



Lower Park
School

Lower Park

Lower Park Beacon

Issue
454
Fri 8th
Dec
2017

Dear Parents,

Christmas Shows



The stage is set and we are at fever pitch with the Sleepy Shepherd and Elf. The children are so excited about performing for you and I am sure you will be delighted when you see their very entertaining Christmas shows.

A reminder that admission to the performances is by ticket only and the numbers of tickets are restricted by fire regulations.

There has been no charge for tickets. However, we do have to buy the performing licenses, props and costumes and to cover this cost we ask you to make a donation for the programme that you will be offered when you arrive for the show.

Staff will issue times to bring the children to school and collect them afterwards for the evening performances.

Emergency Evacuation Information for the Christmas Shows

As part of our risk assessment, I would like to inform you of the safety routine, should it be necessary to evacuate the school building during the Christmas Shows.

Should the alarm bell ring – it is one continuous sounding bell – please evacuate the building through the rear external doors of the hall and make your way onto Hazelbadge Road, near to the playground entrance (it would be too dark to assemble in the playground). This would allow emergency vehicles quick access through the main gate. The staff will take the children out from classrooms and the hall and

assemble at that point also. Tempting as it would be to find your child at the first sound of the bell, this would only cause congestion and blocking the exit routes. The children and staff have practised evacuating the school many times and will do so efficiently, meeting you on Hazelbadge Road.

Visit to the Pantomime
Next Thursday
PLEASE BE EARLY!!!
And keep the road clear!



Next Thursday, 14th December, the whole school will be going to Buxton to see the pantomime. The children have to be at school in time to register and leave by 8.20am – we have been told that they will not hold up the show if we are late. Please drop the children off from 8.00am and they should come straight into school.

We are unable to wait any child who arrives after these times.

In addition:

Please do not park your cars on Hazelbadge Road on Thursday, as there will be six coaches needing to reach the school gates to collect the children to take them to the pantomime. As we did last year and it worked so well, cars won't have access beyond the main school gates.

Also:

Children may bring a snack for the interval AS WELL AS a packed

lunch for when we return. For their snack, please ensure the drink and snack wrappers are disposable and there must be no fizzy drinks.

Thank you for your support

Christmas Fair Feedback



We were delighted with the Christmas fair last Saturday. The warm atmosphere it generated was superb. There was happiness and Christmas cheer throughout the corridors, classrooms and hall.

The highlight of the fair had to be the children's performances in the choirs and music groups and I am sure that would also be the opinion of the parents watching and listening to a selection of Christmas songs and tunes,

The fair had everything, including a brass band playing Christmas Carols, Santa Clause, hot dogs, Christmas hampers, competitions, a raffle, games and entertainment. The children were so excited being at the fair and they have talked about it all week.



Many thanks to everyone who helped in any way. The stalls were well-manned by volunteers – a big thank you there.

You will appreciate that a fair like this takes a great deal of time and effort to organise to make it as successful as it was. All the PTA committee committed that time but it would be right to mention that the

co-ordination of the whole event was done superbly by Mandi Gatenby and Kristen McConkey. They deserve our gratitude and congratulations. Everyone was delighted to learn that the fair raised £2750 – a fantastic amount and a great reward. Well done everyone!

The Christmas Story Trail

Every child in the school walked down to St George's Church to be guided through the Christmas Story this week. The 'story trail' was set within a number of scenes by live actors and was narrated by Peter Fraser, who is one of our regular visitors in our school assemblies. As they moved through awesome scenery, which began in a cave, the visual learning experience brought home to the children the real meaning of Christmas. I am sure they will remember their visit and the real Christmas story for a long time.

Trim Trail Health and Safety

Can I please remind you that it is important that you do not let your child play on the trim trail before the bell sounds for the start of the school day or on the other playground furniture at the end of the school day. We do not wish any child to be hurt before or after the school day when there is no staff supervision. Thank you for your support.

Talent Show and Christmas Parties

The Talent Show and Christmas Parties will take place on Wednesday, 20th December. Children can come in their party clothes but will also need their coats and suitable shoes for playtimes.

