



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

9<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's incredible to think that we're now heading into our last week of term – where does the time go?

### **Christmas Fair**

Thank you to everyone for overwhelming support of the Christmas Fair, which was a huge success. We were bowled away by the sheer generosity of both donations and spending at the fair. It was lovely to see so many of you there, plus extended family as well as a number of former pupils. We are delighted (and amazed) to be able to say that we made a massive £1,966.74 for school, which is a new record amount from the Christmas Fair! This is incredible, particularly in the current economic climate, so thank you again for your support.

We would also like to thank Santa for taking the time out of his busy schedule to visit school three times last week. We think you'll agree that the Reading Shed made a great Santa's Grotto!

### **Early Years Christmas Show**

Well done to the children in Early Years for putting on a fabulous Christmas Nativity show this week. The children spoke and sang clearly and confidently and the production was absolutely fabulous. We hope you enjoyed it too!

### **Scarlet Fever and Strep A**

You may have seen reports in the news of an increase in cases of Scarlet Fever and Strep A. The initial symptoms of scarlet fever include a sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. After 12 to 48 hours the characteristic fine red rash develops (which, if you touch it, it feels like sandpaper). Typically, it first appears on the chest and stomach, rapidly spreading to other parts of the body. On more darkly-pigmented skin, the rash may be harder to spot, although the 'sandpaper' feel should be present. Further symptoms can include the following:

- fever over 38.3° C (101° F) or higher
- white coating on the tongue which peels a few days later, leaving the tongue looking red and swollen
- swollen glands in the neck
- feeling tired and unwell
- flushed red face, but pale around the mouth
- peeling skin on the fingertips, toes and groin area, as the rash fades

In most cases, doctors can diagnose scarlet fever from the symptoms alone and prescribe antibiotics as necessary. Current guidance advises that children should not return to nursery or school, and adults to work, until a minimum of 24 hours after starting antibiotic treatment.

### **48 Hour Rule**

Please remember that if your child is off with a bug causing sickness or diarrhoea, they must stay off for 48 hours. Although we don't clearly don't want anyone missing school unnecessarily, it is equally important that they don't pass the bug round the class.

### **Building Work**

We are pleased to be coming to the end of our building work, and the new extension is to be signed off by the Council today, giving us next week to move into it. The tarmac will then go down in the first section of the car park during the week leading up to Christmas, when school is shut. When we return in January, the office staff will have moved into



Co-Headteachers  
Mrs B. Medhurst & Mrs F. Meer



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the new entrance area and the 'yellow submarine' (!) will have disappeared. There will be an 'official' opening during the first week of next term when we declare it fully open.



### **Asda Green Tokens**

As always, please do remember to vote again this week for Low Ash in the Asda Green Token initiative. Please vote **each week** for us by clicking on [www.asda.com/green-tokens](http://www.asda.com/green-tokens) and selecting Shipley from the drop-down menu. We are currently holding our lead, now with 45% of the vote, so please help to keep us there!

### **New Absence Procedures**

As we are sure you are all aware, school attendance is currently a big focus for the Local Authority and nationally. Whilst we are proud to say that the vast majority of our pupils attend school regularly and you, as parents and carers, are consistent at informing us of the reasons for absence, you will notice some new processes around attendance. These include letters created by Bradford Local Authority's Attendance Team and messages worded by the Department for Education. These are quite formal in their nature and are intended to make parents and carers aware as soon as possible about their child's attendance and possible impact, so that home and school can continue to work together positively. At the early stage of the year, just a couple of days absence (authorised or unauthorised) can result in a letter or message being triggered, so many of you may have received one of these. As numbers decrease going forwards, our intention is to accompany each of these letters with a phone call so that we can talk through any further support we can offer. As always, though, if you would like to discuss your child's attendance and explore any further ways in which we can support in this area, please do speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance

### **Goodbye**

We are sorry to be saying goodbye at the end of the term to two valued members of staff. Miss Ransley (Academic Mentor) has been appointed as a Year 4 teacher at another primary school. We would like to thank her for all her hard work over the past 15 months and wish her the very best with her own class. We are sure she will be fabulous!

Mr Nowakowski will also be leaving us to take up an exciting opportunity supporting young carers in primary and secondary schools across the Bradford district. We are very disappointed to be losing Mr N so soon, but we know he will be excellent in his new role and wish him the very best of luck going forward. We hope they will both keep in touch and look forward to hearing how they are getting on.

### **Important dates for your diaries**

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December (3.30-4.00)** KS2 Choir sing at Wrose Christmas Market

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December (4.15-6.00)** Reception Christmas Story and Lights Evening

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December (morning)** – Year 1 and 2 Nativity

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December** - School Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December (4.15-5.15)** Nursery Christmas Story Evening

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December (afternoon)** – Year 1 and 2 Nativity

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December (evening)** – Carols by Candlelight (Years 3 - 6)

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December** – Non-uniform day

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December** – School closes for the Christmas holidays

As always, thank you for your continued support this week. We hope you have a great weekend and we look forward to seeing you next week.

Kind regards,

Fiona Meer and Beth Medhurst (Co-Headteachers)



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Mrs B. Medhurst & Mrs F. Meer



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