



Lower Park  
School

# Lower Park

## Lower Park Beacon

Issue  
502  
Fri 26<sup>th</sup>  
April  
2019

Dear Parents,

What an eventful beginning to the new term in this week's Beacon. Diary dates are included at the end and there are some very interesting developments to tell you about.

### Beacon Questionnaire

Towards the end of last term, I asked parents to return a questionnaire about the Beacon.



Some of the main outcomes were:

1. The Beacon was considered to be the most useful in finding out information. Next was the text to parents service.
2. The most important parts of the Beacon are the Current Issues articles, followed by the after-school clubs and this week & next week section.
3. There was a unanimous, positive response to 'I find the Lower Park Beacon Useful.' (No responses were less than 'Very useful').
4. Every response from parents stated that they did not wish to see the format of the Beacon redesigned - so we will continue in the present format. The least useful were the 'Did You Know' section (which we will now discontinue from today - unless we have requests to reinstate it in the future).

In the comments section, all of which were very favourable, it was highlighted as a strength that the Beacon reported information about the whole-school and, 'I find the whole Beacon positive and a great way to be kept informed' and 'The positive fun nature of it' and 'Easy to read, clear format.'

Thank you to all those who responded – much appreciated.

### Internet Safety – Support for Parents

One of the school's main priorities this year is 'Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies and Healthy Attitudes.' As part of this we are educating the children about the importance of internet safety, but as parents, the fast moving world of the internet can be hard to keep up with! The NSPCC has a really useful website aimed at parents, called NSPCC Net Aware, to keep them in the know about new apps and internet crazes their child may be using or wishing to access. There is also advice on risks children may be susceptible to online and how to safeguard them against these.

The link to the web site is:

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

We are also organising an internet safety talk from the PCSOs alongside the regular work we do about online safety.

### Gymnastics Competitions This Week



On Wednesday afternoon, pupils from Year 3 and 4 represented the school at a gymnastics competition at Wilmslow High School. The children have worked incredibly hard on their routine for several weeks and shown excellent progression and enthusiasm. Staff from other schools commented on how well-behaved and polite the children were at the event. Congratulations to Liam N for winning a gold medal on the vault and well done to the rest of the children: Lily, B, Zoe L, Thomas H, Joshua N, Jacob A, Abigail W, Zelma H F and Mia M. They made their teachers and classmates very proud!

On Tuesday, a group of gymnasts took part in a gymnastics competition. They performed

brilliantly with one stunning vault by Max T earning him the gold medal. The children taking part were, Max T, Hollie A, Lara R, Emily W, Jessie G, Leah P, Archie L and Bobby A. Well done to all the children taking part this week.

### Half Price Book Fair!



After school today, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, there are half price books that can be bought at our latest Book Fair. The books are the same usual high quality and this is a promotion by the seller. The book fair will be in the school hall.

### Tomorrow's Tidy Up Day - Postponed

We had planned to have our annual tidy of the school grounds tomorrow morning, but this has been postponed until later this year because there are several other events and activities happening that parents are taking their children to. There is still a need for the job to be done and so another date will be arranged.

### Staff Changes.

Mrs Gallagher - At the end of this term, Mrs Gallagher is retiring from full-time class teaching. She has been a teacher at Lower Park for 25 years, having previously taught in schools in other parts of the country. Her retirement has been well-earned as she has been a senior teacher, and at times an acting assistant headteacher. More pertinently, she has led KS2 from her class teaching base in Year 6. She has organised so many extra-curricular activities, including the extremely popular residential visits to Kingswood, the Leavers' Prom,

Talent Show, to name just some and all done with a great sense of humour. She has been consistently an outstanding teacher in Year 6 and has been a very effective subject leader for mathematics and in leading KS2. Her decision to retire takes effect from the end of this term and we will have another mention nearer the end. However, we will not be seeing the end of her in school next year as she will be working in a different role, covering non-contact time (PPA time) for Key Stage 2 teachers and we are pleased about that.

Mrs Chadwick has been appointed to work full time and will take over leading KS2 from September. She will be a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). Mrs Jones will also be increasing her hours to full time from September and for the first time in many years, they will probably be teaching separate classes and sets.

We currently are advertising for another member of staff to teach in Year 5 and 6.

Mrs Bertinshaw – Mrs Bertinshaw has also decided to retire at the end of this term. She has worked for three days each week as a very experienced and effective teaching assistant (TA) in KS1. She has been at Lower Park for 20 years and had a number of roles as a TA and has been shining example of professionalism in post.

It is a major step for both members of staff and I am sure you will wish them the very best for their future retirements.

