



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

8th March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for all of your support this week. World Book Day was a big success yesterday. There were some fantastic outfits in school which were lovely to see. A big thank you to Mrs Carr who organised the activities which took place throughout the week.

Parent/Carer Questionnaire

An online parent/carer questionnaire will be accessible today. We would really appreciate it if you could take the time to complete it. There are not many questions so hopefully will not take too long. The more responses we have, the more representative it is of the pupil population – please click this link - <https://app.myschoolwellbeing.com/survey/begin/146/parent>

Charging for Children!

Thank you so much to those who have already donated to our half marathon fundraiser. In only a week, we have raised nearly £1000. We really appreciate all of your support. The training continues! The link below will take you to our fundraising page if you would like to support the team.

Crowdfunding to offer the pupils at Low Ash a wealth of enrichment opportunities so that they can be the 'best that they can be'. on JustGiving

T & A Education awards

We want to say congratulations to Helen Derham who has been nominated and subsequently shortlisted as the school governor of the year in the T & A Education Awards. Low Ash has been recognised at the awards these past few years – in 2021 Mrs Meer won the Headteacher – leading through Covid award, in 2022 Mrs Carr won the teacher of the Year award, and Mrs Marsh was shortlisted for the support staff member of staff of the year and last year we were shortlisted for the school of the year award. The winner will be announced in April – we wish Helen the best of luck!

FOLA

Helen is a busy lady and does an awful lot for school. You may be aware that she also leads Friends of Low Ash who have done a brilliant job of fundraising these past few years. This week has been especially busy with the Wonka Bars and Mothers' Day secret room preparation. A huge thank you to all of the Friends of Low Ash – we couldn't do all that we do without the extra funds which are raised.

'Banter' and bullying

Over the past few weeks, we have noticed, some of our older children in particular, trying to explain hurtful comments they have made to other pupils as 'banter'. On Monday we are going to run an assembly on this theme but hope that you can support us at home too by talking to your child. We are going to focus on these points.



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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It's not banter if:

1. You would be upset if someone said it to you;
2. It's hurtful;
3. You're not friends;
4. Someone's asked you to stop;
5. The target isn't laughing;
6. It focuses on someone's insecurities

Linked to the above, it has been brought to our attention by some concerned parents that certain children are being talked about in a parents' WhatsApp group - the parents reporting it have been quite alarmed by this, as are we. Although we don't believe the children have been named, we want to remind all parents that discussing any child in a public forum in a negative matter is not appropriate. For those who are concerned about bullying / behaviour, we are more than happy to meet with you. For those worried that school 'does nothing' if and when any bullying occurs, we would be happy to go through actions taken in these awful scenarios. Amongst many other things, this would always involve informing the parents of both parties.

With regards to general behaviour at Low Ash, we are proud to share that all visitors to school- including our school improvement partner who is a serving Ofsted inspector- always state how well-behaved Low Ash children are and how calm and settled lessons are. Of course, this does not mean that teachers are never faced with challenging behaviours. However, it has been recognised that they are dealt with effectively. Should anyone have any concerns however, please contact school and we can arrange to discuss things further.

We hope you will support us on this as messages coming from home are crucial to us combatting any unpleasant, hurtful behaviour in school.

Retirement

We are sad to announce that Trish Waterhouse, who has been a teaching assistant at Low Ash for many years, will be retiring at Easter. Trish has worked with hundreds of children over the years and it is now time for her to 'put her feet up'! We wish Trish all the best.

Teaching Assistant Vacancies

The closing date for our teacher assistant vacancies is on Wednesday 13th March. If you, or anyone else you know of, is interested, please visit Prospects Online where you will find the online application form.

Packed lunches

We are noticing an increasing amount of food being thrown in the bin at lunchtime. There are a number of members of staff in the dinner hall at lunchtime but obviously the lunch boxes of all children can't be checked. For this reason, to try and prevent so much food wastage – and so that you can see what your child has eaten at lunchtime – we will be asking pupils who have a packed lunch to take all waste and items not eaten home with them.



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Useful websites

The following websites also provide further advice and support:

FYI Bradford – this is a free, impartial service offering advice, information and signposting to children, young people and families within the Bradford district. Here you can find information and advice pages for all aspects of family life, a service directory and a guide to local activities and events.

[Home](#) | [Bradford Families and Young Persons](#)

Early Help - The Early Help page explains a little more about the process of Early Help and what it can offer to families

[What is Early Help](#) | [Bradford Council](#)

Talking Bradford - this site provides information on how you can support the communication of your child (primarily aged at parents of children who are 5 and under)

[Speech and Language pathway for parents](#) | [Bradford Families and Young Persons](#)

Useful dates for your diary:

Monday 11th March - Bikeability sessions for 5B

Tuesday 12th March - Bikeability sessions for 5S

Tuesday 12th March - Year 6 parent and carer 'stay and play' session 9.00-10.30

Wednesday 13th March -Year 5 parent and carer 'stay and play' session 9.00-10.30

Thursday March 14th - 5B consultation evening 'catch up'

Friday 15th March - Comic Relief – non-uniform day

Friday 22nd March - School breaks up for Easter

Monday 8th April - School re-opens after the Easter break

Future dates can be found in the calendar section of our website.

[Upcoming Events](#) | [Low Ash Primary School](#)

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to seeing you at the upcoming events and activities. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Beth Medhurst and Fiona Meer

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