Choir at the Disabled Swimmers' Christmas Party



It was an absolute delight to see the children in the KS2 choir perform a selection of songs for this appreciative group of children and adults. As they always do, they performed to an excellent standard, but what was hugely impressive was the way the children showed great consideration for the disabled people

and interacted so well with them. Afterwards, the children were given some treats and a member of their staff was keen to tell me, unprompted, that every one of the 35 children had used excellent manners when thanking her for their treat. The choir brought a great deal of credit to themselves and Lower Park through their singing and courtesy and made Mrs Mellor, Mrs Duffy and I very proud of them.

Christmas Wreath Night –



What a Night!!

The hall was full to capacity with parents, staff and members of the wider community turning sticks, leaves and baubles into fantastic Christmas wreaths. The night raised a fantastic £730. The PTA would like to thank Precious Things Event Stylists and florists who made the whole event possible.

Well done PTA, for organising this excellent event!

Poppy Appeal



This year's Poppy Appeal raised a magnificent £294, thank you for supporting this very worthy cause.

Swing Band Playing in Assembly Last Monday

Another occasion to feel proud of the children was on Monday, when the school swing band played in assembly. The children played their Christmas medley and the whole school sang along. The atmosphere was so warm and pleasant with the children appreciating the standard of performance of the children in the band. Well done to the band members.

Commendation Awards



Commendation Awards are presented to children on Mondays in assembly. The staff, including midday assistants, nominate children (one from each class and one from the midday assistants) each week and they receive a commendation badge. They also receive a certificate which is displayed on the internal noticeboard outside my room. After a week, the certificates are given to the children to bring home to keep. They are used to promote exceptional attitude, approach to work, exceptional kindness, behaviour, helpfulness, consideration and attitude. Often, we will have a theme for the commendation awards.

The winners this week are:-

Charlotte Gale, Lara Ramsdale, Zoe Lester, Robyn Slater, Noah Cairns, Joseph Hand, Isabel Harrison & Tom Ihringer

Well done to all those boys and girls!

An Alarming Situation!

On many occasions, I have written to you informing you of vacancies for midday assistants. The situation is now critical in that after Christmas, we will have less staff on Thursday and Friday lunchtimes and this is causing a major concern for the school and we may have to take radical measures.

If you know of anyone who would like to take up the position of midday assistant on either Thursday or Friday (or both), or if you would consider taking the role, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH US as this is at a critical point.

01625 872560 (school office).

Parent Network Coffee Morning

A group of parents, alongside Mrs Jones, have arranged a Coffee Morning on Monday morning at 9.30am. The purpose of this informal get together is to establish, in the first instance, a forum for parents of children with ASD. If you have any

interest in joining us, please feel very welcome to come along to the old staff room (now called the Bubble Room).

Tennis club

Tennis club bookings for the next term can be made by the website using the following link <https://www.pointonetennis.org/schools-programme>

Glastonbury Drive Play Area Official Opening - Report



Glastonbury Drive Play Area is officially opening this Sunday (10th) at 12 noon. Please come and join in the opening. Wellies are essential. GDPARA would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support. See you there.

Vacancies at the Hollies

1. Hollies pre-school are looking to employ a bank member of staff to cover for staff sickness and holidays. Hours between 9am and 3pm. No qualification required. Please contact Debbie on 01625 850176 or by email manager@theholliespreschool.co.uk for an application form, or if you require further details.

We are committed to safer recruitment all appointments subject to an enhanced DBS check
2. We are offering a part time vacancy approximately 8 hours per

week at our After-school club. Term time or full time contract. Variable holiday club hours also available.

If you require further information or an application form please phone 01625 850176, and ask for Debbie or Rachel.

Closing date for applications: Friday 26th January. We are committed to safer recruitment. All posts subject to enhanced DBS checks.

Letters / Emails Sent Home This Week.

Leaflets attached with Beacon

Reminders:



The site is now live. We intend to develop the site further and add new features but browse at the photographs on many pages, contact details, governors' pages, policies etc, that can all be accessed from the tabs on the home page. This Beacon has a quick link from the top of the home page too.