Miss Jenkins is now Mrs Wilkinson



During the Easter Holiday, Miss Jenkins married her fiancé and will now be known as Mrs Wilkinson. Mrs Wilkinson (the change of name will take us time to adjust to) will continue to teach for two days per week in KS1 / Reception classes and I am sure many will congratulate her about her lovely news.

Healthy Snacks in KS2

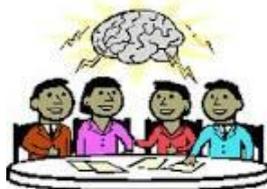


Please be reminded, that, as of the start of this term, we are not allowing chocolate or crisps to be eaten for the morning snack. They will not be able to take crisps or chocolate from their lunchbox as a morning snack.

You are asked to provide only a healthy snack, but if you wish to purchase one at school, this can be done by your child bringing 50p for a slice of wholemeal toast and a choice of drink. A healthy snack does not include chocolate or crisps. Following a meeting of the school council today, the children were keen to have a piece of fruit offered as an alternative to the toast. Mrs Laffey will provide that option from 7<sup>th</sup> May (the week after next).

From next week, staff will be vigilant about morning snacks this term and we are sure that parents will understand, support and appreciate this change to keep our children healthy.

School Council Meeting Today



The school council met today and the first item they chose was the school snacks. The children were very much in favour of having healthy snacks and talked positively about them and the school snacks. They did however suggest then request that fruit could become available as an alternative to the toast. Mrs Laffey has already offered to do that and will place fruit on her order next week so that fruit will be available as an alternative to the toast. Toast will still be available and a drink will be part of the snack.

*An Appeal for Prizes*

The school council also discussed their fund raising raffle initiative to for the new sensory garden. They were sad to hear that no prizes have yet been donated and have asked me to ask parents if anyone can donate prizes that are suitable for children to win in a raffle.

If you have any prizes that are suitable for children (4years to 11 years), please send them into the school office.

PTA – Very Encouraging Developments

The PTA committee met yesterday evening and made some significant developments.

The PTA has been successful in match funding the entire profits from the Christmas Fair and a cheque for

£2997.14 has been given to the PTA. The matched funding was through Microsoft. Thank you to a KS1 parent who pursued this for us.

It was decided that this donation would start a fund to which we will continue to add to, so that it that can be used to support and subsidise the funding of visits and visitors. For example, the cost of the visit to school by a 'Stone-Age Man' to provide workshops for all the children in LKS2 would have cost £12.00 per pupil and may have been prohibitive in the midst of a busy term, if asking for this donation by parents. With this new funding, we will be asking for a voluntary donation of only £4.00.

I am very happy to see parents having a return for the support you give to our PTA events by making it possible to bring quality experience for all our children in school.

There are similar visits for UKS2 - A Mayan Civilization workshop and for KS1 with a Virtual Reality Space Workshop. All the children in the school will benefit from this fund.

Plant Sale  
Saturday Morning, May 11<sup>th</sup>

Following on from the last article, I hope parents will save the date to help in another way in 2 weeks time by coming along to school on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May in your car / van to help deliver plants to those people in Poynton who have placed orders with us. Any amount of time you can give between 8.00am and 12.30 would be very much appreciated.

Last Orders For the Plant Sale

The latest day that orders for plants can be made at school is Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May. There are order forms in the entrance hall if needed.

A House Competition Change

This term we are launching a new house competition with the aim to re familiarise the children with their houses and create a greater sense of team spirit throughout the school and across year groups. We have had a special assembly where children in Year 6 are invited to volunteer as Captain and Vice-Captain of their houses. The children will work to achieve ROSE tokens, separate from DOJO points. ROSE stands for:  
R – Respect  
O - Others  
S – Self  
E – Environment

All good behaviour linked to these areas will be rewarded with a house point in the form of a coloured token,

this will be placed in a corresponding house jar in the classroom. Each Friday these tokens will be counted by the house captains and vice captains and the winning house will move up the 'leader board', this will be seen by the children on Monday assemblies. The 'leader board' will be in the form of a bookshelf themed display in the hall, because the house teams are named after famous authors. The houses are working toward the trophy on the top of the bookshelf. The winning house for the week will earn an extra 5 minutes' playtime at the end of morning playtime that week. The house that wins for the year (gets to the top of the bookshelf at the end of the year) will win the house cup and receive certificates to take home. The children will also have house assemblies each term, where they will get together with the other children in their house. This will emphasise team spirit, respect and whole school rules. It will also include learning the school motto

If you are unsure of your child's house, our assemblies aim to ensure that the children do know their houses, however each teacher has a list should they be unsure.

The children can earn ROSE house points from anyone in school, including during assembly, from middays, teaching assistants and visitors, as well as the class teachers.

### Multi-Sports

Just to update parents; we are negotiating with the provider about running the club in the future. It is unlikely that it will begin again before the Whitsun holiday and I hope to be able to update you about the following half term soon.

