

Low Ash Primary School

October 2019 Newsletter

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Low Ash is Riding High

Once again, we achieved fantastic results in our end of Year 6 national tests.

This has been confirmed, as we now have our official 'progress scores' which measure the amount of progress the children make during their time at Low Ash from the end of Key Stage 1 (year 2) to the end of Key Stage 2 (Year 6). Our progress scores puts **Low Ash in the top 20% of schools in England for progress in all 3 subjects – reading, writing and maths.** This is a fantastic achievement for the school and something that could not have happened without your excellent support.

We are still hopeful that we will be in the top 25 schools out of the 160 primaries in Bradford when the school league tables are published at the beginning of December.

Sporting Success

Only a few weeks into the year but already we have been very busy on the sporting field.

We sported 3 teams at the U11 Quick Sticks Hockey tournament; the 'A' team remaining unbeaten.

Further success has been had in U11 girls' football. The 'A' team will now compete in the finals.

Finally, a well done to the Cross Country runners who recently competed. In particular, a well done to Kara Naylor and Finlay Cottenham who won the fastest girl and fastest boy in the Lower Key Stage 2 race. Overall the Lower Key Stage 2 team managed to finish in 2nd place overall and the Upper Key Stage 2 (A) team finished in 3rd place. Well done everybody!

Christmas Fair

The Christmas Fair will be held on **Friday 29th November from 3.30pm.** Lots of stalls, refreshments and, of course, Santa Claus!



New School Council

All classes took part in our Polling Day event on Friday September 27th to decide who would represent each class in the School Council this year. Well done to the successful candidates. Please see the Low Ash News for the children who have been appointed for the year groups, including Reception.

Online Issues

A number of pupils across school have been coming in to school recently upset over issues they have had while 'gaming' online – issues involving other pupils name-calling online. While these instances take place outside of school, we do take them very seriously. We encourage any pupil who is having these problems to inform their class teacher and, if they continue, to 'block' the person who is causing offence.

Careers Week

This week has seen our second whole school Careers Week: a fantastic week which has seen people from many different walks of life coming in to talk to the children about their careers, both past and present. Talk to your child about the careers they have learnt about this week and what they might like to be when they grow up. A big thank you to Mrs Nellist for organising this week which we hope will really help to raise pupil aspirations. A thank you also to anyone who came in to help.

Golden Learners and Values Awards

Each half term, a Golden Learner will be chosen from every class. This is a pupil who has exhibited excellent learning behaviours – determination, resilience, collaboration, communication, independence and curiosity. The first Golden

Learner awards will be awarded to pupils on Monday 11th November in assembly (parents will be notified in advance and invited to attend). Similarly, we want to recognise and reward values which we feel are important in life. For this reason, at the end of each half term, a pupil from every class will be chosen to receive the Headteacher 'Values' postcard – if chosen, this postcard will land on your door mats in the half term holidays! This half term, pupils have been chosen for exhibiting the value of **Kindness**.

Holiday Dates for September 2020 to July 2021

The dates for 2020-21 have now been agreed by Governors and are being sent out alongside this newsletter. They will also be made available on the school website.

Consultation/Parents' Evenings

A reminder that these take place on Wednesday 13th November (3.30 to 5.30) and Thursday 14th November (3.30 to 7.00). As stated in the letter sent home, the online booking system to book a 10 minute consultation opened on 21st October. Just click on the icon on the Home Page of the School Website.



A Couple of Polite Reminders....

There has been more than one occasion in the last half term where members of staff in school have felt intimidated and threatened by parents/ carers at the start and end of the school day. Please can we remind you that threatening or abusive behaviour will not be tolerated. If you have an issue which needs to be discussed, please make an appointment to see the class teacher (in the first instance) who will be more than happy to discuss things with you.

Due to the safety of our children being of paramount importance, the staff car park is restricted to staff members only, or by separate agreement with the school office. We have had a number of 'near misses' recently and we are sure that you will understand this request.

Expansion of Low Ash Primary

We have had confirmation that, from September 2020, our admission numbers in Reception will revert to 60. We will, however, have some building work taking place from January onwards in order to accommodate our current 3-form Reception year group as they move up through the school.

Friends of Low Ash (FOLA)

We are delighted to be able to let you know that the 'Friends of Low Ash' parent group has been re-established. The group's role is to provide valuable links between school and home, but also to fundraise. Their first venture is the school discos on Thursday this week, ably organised by Mrs Newby. If you would like to be involved, please see Miss Briggs in Year 1 who will be co-ordinating FOLA from now on.

Aldi Stickers

Thank you to everyone who has brought in the stickers from Aldi. We have filled a whopping 4 posters, each containing 300 stickers, which gives us free sport kits and the chance to enter the draw for £20,000. We are currently putting together a paragraph to summarise how we would like to spend the money!

Summer Reading Challenge

Congratulations to the 43 children who took part in the Summer Reading Challenge during the summer holidays. We have had one of the biggest increases in participation in Bradford and some of the children involved visited Bradford Media Museum this week for a presentation from the Lord Mayor. Thank you for your support in keeping the children reading through the holidays.

Dates for Your Diary

Return to school after half term	Monday 4 th November
Key Stage 1 Nativity in the School Hall	Tues 10 th December - Dress rehearsal and parents with babies – 9.30 am Wednesday 11 th December- 1.45pm Thurs 12 th December- 9.30am
Open Sessions for prospective Reception parents	Wednesday 27 th November – 9.30am and 5.00pm Wednesday 4 th December – 1.30pm
Key Stage 2 'Carols by Candlelight' event at St Cuthbert's Church	Thursday 19 th December @ 6.30pm

Have a great half term holiday. Thank you for your continued support.

**Beth Medhurst and Fiona Meer
(Co-Headteachers)**