

Low Ash Primary School, Wrose Road, Wrose, Shipley BD18 1AA Tel: 01274 582927 Email: office@lowash.bradford.sch.uk

4th March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! It's been a busy, but really enjoyable first week of the half term. The children have returned full of enthusiasm.

Staff awards

To start, some very exciting news for Low Ash. This year we have 2 members of staff who have been shortlisted for the Telegraph and Argus Education Awards. Mrs Danielle Carr (Year 5) has reached the final in the Teacher of the Year category and Mrs Louise Marsh who works in the school office has reached the final in the Support Staff category. Both members of staff have been invited to an awards ceremony on 7th April where the winners will be announced. We have been told there were hundreds of nominations for these awards, so to reach the final is quite an achievement!

Space Camp

The 2nd Year 5 Space Camp took place this week where the children from 5C camped out in the school hall and, during the evening, undertook a range of activities from astronaut dexterity training to star gazing. The Year 5 pupils were fascinated by the 'app' we used, called **Sky View Lite**, which helps you to spot stars and constellations in the night sky. If you would like to download the app to any of your devices at home, it is free to do so and is fascinating to use.

World Book Day

World Book Day took place yesterday which was another fantastic day in school. It was lovely to see the costumes that both pupils and adults wore on the day! Thank you for your support in this. Hopefully the day has fuelled pupils' love of books even further.

Walk to School

On Monday we are being visited by the Walk to School mascot 'Strider'. Due to our successful involvement in the Walk to School initiative, we have won a visit by the mascot and his team. Therefore, you may see a giant 'foot' at the school gates greeting you as you arrive at school (hopefully on foot or by bike and scooter!). An assembly will then be held for all children.

Showing Solidarity with Ukraine

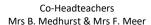
We were approached by one of our local councillors to ask whether we would support their Showing Solidarity with Ukraine initiative. From now, anyone can hang colour coded yellow/blue items e.g. knitted flowers, cuddly toys, ribbons, flags etc on the fences at school. Other venues where you can do this are on Martin Bell Way (BD18 2BU) and Bolton Woods Cenotaph (BD21BD)

As an alternative, or as well as, anyone who would like to, can donate through 'gofundme' who are committed to helping the individuals and families seeking shelter, security, and peace.

https://www.gofundme.com/en-gb/c/act/donate-to-ukraine-relief













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Windhill Community Centre is also accepting donations of medical supplies, non-perishable food and drink items and personal hygiene products. Please see their Facebook page for a full list of items needed.

Many of you might also have been thinking about how to talk with your children about the news from Ukraine and address any questions they may have in an age-appropriate manner. Dealing with such worrying news stories in school or at home can of course be a difficult task.

Below you will find some resources from BBC Newsround that you might find useful if dealing with this issue, particularly with younger children – and Place2Be also have some expert advice to offer.

Newsround, from the BBC's CBBC channel, has lots of videos and reports about the war in Ukraine that have been produced for children. There is also a section containing tips for children who are feeling sad or upset about something they have seen, heard or read.

<u>Home - CBBC Newsround</u> Advice for children feeling upset by the news

Place2Be's educational psychologists have also shared advice about how to discuss war and conflict with children and young people – and how you can best support them at this difficult and worrying time.

Read their advice here.

Free Breakfasts for children

Until the end of the academic year at least, we are able to join the National School Breakfast Programme (NSBP). The Programme is funded by the Department for Education and delivered by Family Action to support schools in England to provide children with a healthy breakfast at the start of the school day. Low Ash is committed to supporting child development, and we believe a healthy school breakfast, without barrier or stigma, can set up children to succeed and give them the very best chance to learn.

From week commencing Monday 7th March we will be offering toasted bagels to all children when they arrive in class, They will be buttered using 'Flora Dairy-Free Spread'. These will be provided free of charge. The bagels are suitable for vegetarians, made on a nut-free site and are free from artificial colours and flavours.

Website

Finally, a reminder that our new Low Ash website has been launched. Hopefully you will find this one much more user friendly, brighter and up-to-date than the previous one. This can be accessed via the usual website address (https://lowash.bradford.sch.uk). If you have any suggestions of how we can further improve our website, please contact the school office.

Have a lovely weekend and we will see you on Monday.

Best wishes

Beth Medhurst and Fiona Meer (Co-Headteachers)





