



Lower Park

Lower Park Beacon

Issue
547
27th Nov
2020

*It is important that you inform school if someone in your household has tested positive and you should do this by emailing me on head@lowerpark.cheshire.sch.uk
When this happens, the whole family must isolate.*

Dear Parents,

The Great Lower Park Virtual Balloon Race is Now Open

This week we started preparing for our first ever virtual balloon race. A letter was sent by email to parents from the PTA earlier and another copy is attached to this Beacon email. The idea has really ‘taken off’ with over 70 balloons already purchased. There is no limit on the number of balloons you can purchase and here is how to buy one or more than one.



First, go to;

www.BalloonRace.co.uk/LowerPark

- Click on the “Buy a balloon” button (top right).
- Type your contact name, email address and balloon nickname in the boxes.
- Choose your balloon colour/style
- Add a message and an emoji (optional) - click on the emoji icon to see the list.
- From the drop down list: select “I want to register multiple balloons”
- Click “create my balloon” button at the bottom of the screen.
- You will then be taken to the payment details screen where you MUST choose “create your next balloon”
- Repeat the name/email/nickname/choose a

colour / add a message steps from above. The screen should confirm this is a linked balloon.

10. When finished creating your balloons, you then click “create my balloon” for the final time and when it takes you to the PayPal screen you now click on the relevant payment method (PayPal, debit card, etc). Once your transaction is complete you are good to go.

If you don’t pay for ALL the balloons you registered, they will remain inactive and won’t move off the start line.

Thank you for your support

Christmas Jumper Day

This will take place on Friday 11th December. Children and staff can come to school in a Christmas jumper and we would ask you to donate £1.00.



We will also be doing a Santa Run during the day of the 11th December. Children can wear Santa hats too, but please write your child’s name in it.

Christmas Dinner and Christmas Parties



Each class will have a party during the last week of term. Appropriate

games will be played, and the children will be able to come into school in party clothes – date of the parties in next week’s Beacon.

Christmas dinner will now take place on the same day for everyone – Wednesday 16th December.

Reverse Advent Calendar - Begins Next Week Tuesday, 1st December.

Here is a reminder about how it works:

This year, we have decided to try something new, and it is well-timed at the current time.

As part of our Christmas festivities, we would like Lower Park School to create a ‘reverse advent calendar’. For every day in December that we are in school, we will be collecting items from the list below so that they can be given to local families in need. These care packages will kindly be collected, sorted and distributed by the local charity ‘Fresh’, who supports under privileged families in the Stockport area.



Any donations are voluntary, but if you have a spare tin or small item that you would like to contribute we would ask that you consult the list below and send any items in with your child (there will be a box in each classroom ready for collection). The items are meant as suggestions and of

course we will gladly accept any item (large or small!) on any day in December!

Week one (Dec 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th)

Tinned and non-perishable goods:

e.g. Baked beans, tinned fruit and vegetables, chopped tomatoes, tinned tuna, rice pudding, soup, bottles of squash, cartons of fruit juice, cans of soft drinks

Week two (Dec 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th)

Small gift ideas or clothing:

e.g. Dolls, teddy bears, figurines, pencils, crayons, paper, colouring books, games, DVDs, books, hats, gloves, scarves, make up, toiletries, baby clothes, arts and crafts, jigsaws, bath towels, hand towels, blankets

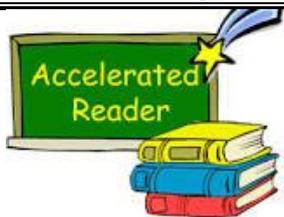
Week three (Dec 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th)

Dried food packets:

e.g. Spaghetti, noodles, rice, biscuits, cereal, biscuits, savoury snacks, crisps, crackers, chocolate and sweets, selection boxes

Thank you so much in advance for your generosity; we hope that Lower Park can make just a little bit of difference to somebody's Christmas in these challenging times.

Accelerated Reader is Really Accelerating!!



The children in KS2 have really taken this reading challenge to heart and are loving the books that they are reading. Carefully monitored through testing to ensure the right level of reading book is chosen, **the children have already read a total of 3,759,776 words in the past week – incredible!**

Those children who are not inclined to read, are turning to the books and enjoying them. Well done children!

Fluenz – Today

Today, all our of children in school received their Fluenz vaccination. Thank you for your support.

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's winners were:

Josh N, Izzy G, Grace A, Austin F, Millie G, Daisy L, Alice K, Jackson M, Katie A, Charlotte G and Eleanor G

Well done to all those children!

Christmas Cards

We know how much children like to send Christmas cards at this time of year. However, we are modifying this activity this year to avoid the daily delivery around school.

