



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

24<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

We can't quite believe we are more than half way through this half term already. This time of year is a very busy one in primary schools and we are looking forward to the weeks ahead.

First of all, a thank you to everyone who supported us today by making donations of items for the Christmas Fair. A reminder that the Fair will take place next Friday (1<sup>st</sup> December). We look forward to seeing lots of you there.

### Parent Questionnaire

Thanks to all of you who filled out the parent/carer questionnaire. We really do value your feedback.

90% of you said you would recommend the school to other parents

90% said your child can take part in clubs and activities at Low Ash

95% said the school has high expectations of your child

96% said your child is happy at Low Ash

93% said the school makes you aware of what your child is learning though the school year

### Some of the positive comments we received can be read below.

- *Excellent school. Warm welcoming. Always available if I need a talk about my child.*
- *My child really enjoys their time in school and finds it a very rewarding and positive environment. As parents we're also really impressed with our child's progress in reading, writing and arithmetic. Also, the culture and community spirit in the school is fantastic.*
- *My child thrives at Low Ash. I believe this is a fantastic school and fantastic teachers and staff work there. They always have best interest of students at heart.*
- *In my opinion having experienced other primary schools as a parent, Low Ash is one of the best and most inclusive primary schools and really do have the children's best interests at the front of teaching.*
- *My daughter is very happy at school and always smiling when she goes. Teachers are approachable daily and will answer questions I may have, as well as time to explain things at parents evening, and at the curriculum meeting at the beginning of the new school year.*



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



Our school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all children and expects staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



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**We always want to improve however, so thank you to those who also left constructive comments for us to consider.**

- *There is an increasing level of children who need 121 supervision and this is not being provided. I know the school are trying but more children are getting hurt because of this. There have been several incidents and nothing appears to be getting better.*

Low Ash is an inclusive school and caters for pupils with a range of needs. Our Inclusion leader works closely with parents and carers and the local authority to try and support all children to the best of our ability within the constraints that we have. Where an EHCP (Education, Health and Care Plan) states a child requires a high level of adult support, this is provided and is partly funded by the authority. We have a number of children with high levels of need without EHCPs and the school funds additional support to try to make the necessary provisions for all children. We appreciate we don't always 'get it right' however and also are, sadly, restricted by the current funding levels in school

Having said this, we have recently appointed two new teaching assistants. Miss Assim has already started at school and Mrs Holdcroft is due to start in December. They will continue to help us provide high levels of adult support to those pupils who need it most.

- *It would be helpful to have a parent association where parents can meet town hall style and ask questions of the head teachers in a public format.*

Although we don't feel a 'town hall' style approach would be the best way for you to ask questions of us as headteachers, as an SLT, we are discussing what we can do so that we seem more accessible to you. Please look out for further updates in the future.

- *My son is in year 5 and wants pizza on pizza day (Thursday) but says it's often run out by the time year 5 have their lunch.*

We spoke to the kitchen manager about this who is confident that this hasn't happened recently. Should the issue begin to arise again, please let us know.

- *The school has let itself down tremendously by making political statements and alienating so many families and children who have lost relatives in the Gaza genocide: the school brought all the awareness to classrooms during the Ukraine war but has kept silent on Gaza. Absolute disgrace.*

We are genuinely sorry if any of you feel this way. We do not feel we have made any political statements with regards to this conflict. Our teaching continues to be about tolerance, respect and the desire for peace.



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- Bullying is not robustly dealt with and communication is poor. We are sent the half term plans but we are not given any real feedback of how our child is progressing, what they have found difficult that week or what they have achieved. Many of my friends with primary age children have apps with regular updates so they can support their children at home and they also have the facility to contact the teacher.*

If you feel any bullying is not being dealt with, please escalate your issue/complaint to the Assistant Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher as we want all instances of bullying to be dealt with swiftly. Sadly, like in any school, there are occasional instances of bullying but we have experienced members of staff who will work with the children to try to resolve issues.

With regards to communication, this is an issue we discuss frequently and schools adopt a variety of different approaches. We have previously discussed using an app so teachers could be directly messaged but decided against this as we want to be mindful of teachers' well-being. Class teachers are on the doors at the end of the day if anyone wants a conversation about their child. If this is not possible, due to work commitments, all class teachers would be happy to arrange additional meetings/ conversations.

We have asked for parent/carer communication to be discussed at our next local heads' meeting so we can explore further what other schools are doing.

### **Adverse weather**

Hopefully we won't have any snow before Christmas, but I know we are expecting a 'cold snap' so wanted to remind everyone of our procedures in case of adverse weather. We would only close school in extreme circumstances, should it be unsafe for children or staff. If this decision is made, we would post the information on the school's website, our Facebook page, and send out a ping. It would also be published on Bradford Schools Online.

### **Parking**

Once more, we have begun to receive complaints from local residents about dangerous and irresponsible parking near school. Please can we remind you not to park on permit only streets and be mindful of local residents.

### **Important Dates for your diary:**

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December** - School Christmas Fair

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December** – Year 5 Victorian Christmas

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December pm** – EYFS Christmas Show

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December am** - EYFS Christmas Show

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December** – non-uniform Christmas jumper day

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December** - Xmas Lights trip- Reception - Base 1 – 4.15-6.00

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December** - Nursery Christmas Story evening 4.15-5.15

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December** - Xmas Lights trip- Reception - Base 2 – 4.15-6.00



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**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December am** - KS1 nativity  
**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December pm** – KS1 nativity  
**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December** - Carols by Candlelight  
**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December** - Break up for Christmas  
**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024** - Children return to school

Finally good luck to Mrs Livermore who begins her maternity leave this weekend. We wish her all the best and will miss her while she's away.

As always, thank you for your continued support in all that we do. Have a lovely weekend and we will see you all on Monday.

Yours sincerely,  
Beth Medhurst and Fiona Meer  
Co-Headteachers



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