The website can be accessed from this link at: www.lowerpark.cheshire.sch.uk

This Week at School

- On Saturday, the Christmas Fair was a tremendous success. Thanks to all who helped in any way.

- On Monday, the school swing band played their repertoire in assembly and everyone sang along.
- On Monday afternoon, the KS2 choir performed at the disabled swimmers' Christmas party.
- On Tuesday, there was a full governing body meeting at which the school's new strategy plan (school development plan) was approved.
- On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, all the children in the school walked to St George's Church to walk around the Christmas Story Trail.
- On Thursday, many parents enjoyed a Christmas wreath making evening.

Next Week at School

- On Monday, there is a coffee morning for parents – see above.
- On Monday afternoon, there is the first performance of The Sleepy Shepherd.
- On Tuesday evening, the children of KS1 & FS will perform the Sleepy Shepherd in the evening.
- The last performance of the Sleepy Shepherd takes place on Wednesday afternoon.
- On Thursday, the whole school is going to the pantomime at Buxton.
- The first KS2 performance of Elf takes place on Thursday evening.
- On Friday, Freddy Fit will be in school putting the children through their paces in a musical gymnastic party.

After School Activities taking place week beginning Monday 11th December 2017

	Activity	Time	Yr Group	Venue	Organiser	On or Off
Mon	Tennis	8.00 – 8.45	KS2	Outside or Hall	Mrs Ralph / Mr Atherfold	On
	Drama club	3.30 - 4.30	KS2	Hall	Generate Theatre Arts Group	On (last one this term)
		4.45 - 5.45				
Tues	Swing Band	8.00 – 8.50	KS2	Hall	Mr Coulson	OFF (until 2018)
	Football Squad	3.15-4.15	Y5&6	Outside	Mr Cunha	OFF
	Girls Football	3.15- 4.15	KS2	Outside	Mrs Ralph	OFF
	Netball	3.15 – 4.00	Y5 & 6	Outside	Mrs Chadwick	OFF
	Art Club	3.15 – 4.15	Y1 & Y2	Miss Cork's class	Miss Cork	OFF
	Weds	Choir	8.15 – 8.50	Y3 – Y6	Hall	Mrs Mellor
KS1 Choir		8.15 – 8.50	F & KS1	Mrs Cunha's class	Mrs Cunha	OFF
Coding Club		3.30 – 4.15	KS2	Miss King's class	Miss King	Spring term
Football		3.45 – 4.15	KS1 & 2	Hall / outside	Les Clitheroe	OFF
Karate		4.45-5.45	KS2	KS2	Mrs Ralph / Mr Ferris	On
Cast rehearsal		3.15 -4.30	Show cast	Hall	Mrs Mellor	On
Thurs	Tennis	8.00 – 8.45	F&KS1	Outside or Hall	Mrs Ralph / Mr Atherfold	OFF
	Swing Band	3.15 – 4.20	KS2	Hall	Mr Coulson	OFF (until 2018)
Fri	Brass Band	3.15-4.00	KS2	Former staffroom	Mr Longson	On (last one this term)
	Multi-Sports	3.13 – 4.15	Y1 & 2	Hall or outside	Mr Coulson	On (last one)

Diary Dates for the Autumn Term 2017

Date	Event
Mon 11 December *	9.30am Coffee morning for parents – in the Bubble Room
Mon 11	1.45pm Afternoon performance of the KS1 & FS Christmas Show
Tues 12	6.45pm Evening performance of the KS1 & FS Christmas Show
Weds 13	1.45pm Afternoon performance of the KS1 & FS Christmas Show
Thurs 14	Panto at Buxton (10.00am Performance Leave at 8.30)
Thurs 14	7.00pm Evening performance of the KS2 Christmas Show
Fri 15	Freddy Fit Day
Mon 18	1.30pm Afternoon performance of the KS2 Christmas Show
Tues 19	7.00pm Evening performance of the KS2 Christmas Show
Weds 20	Christmas Parties, Christmas Dinner, Talent Show
Thurs 21	Christmas Service 10.00am
Thurs 21	School Closes for Christmas holiday.
Mon 8 January 2018	School Reopens for Spring Term at 8.50am.