We are telling children that they can only bring in Christmas cards **on one day this term – next Friday 4th December**. We will store them until Tuesday 8th December when we will deliver them to the children to take home that day. We also will ask the children to send cards only to children in their Year group.

Holiday Dates for 2021 - 2022



At the meeting of the Governing Body this week, the holiday dates for the academic year 2021 – 2022 were approved. They are listed at the end of this Beacon.

Classroom Displays

With the current situation, we are unable to show parents around school. We are in the process of putting together a virtual tour and in

the meantime have put a film onto the homepage of the website showing a selection of the wonderful classroom displays which are so typical of our school, take a look by clicking on this link and scrolling down the bottom of the page.

<http://www.lowerpark.cheshire.sch.uk/>

Reminders

Christmas Coat Hanger Decoration



Here is what to do:

We can hang your decoration up in school but have decided that we cannot return them at the end of term. However, hang them at home and keep them for next year!

You need one or two wire coat hangers, some common Christmas decorations (tinsel etc) and a good idea. The objective is to make a Christmas mobile that can be hung from a hook on the ceiling of the hall or corridor. It should be built on the coat hanger (or two coat hangers joined together) - making sure there is a slim hook showing at the top – and your child's name attached to the hook would help us to relocate the owners afterwards. The rest, as they say, is up to you. Obviously, we would ask you to help your children and it is intended to be a fun activity (with very little expense).



Remember to have a look online and place orders for the wonderful Christmas Robin artwork by 14th December to receive all products before Christmas.

Did you know that you can also use the PTA portal to upload additional artwork, not just for Christmas, and order any products from those available? What a lovely idea for an art activity to do with your child at home. A copy of the flyer with the unique code sent home previously, is being sent as an attachment with this beacon.

Thank you for your support.

Wreath Making

Please take a look at the wreaths now on display on the front gates of the school (underneath the school sign).



In the absence of a physical wreath making night, this year why not support the PTA by organising your own virtual one with our DIY wreath making kits? The kits come with everything you need to make your festive door decoration at home. Each kit is £25 and there are three styles to choose from. Please see the attached leaflet for more information on how to order.

Wreath kits will be available to collect after school on **Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th December** and examples of each design will be hung at the school gates from next week. These kits are great to make as a family, with friends or to gift as an unusual early Christmas present

What should you do?

It is more than likely that more children (and parents) will have to isolate at some point over the next few months – it is something that we can try to avoid but it is difficult to stop. So, if a Lower Park child in the family has tested positive, it is doubly important to contact me (head@lowerpark.cheshire.sch.uk) so that close contacts or bubbles can be traced and asked to isolate in order to stop it spreading in school. In all our cases so far, this has happened correctly and we want to keep as many children in school as possible. When you keep your child off school because you have been informed that they have been *in contact* with a person who has tested positive, you can contact the office by phoning 01625 872560 or email admin@lowerpark.cheshire.sch.uk to inform us.

For your convenience, I have attached the quick guidance to this Beacon email again

Doodle Maths Change Update

Doodle Maths are offering a 40% discount.

If you are interested, please let us know and we will send you the details.

After a period of time using Doodle Maths, we have upgraded to using

School Jam in Key Stage 1 (but we are continuing with Mathematics in Key Stage 2). When bought for the whole school, these programs have been expensive. However, we know that some parents still use Doodle maths at home. We would like to make you aware that individual licenses can still be bought to use it and cost around £5.00

Nut Free School

Just a reminder that we are a nut free school. We do have children in school for whom nuts can be dangerous.



Please ensure nuts, or anything containing nuts, are not sent in to school.

Applications for places in Reception 2021

I am pleased to announce that parents are able to make an application for a place at Lower Park for the reception class in September 2021.

Applications are made on line via the Cheshire East website, the following link will take you to the relevant page for September admissions <https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/admissions/start-school-september.aspx>

I would like to remind parents who already have older children in the school, that they must also apply for a place for a younger sibling – it is not automatically allocated.

The closing date for applications is 15th January 2021.

Lower Park Hoodies, Joggers and Fleecees



We have asked Ann at PSU to make up some Lower Park hoodies in blue. The children will be permitted to wear them over their normal sweatshirts in class so we would recommend buying them in a slightly larger size than you might normally order. We have also added Lower

Park joggers to the items available, which may be useful for PE days. The school fleece, which has always been available, can also be worn in school if you prefer. We are advised that new stocks of these will be available mid-December. There is, however a shower proof fleece as an alternative. Please note the joggers and hoodies are now available.

Costs:

Joggers: £11

Hoody: £14.00

All of the items are optional and any parents wishing to order one, will need order as usual via the PSU website.

