

Low Ash Primary School

November 2017 Newsletter

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Parents' Evening Success

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our Parents' Evening at the start of November. The parents I spoke to were really positive about the start their child had made in their new class. Good communication links, information sharing and the help you can offer are all vital in enabling your child to achieve the very best they can. Assessments in December will give us a clear indication of how well the children are progressing, so, in January, we will let you know how you can further support your child's academic progress at Low Ash in the Spring Term.

New Parent/Carer Questionnaire



Our new electronic parent questionnaire system seems to have been successful, with approximately 100 questionnaires completed. This is roughly the number of questionnaires normally completed by paper in the past. The reasoning behind the switch was to give parents/carers more flexibility and time to complete the forms in detail, rather than having to complete it at Parents' Evening and, perhaps, rushing your comments.

The responses will now be collated and a summary of each question will be shared with you in the December Newsletter. As mentioned previously, if you were unable to complete a questionnaire electronically, a paper version is available – just let the office staff know.

Music Service Concert for Children

Miss Hansen, our Music Leader, has organised the Bradford Schools Music Service to perform for the children on Tuesday 21st November. They will tell the children all about their various instruments and play some of the children's favourite songs from films, TV and past and current 'charts'. It is hoped that the children will be inspired to think about learning to play an instrument in the future.



A reminder that our Christmas Fair is on Friday 1st December at 3.30pm



In response to a few 'grumbles' about the long queues to see Santa last year, we have asked him to visit us on Thursday for our Nursery and Reception children. We are also having a ticket number system (available from the Office) for seeing Santa at the Fair on Friday, which should mean you can spend more time at the actual Fair and be told when it is your time for Santa, rather than be in a queue! Hopefully, all will run as smoothly as skis on snow!



Low Ash News

I hope you found the new Low Ash News Booklet interesting and informative. Well done to Mrs Nellist and the children for producing such a fabulously professional and detailed account of what's happening in school. If you, or someone you know, would like to advertise in future booklets, please just get in touch with the school office.

Bad Weather

Although colder of late, we haven't had any real threat of snow as yet. However, a reminder of

what to do should we get some heavy snow or seriously icy conditions.

School will only close if there are serious concerns about the health and safety of children, parents/carers or staff, or if a high number of teachers are unable to get to school.



If the decision to close is taken, I will contact Bradford Council and let them know. The Council 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 where we will say if we are open or not on the Homepage.

Alternatively, if you 'Google' the 'Bradford Schools Online' website, click on the 'Closed Schools' tab at the top of the page. All schools who have closed will be listed under 'Emergency Closures'. The school will also use our texting service to inform you of a closure as soon as we can. Alternatively you can telephone school, although please be aware that the phone lines tend to be quite busy.

If school is open in slippery conditions, please keep to the gritted, marked paths.

Charities

An update on how well you have supported various charities - Children in Need, Foodbank etc. will be included in the December Newsletter.

Also, an early 'heads up' that the very popular 'Billy Bantam Penalty Shootout' will be held at Low Ash at the end of January – watch out for more details after Christmas.

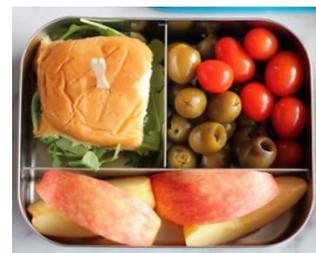
Walking Nativity



This excellent event will, once again, be taking place in Wrose on Saturday 2nd December. It will 'stop' at Low Ash where our choir will sing carols by the Christmas tree. Contact Rev. Colin Blake at St Cuthbert's Church for more details/times.

Healthy Packed Lunch?

As a school, part of our role is to educate children on the importance of a healthy lifestyle.



However, we need your support to make this possible. Can I encourage you to please check the sugar, salt and fat levels in some of the items the children are bringing? In addition, please speak to your child about eating the main healthy part of their lunch first. Our policy on chocolate products hasn't changed; no pure chocolate bars (mars bars etc.) please, but a snack bar which has some form of biscuit or wafer and has a covering or small amount of chocolate is what we ask for. Recently, some children have eaten several unhealthy things in their lunchbox first and were then 'too full' to eat their cheese sandwich!

Unlike the primary school in Wyke which made the headlines recently for banning certain foods types, my view is that a common sense approach from parents should be enough to improve things.

Important Dates Coming Up

Year 1 and 2 Nativity	Monday 11th December at 1.30pm (babies/toddlers welcome)
Year 1 and 2 Nativity	Tuesday 12th December at 1.45pm (parents/carers only)
Year 1 and 2 Nativity	Wednesday 13th December 9.30am (parents/carers only)
School Christmas Dinner	Wednesday 13th December
Carols by Candlelight	Thursday 14th December at St Cuthbert's Church at 6.30pm
School closes for Christmas	Friday 15th December
School re-opens after Christmas	Tuesday 2nd January

Mr T Woollin (Headteacher)