### Guitar Lessons

Again, another update; we have been trying to find a suitable guitar teacher but as yet, we have had little success. We are currently pursuing another provider so there may be better news soon.

### 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. This week, the theme for the commendation awards was for a variety of reasons.



This week's winners were:

Ethan B, Thomas M, George K, Ruby G, Felicity F, Amelia H, Lydia P, Ben J, George O and Esme R.

Well done to all those children.

### Housing Development

Another postponement is that of the Cheshire East Council meeting to consider the application for planning permission around Hazelbadge Road. Due to local elections in May, it is more likely to be considered at their June meeting which should take place on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June. If it is on the agenda, it would mean a site visit

would be likely to take place on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June. Unfortunately, on that Friday there will be no Year 6 children in school (they are on a residential trip) and Year 4 will also be returning from a residential visit during the afternoon. This will mean that there will be less vehicles on Hazelbadge Road and we will have the cones set out for the return of the coach.

### Reminders

*None*

### Letters this week

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### This Week in School

- School reopened on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April
- On Tuesday, A group of gymnasts from Year 5 took part in a competition – see above
- On Wednesday, a group of gymnasts from Year 4 took part in a competition – see above.
- Today, a group of Year 6 children took part in a golf competition. Although caught in the rain, they managed to come 4<sup>th</sup> overall.
- Today was the first day that the half-price book fair opened. It will be open until Wednesday.

### Next Week in School

- The summer newsletters will be sent home on Monday.
- We will have visitors from the DFE on Friday to look at the condition of the school building

### After-school activities taking place – week beginning Monday 29th April 2019

	<i>On or Off?</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Yr Group</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Organiser</i>
Mon	ON	Tennis	8.00 – 8.45	KS2	Outside or Hall	Mr Cunha / Mr Atherfold
	ON	Drama club	3.30 – 5.00	KS2	Hall	Generate Theatre Arts Group
Tues	OFF	Swing Band	8.00 – 8.50	KS2	Hall	Mr Coulson
	ON	Computing Club	3.15 – 4.15	Year 2	Miss Cork's class	Miss Cork
	ON	Football Squad	3.15-4.15	Y5&6	Outside	Mr Cunha
	ON	Netball	3.15 – 4.00	Y5 & 6	Outside	Mrs Chadwick
Weds	ON	Choir	8.15 – 8.50	Y3 – Y6	Hall	Mrs Mellor
	ON	KS1 Choir	8.15 – 8.50	F & KS1	Mrs Cunha's class	Mrs Cunha
	OFF	Football	3.45 – 4.15	KS1 & 2	Hall / outside	Les Clitheroe
	ON	Karate	4.45-5.45	KS2	KS2	Mr Cunha / Mr Ferris
Thurs	ON	Tennis	8.00 – 8.45	F&KS1	Outside or Hall	Mrs Cunha / Mr Atherfold
	ON	Swing Band	3.15 – 4.20	KS2	Hall	Ilam residential
Fri	ON	Dodgeball	8.00 – 8.50	KS1	Hall	Miss Jones
	TBC	Brass Band	3.15-4.00	KS2	Hall	Mr Longson

**Diary Dates for the Spring Term 2019**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
Tues 23 April	School Opens for Summer Term
Tues 23	Gymnastics competition - Y5
Weds 24	Gymnastics competition - Y3/4
Thurs 25	PTA meeting at 7.30pm
Fri 26	Golf comp - Y6
Fri 26 – Weds 1/5	Half Price book fair at 3.30pm
Tues 30	Naughty Bus visit – KS1
Mon 6 May	School Closed for May Day Bank Holiday
Thurs 9	Visit by Jacky Forster (Director of Ed.)
SAT 11	Plant Sale – help needed delivering plants
Mon 13	KS2 SATs week
Fri 17	Year 5 / 6 to tennis competition.
Tues 21	School Health checks for Y6 & Rec. am
Thurs 23	New Intake meeting 7.00pm
Fri 24	School Closes for half term
Mon 10 June	School reopens at 8.50am
Mon 10 and week	Year 1 Phonics testing week.
Mon 10 & week	DT week
Mon 10	KS1 Assembly with the NSPCC 9.15 to 9.40
Mon 10	KS2 assembly with NSPCC 9.50 to 10.25
Tues 11	Pupil & Curriculum Committee at 6.30pm
Tues 11	Environment & Community Committee at 7.45pm
Tues 18	Personnel & Finance Govs 6.00pm
Tues 18	Finance Govs at 7.45pm
Weds 19 - 21	Y4 to Tattenhall visit
Weds 19 - 21	Y6 to Menai visit
Thurs 20	7.30pm PTA
SAT 22	Summer Fair 11.00 – 2.00
Mon 24	NSPCC workshops throughout the day
Mon 24	Parent Workshops NSPCC 2.15 – 3.15pm TBC
Mon 24	6.30pm Chairs of Govs & 7.00 Full Govs' meeting
Weds 26	Year 6 Swimming Assessment - afternoon
Weds 26	Singing Workshop for LKS2 at 1.30pm in hall
Thurs 27	NSPCC Enrichment day – all classes
Thurs 4 July	Freddy Fit Day
<b>THURS 4</b>	Disco KS1 & FS 6.00 / KS2 – 7.15pm
Fri 5	Families Day pm
Mon 8	Year 6 to PHS Induction Day
Thurs 11	New Cabaret Evening
Fri 12	Sports Day 1 <sup>st</sup> try
Fri 12	Reports to Parents
Weds 17	5.30 – 7.30 Open Evening
Weds 17	7.30pm Music Concert
Fri 19	Reserved in case of rearranged Sports Day
Mon or Tues 22/3	9.00am Children to new classes TBC
Tues 23	Bikeability Y4 & 6
Tues 23	7.15pm Year 6 Prom
Weds 24	Bikeability Y4 & 6
Fri 26	Leavers' Service at 10.00am
Fri 26	School closes for summer hols
Mon 2 September	INSET Day
Tues 3	School Opens for Autumn Term

