



Lower Park

Lower Park Beacon

Issue
548
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 About to Take Off

On your marks, get set, go Monday.



www.BalloonRace.co.uk/LowerPark

Virtual Balloon Race - Last chance to enter

Today is your last chance to enter the Virtual Balloon Race! Go to <https://www.balloonrace.com/lowerpark> to buy 1 or more balloons.

We have had some very imaginative entries so far and the virtual sky will be full of colour next week!

The race starts on 7th Dec at 12 noon, and you'll be able to track your balloon's progress on the web page (use link above). A leader board is also available to view on Lower Park School's website www.lowerpark.cheshire.sch.uk

Thank you to everyone who has supported the event so far!

Christmas Jumper Day Next Friday – 11th December



Next Friday we are asking children to come to school in a Christmas Jumper and we ask you to bring in £1.00

We are also going to do a Santa Fun Run during the day of the 11th December and the children can wear Santa hats too, but remember to write your child's name in it.

Jack and the Beanstalk

Usually, we take the children to the pantomime; this year, we are bringing the pantomime to the children.



The children will watch the pantomime at different times to ensure the broadband does not become overloaded with everyone streaming the panto at the same time. To this end, the children will watch the pantomime at the following times:

Day	Morning	Afternoon
Mon 14 th Dec		BC/JJ Year 6
Tues 15 th Dec	EC/NW/LB/ KH/NO/N M Foundation Stage and KS1	RC/MC/A M Lower Key Stage 2
Thurs 17 th Dec	LP/HD/AS Year 5	

We would like to make a special occasion of the day, and children can

come into school in a onesie on their pantomime day if they wish. We are asking for a donation of £1.00 for the Onesie Panto.

Christmas Parties



The Christmas Parties will take place on Wednesday 16th December, children will have their Christmas Dinner in the middle of the day. For party day, children can come into school in party clothes. They will need their coats and outdoor shoes as they will need playtimes for fresh air.

Reverse Advent Calendar

What a success this has been!

Your generosity is fantastic, and the gifts for the 'Reverse' Advent Calendar has been rolling in and will go to a very good, 'close to home,' worthy cause this Christmas, called 'Fresh,' which supports under privileged families in our neighbouring Stockport area. We are still collecting – look to the reminder section below to know more.

School Strategy Plan

Following the Review Day that took place after half term and the governors' meeting to approve it, the new School Strategy Plan is now up and running.

As promised, I have included a copy of it as an attachment to this Beacon.

It is also posted on our website on the Governors' page.

The results of the parents' questionnaire were also discussed during the Review Day. We only received 20 returns, but all the comments were relayed to everyone during the day. A table of results is attached to this Beacon.



Parents are very supportive and appreciate the work of the school, especially about the school's response during COVID lockdown.

There were many very grateful comments about members of staff.

The *main* areas of concern were:

Lunches – need to be more variety meals like before COVID (This had been raised by the school cook and plans were in hand to change. This did change two weeks ago)

Communication should be to both parents (Teacher2parents email did go to 1st contact only – this has now been changed)

More regular communication regarding progress of children (we are reviewing this)

Accelerated Reader Running Total



We have decided to publish our running total of words the children have read each week.

Last week the total was 3,759,776 words.

This week's fantastic total is:

8,538,776

Well done to all our children for their brilliant and extensive reading.

Car Parking Problems

Unfortunately, I have to raise this issue again. There are two parts:

1) Please do not park across the drives of our school neighbours. They are now informing me about comments made to them such as, "I'll just be a minute." This is not acceptable, and I would ask you not to park in front of driveways. Neighbours are now sending me

photographs of cars parking in front of their drive.

2) Take extra care when reversing a car in Hazelbadge Road. It isn't the widest of roads and I would ask you to be doubly alert to the movement of people behind you, especially by the coned area.

Thank you to the many parents who are parking their cars away from school and walking the last few hundred metres to school. This is by far the safest option for all coming to school.

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:

Lydia B, Isabelle M, Sofia M, Sophie W, Liam N, Maddy O, Ethan B, Holly L, Daniel R and Sophie S

Well done to all those children!

Christmas Cards

Christmas Cards arrived in school today. They will be left in the class box until Tuesday when they will be given to children to take home.

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 our 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.

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

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.

Christmas Reverse Advent Calendar Appeal

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.

Lower Park Hoodies, Joggers and Fleece



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

- Photograph Orders

This Week in School

- The staff attended the first of two sessions on how to use Google Classroom on Monday.
- Parents were collecting Christmas Wreath kits on Thursday and Friday this week.
- Children brought in their Christmas Cards today.

Next Week in School

- Tomorrow (Saturday) – Santa Zoom 1.00 – 4.00
- Governors' finance meeting at 7.00pm on Monday.
- Virtual visit by the school's School Improvement Partner on Wednesday.

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)
Mon 14	Pantomime for Year 6 children
Tues 15	Pantomime for Reception and KS1 children
Wed 16	Christmas Party day and Christmas Dinner
Thurs 17	Pantomime day for Year 5, Year 4 and Year 3
Thurs 18	Whole School Zoom
Fri 19	Christmas Carol Service
Fri 19	School Closes at usual closing times at the end of the day.
Mon 4 January 2021	School, reopens for the Spring Term

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
Spring Half Term 2021
Easter 2021
May Day 2021
Summer Half Term 2021
Summer 2021

Friday 18th December
Friday 12th February
Thursday 1st April
Monday 3rd May
Friday 28th May
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
Christmas 2021/22
Spring Half Term 2022
Easter 2022
May Day 2022
Summer Half Term 2022
Summer 2022

Friday 22nd October
Friday 17th December
Friday 18th February
Friday 1st April
Monday 2nd May
Friday 27th May
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 7th December 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
Harry Ramsden's Fish Fillet & Sauté Pots	Tandoori Chicken Fillet with Rice	Beef Spaghetti Bolognese	Roast Gammon Dinner	Butchers Pork Sausage All Day Breakfast
Cheesy Pasta Bake (V)	Vegetarian Sausage Roll with Creamed Potatoes (V)	Falafel Wrap (optional) with Mango Chutney (V)	Quorn Fillet Dinner (V)	Quorn Sausage All Day Breakfast
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"/>	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"/>	Tuna Melt Sub with Veg Sticks
Sandwiches filled with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> Ham <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"/>	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"/>
Baked Beans	Carrots	Sweetcorn	Mixed Vegetables	Sandwich filled with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> Ham <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>
Chocolate Crunch	Kracholette	Ginger Biscuits	Vanilla Muffin	Baked Beans
Organic Yogurt	Fruit	Fruit	Fruit	Dinky Doughnut
Fruit				Organic Yogurt
				Fruit