completed by parents in November, the following outcomes were...

Results from Questionnaire for Parents and Carers (November 2017)			
96 online questionnaires were returned. Therefore, 1 parent is equal to around 1% (1.04%). Some figures have been rounded and do not always equal 100%.			
	Agree or agree strongly	don't know	Disagree or disagree strongly
1. My child enjoys coming to Low Ash.	95%	2%	3%
2. My child feels safe at Low Ash.	94%	2%	4%
3. Low Ash staff encourage my child to work hard and do their best.	95%	3%	2%
4. The teaching at Low Ash is good and I think my child is progressing well.	94%	2%	4%
5. I am given the opportunity to get good advice about how I can support my child's learning.	87%	10%	3%
6. My child is taught well about important personal values (Respect, Tolerance, Liberty, Democracy and Law) to help them become a better citizen.	83%	11%	5%
7. There is a good standard of behaviour at Low Ash.	85%	7%	7%
8. Low Ash deals with unacceptable behaviour well.	68%	20%	11%
9. Low Ash responds well to any concerns or questions I raise and listens to my views.	79%	6%	14%
10. The school is welcoming and keeps me well-informed.	89%	1%	9%
11. I think the school is led and managed well.	88%	6%	5%
12. Are you happy with your child's whole experience and would you recommend the school to other families if you were asked about Low Ash?	Yes		No
	92%		8%

Whilst the questionnaire is designed to gauge parent/carer opinions about Low Ash in order to improve further, one or two of the responses did surprise me and were disappointing as I feel we have always tried to respond to views and get better in all areas. If any parent/carer would like an opportunity to discuss their comments further, particularly if they stated that their child doesn't enjoy school or feel safe, I will be more than happy to meet and see how we can improve the situation.

Spring Term Parent Consultation Evening

The next Parent/Carer Consultation Evening will be held just after February half term. On Wednesday 28th February sessions will be from 3.30pm to 5.30pm and on Thursday 1st March sessions are from 3.30pm to 7.00pm. As in November, you will be able to book a 10 minute session using our online booking system, which will be available on our school website. **You will be able to book a session when the system is 'open' from Thursday 1st February. Online bookings will 'close' on Tuesday 20th February.** If you are unable to book online please call in at the office or ring 01274 582927 and ask to speak to Louise Marsh (School Administrator).

Possible School Expansion Update

The Executive Committee of the Council will be meeting on March 6th to decide if the expansion of Low Ash should go ahead. As members of the community you still have a chance to have your say. Public notices on all entry doors have relevant information of how to contact the Council officers and will stay in place until 1st February.

Your support in continuing to make Low Ash an even better school is much appreciated - thank you.
Mr Terry Woollin (Headteacher)