*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.  
TBC means To be confirmed. TBF means To be Finalised.*

**School Calendar Dates 2018 – 2019**

**SCHOOL CLOSES**

**SCHOOL OPENS**

May Day 2019  
Summer Half Term 2019  
Summer 2019

Monday 6th May  
Friday 24th May  
Friday 26th July

Monday 10th June

## School Calendar Dates 2019 – 2020

### SCHOOL CLOSES

Autumn Half Term	Friday 25th October
Christmas 2019/20	Friday 20th December
Spring Half Term 2020	Friday 14th February
Easter 2020	Friday 3rd April
May Day 2020	Monday 4th May
Summer Half Term 2020	Friday 22nd May
Summer 2020	Wednesday 22nd July

### SCHOOL OPENS

Tuesday 3rd September
Tuesday 5th November
Monday 6th January 2020
Monday 24th February
Monday 20th April
Monday 8th June

INSET DAYS: Monday 2nd September 2019, Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2019, Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>, Friday 24<sup>th</sup> and Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2020

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](mailto:head@lowerpark.cheshire.sch.uk)  
*The Lower Park Beacon is also available to read on our School Website at: [www.lowerpark.cheshire.sch.uk](http://www.lowerpark.cheshire.sch.uk)*  
**Kind regards Ian G Coulson and the Staff at Lower Park**

## My School Lunch Menu

Week commencing 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019

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

Please pay online at [www.schoolmoney.co.uk](http://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
Organic Beef Burger with Paprika Potatoes	Sweet & Sour Pork with Noodles	Beef Hotpot	Roast Chicken with Stuffing, Gravy & Mash	Chicken Korma Chunks in a Tortilla Boat
Vegetarian Cottage Pie (v)	Vegetarian Sausage Roll with Mash & Gravy (v)	Pasta Italiane (v)	Quorn Fillet with Stuffing, Gravy & Mash (v)	Harry Ramsden Junior Fish Fillet with Chips
Jacket Potato with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/>	Jacket Potato with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/>	Jacket Potato with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/>	Chicken Baguette	Jacket Potato with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/>
(v)Beans <input type="checkbox"/>	(v)Beans <input type="checkbox"/>	(v)Beans <input type="checkbox"/>	Quorn Baguette (v)	(v)Beans <input type="checkbox"/>
(v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>	(v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>	(v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>	Jacket Potato with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/>	(v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>
Baguette filled with Ham <input type="checkbox"/>	Baguette filled with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/>	Wrap filled with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/>	(v)Beans <input type="checkbox"/>	Sandwich filled with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/>
Egg Mayo <input type="checkbox"/>	(v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>	Ham <input type="checkbox"/>	(v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>	Ham <input type="checkbox"/>
Peas, Carrots, Salad Bar	Peas and Carrots, Salad Bar	(v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>	Sandwich filled with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/>	(v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>
Banana Cake	Flapjack	Broccoli, Carrots, Salad Bar	Ham <input type="checkbox"/>	Baked Beans, Sweetcorn, Salad Bar
Seasonal Fruit Platter	Seasonal Fruit Platter	Chocolate Penny	(v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>	Frozen Yoghurt
	Organic Yoghurt	Seasonal Fruit Platter	Mixed Veg, Salad Bar	Seasonal Fruit Platter
		Organic Yoghurt	Apple & Chocolate Crumble with Custard	
			Seasonal Fruit Platter	

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.