Low Ash Primary School Newsletter March 2021

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We have been really impressed with the way the children have settled back in to school and we are loving having them all back with us. Thank you to everyone at home who has supported us over these challenging months — we truly appreciate it. We look forward to the summer term when hopefully - we know nothing is certain in these strange times- we may see more of a semblance of 'normality' once again.

World Book Day

Low Ash's World Book Day took place on Thursday 11th March and was a huge success. We took on board parent suggestions to move the special day to 11th March so that *all* pupils could take part together in school. We were incredibly impressed by the outfits pupils (and adults) showcased! A big thank you to Mrs Robinson who organised the day.

Space Camp

Another thank you to the Year 5 and 6 team who led the very successful Virtual Space Camp. It was both educational and entertaining and a whole family event for the many attending!

Red Nose Day

We really enjoyed celebrating Red Nose Day on Friday 19th March. Although we cannot give you a total amount raised as donations were made straight to the charity, we are pleased that so many of you chose to support the worthwhile event. Well done to the following pupils who won the 'design an alternative red nose' competition:

EYFS - Emily

KS1 - Tilly and Tom

KS2 – Harper, Gurteg and Maizi

Thank you to the Co-op who donated all of the prizes.

Walk to School Initiative

As the weather begins to grow warmer and with lighter mornings and evenings, we thought that now would be a good time to launch our 'Walk to School/ Park and Stride' initiative. As you will all be aware, parking near school is not easy and, potentially, dangerous so the more people that can walk, bike or scoot the better.

For this reason, we are launching our **Walk to School / Park and Stride Initiative from Monday 12**th **April.** If at all possible, we are encouraging pupils to safely walk, bike or scoot to and from school at least one day per week. Each pupil who does this for a calendar month will receive a special 'Walk to School' badge.

We appreciate, for those of you who have an onward journey, walking the whole way may not be possible. Instead, could you 'park and stride'? Would you consider parking approximately a 10 minute walk away from the school and continuing your journey on foot? Pupils doing this will still earn their reward. Parking just a little bit further away from school could help ease congestion and disperse traffic making our pupils safer.

We carried out an initial survey and found out that approximately 45% pupils normally walk, bike or scoot to school. If at all possible we really hope this % will increase in the summer term!

Remote learning questionnaire

Although learning is now back in the classroom, we want to thank all of you who completed our remote learning questionnaire sent out in February (31% of parents/carers of children who were at home) and especially thank you to those who completed the comments section. We really do appreciate your feedback.

Please see the reverse of this newsletter for the wonderful feedback received.

92% of parents/carers said that the overall remote learning provision has been good or excellent

I feel that the school has provided a fantastic service during the pandemic. XXX has been able to engage in Google Classroom and continue their learning.

As my child is only in class XXX, I feel the way in which the activities have been set and the content is great. It's fun and engaging for them.

I cannot rave enough about the online teaching this lockdown.

I've no negatives really as the school is coping so well teaching classes in school and remotely at the same time. It's a relief to have XXX's learning continuing through this.

We have been amazed by the clarity, diversity structure and inventiveness of the learning that the team have put together for the class. We have never had a dull moment with all the activities that have been set, the stories sent and the learning.

The interactive live lessons have been excellent. It gives the children a routine to stick to. Being able to speak to their teachers and friends has also been beneficial. Thank you all for your hard work and effort. It has really helped during this lockdown.

Support has been fabulous online and the responsiveness of any questions raised has been fantastic. I especially appreciate the personalised responses via the year group email account.

I cannot comprehend the amount of effort and work you have all, as a school, done for the children of Low Ash. It is unfathomable and extraordinary, and we can't thank you all enough.

The additional PE sessions have been great.

We also followed up on some of the requests in the comments section. Achievement Assemblies were held from February and some of the lessons became more 'relaxed' giving opportunities for the children to talk a little more rather than just having their formal lessons. Please see below for a full breakdown of the results.

No.	Question	% response	
1	The amount of work my child has been assigned to complete each week is:	Just right	77
2	The support my child is receiving from their teacher via remote learning is:	Excellent/Good	90
3	Low Ash provides me the right information I need to support my child's learning.	Excellent/Good	91
4	Describe the level of communications from school overall.	Excellent/Good	79
5	The amount of communication from my child's teacher is:	Just right	76
6	In the past 4 weeks, if you needed to talk to school, were you able to get in touch with the right person?	Yes, I reached the right person	81
7	We have been well-supported by the school.	Strongly Agree/Agree	88
8	The overall remote learning provision has been:	Excellent/Good	92

In addition to our weekly update to you all, if you have any suggestions on how we can improve communication even further, please let us know.

As ever, your continued support and help in making Low Ash an even better school is much appreciated - thank you. We know that, for all, this has been a hard, tiring half term. We hope you all have a restful holiday and, despite the restrictions in place, manage to have some fun. We will see you all on Monday 12th April.

Beth Medhurst and Fiona Meer (Co-Headteachers)