*Further activities are being planned for this term and will be added to the list above
Every effort will be made not to change dates however, if necessary any changes/ additions are highlighted with *
TBC means To be confirmed. TBF means To be Finalised.*

School Calendar Dates 2017 – 2018

SCHOOL CLOSURES

Christmas 2017/18 Thursday 21st December
 Spring Half Term 2018 Friday 16th February
 Easter 2018 Thursday 29th March
 May Day 2018 Monday 7th May
 Summer Half Term 2018 Friday 25th May
 Summer 2018 Friday 27th July

SCHOOL OPENS

Monday 8th January 2018
 Monday 26th February
 Monday 16th April
 Monday 11th June

INSET DAYS LEFT: Friday 22nd December 2017, Monday 30th July 2018, Tuesday 31st July 2018.

School Calendar Dates 2018 – 2019

SCHOOL CLOSURES

Autumn Half Term Friday 26th October
 Christmas 2018/19 Friday 21st December
 Spring Half Term 2019 Friday 15th February
 Easter 2019 Friday 5th April
 May Day 2019 Monday 6th May
 Summer Half Term 2019 Friday 24th May
 Summer 2019 Friday 26th July

SCHOOL OPENS

Tuesday 4th September
 Tuesday 6th November
 Monday 7th January 2019
 Tuesday 26th February
 Tuesday 23rd April
 Monday 10th June

INSET DAYS: Monday 3rd September 2018, Monday 5th November 2018, Monday 25th February, Monday 29th July 2019, Tuesday 30th July 2019

**If you would like to join our email distribution list and receive the Lower Park Beacon by email, you need to inform me of your email address. Your email address will not appear when the Beacon is delivered and it is protected by the data protection policy here in school. So why not join our growing number of parents receiving email Beacons? Just write to me via email. My email address is: head@lowerpark.cheshire.sch.uk
 The Lower Park Beacon is also available to read on our School Website at: www.lowerpark.cheshire.sch.uk
 Kind regards *Jan J Coulson and the Staff at Lower Park***

My School Lunch Menu

Week commencing 11th December

School Meals are free for Reception & KS1 and £2.35 for a larger portion in KS2

Please pay online at www.schoolmoney.co.uk

Please choose one item from each section and remember to indicate which filling you would like for your sandwich/potato

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Name	Name	Name	Name	Name
Tuna Pasta Jumble	Pulled Chicken Flatbread	Roast Pork <input type="checkbox"/> or Quorn Fillet <input type="checkbox"/> with Apple Sauce, Stuffing, Gravy and Mash	Panto Trip today. Please send children with a packed lunch	Butchers Sausage <input type="checkbox"/> or Quorn Sausage <input type="checkbox"/> with Scrambled Egg, Baked Beans & Hash Brown
Tomato Pasta Italienne (v)	Salmon Fish Fingers with Potatoes	Hot Pork Baguette		Fish Goujon in a Wrap with Chips
Jacket Potato with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Beans <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>	Jacket Potato with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Beans <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>	Hot Quorn Baguette		Jacket Potato with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Beans <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>
Wrap filled with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> Ham <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>	Sandwich filled with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> Ham <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>	Jacket Potato with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Beans <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>		Sandwich filled with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> Ham <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>
Sweetcorn, Green Beans, Salad Bar.		Sandwich filled with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> Ham <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>		Sandwich filled with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> Ham <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>
	Peas and Carrots, Salad Bar	Mixed Veg , Salad Bar		Baked Beans, Carrots, Salad Bar
Flapjack Finger with Fruit Chunk		Chocolate Puddle		Sultana Cookie with Milkshake
Seasonal Fruit Platter	Tangy Lemon Cake	Pudding with Mandarin Puree		Seasonal Fruit Platter
Organic Yoghurt	Seasonal Fruit Platter Organic Yoghurt	Seasonal Fruit Platter Organic Yoghurt		Organic Yoghurt

Available daily - Milk, Fruit Juice, Bread Basket. Accompaniments will be available.

All fish products are sourced from sustainable fisheries. Fresh meat supplied by local butchers.

Potatoes, vegetables and milk are sourced locally when in season.