THE HOODIES ARE NOW IN STOCK

You can order the hoodies now from:

www.lowerpark.uniform4you.co.uk

Letters this Week

- Balloon Race Flyer – twice this week by email

This Week in School

- There was a meeting of the full Governing Body on Monday when several new policies were approved and, crucially, the new School Strategy Plan was also approved. A one page summary is attached to this Beacon email.
- The balloon race initiative began to take shape this week and parents and children can now purchase the balloons before they are all released on 7th December.
- Today, the children had their Fluenz vaccination.

Next Week in School

- On Monday - Staff training on Google Classroom
- Thurs day and Friday – Collect Christmas Wreaths at the end of the school day
- Friday 4th Dec - Christmas Card Day – all cards to be brought in today only
- Saturday – Santa Zoom 1.00 – 4.00

After-school activities taking place – Autumn Term 2020

On or Off?	Activity	Time	Yr Group	Venue	Organiser
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After-school activities will not commence for a short while

Diary Dates for the first half of the Autumn Term 2020

Date	Event
Mon 2 November	Review Day – staff and governors
Tues 3	School reopens after half-term
Tues 10	Personnel governors’ meeting
Weds 11	Two minutes silence at 11.00
Friday 13	Children in Need – non uniform with Silly Socks
Mon 16 week	Anti-bullying week
Mon 16	PTA meeting (by Zoom) at 7.30pm
Fri 20	Bring something yellow to mark anti-bullying week.
Mon 23	Christmas Coat Hanger Appeal begins – bring them in.
Mon 23	Full governors’ meeting at 7.00pm
Fri 27	Flu Immunisations take place for all children.
Thurs 3 December	Collect your Christmas wreath kits.
Fri 4	One day only - Christmas Cards to school
Fri 4	Collect your Christmas wreath kits.
Sat 5	Santa Zoom – children can meet Father Christmas FULLY BOOKED
Mon 7 - 15	Virtual Balloon Race (see PTA newsletter)
Fri 11	Wear your Christmas Jumper Day (donation of at least £1.00)
Mon 14	Order Christmas Robin Artwork On Line by today
Mon 14 - 18	Christmas parties, Christmas Lunch, Christmas Film, Christmas Pantomime (with Onesies)

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 2020 – 2021

SCHOOL CLOSES

Christmas 2020/21 Friday 18th December
 Spring Half Term 2021 Friday 12th February
 Easter 2021 Thursday 1st April
 May Day 2021 Monday 3rd May
 Summer Half Term 2021 Friday 28th May
 Summer 2021 Friday 23rd July

SCHOOL OPENS

Monday 4th January 2021
 Tuesday 23rd February
 Monday 19th April
 Monday 14th June

INSET DAYS: Tuesday 1st September 2020, Monday 2nd November 2020, Monday 22nd February 2021, Monday 26th July 2021, Tuesday 27th July 2021

School Calendar Dates 2021 – 2022

SCHOOL CLOSES

Autumn Half Term Friday 22nd October
 Christmas 2021/22 Friday 17th December
 Spring Half Term 2022 Friday 18th February
 Easter 2022 Friday 1st April
 May Day 2022 Monday 2nd May
 Summer Half Term 2022 Friday 27th May
 Summer 2022 Wednesday 27th July

SCHOOL OPENS

Thursday 2nd September
 Tuesday 2nd November
 Monday 4th January 2022
 Tuesday 1st March
 Tuesday 19th April
 Monday 13th June

INSET DAYS: Wednesday 1st September 2021, Monday 1st November 2021, Monday 28th February 2022, Thursday 28th July 2022, Friday 29th July 2022

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 - Ian Coulson and the Staff at Lower Park

My School Lunch Menu

Week commencing 30th November 2020

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
Organic Beef Burger in a Bap & Jacket Wedges	BBQ Pork Wrap	Chicken Korma & Rice	Roast Turkey Dinner	Fish Fingers with Chips
Quorn Burger in a Bap & Jacket Wedges (V)	Pizza & Sauté Pots (V)	Pasta Italienne (V)	Quorn Fillet Dinner (V)	Popcorn Chicken in a Soft Tortilla Boat (optional)
Tuna Pasta Bake	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"/>	Turkey Baguette Quorn Baguette	Katsu Curry Sauce <input type="checkbox"/>
Jacket Potato with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Beans <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>	Wraps 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"/>	Jacket Potato with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Beans <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>
Sandwiches filled with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> Ham <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>	Carrots	Cauliflower	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"/>
Sweetcorn	Chocolate Muffin	Melting Moment	Mixed Vegetables	Baked Beans
Coconut Oatie	Fruit	Fruit	Shortbread	Ginger Oatie Cookie
Organic Yogurt			Yogurt	Fruit
Fruit			Fruit	