

Low Port Primary School: Where you are given opportunities and leave with happy memories.

Newsletter February 2018

Staffing Update

Mrs Cleland, our Support for Learning teacher has now started her new post. We wish her well.

As previously communicated, Mrs Henderson has accepted the post of Support for Learning Teacher. Mrs Henderson has a wealth of experience in this area with previous Support for Learning roles during her career. She knows our children and families very well and is very excited about this new role. We are currently advertising for a class teacher to fill her role. Please be assured that Mrs Henderson will fulfil her commitment to P5 as class teacher before taking up her new post. There is provision in place for children who require additional support for their learning during the interim period. I will keep you posted as we continue the recruitment process. Thank you for your continued support.

I'm really pleased to share with you that Mrs Sharp, currently working in the office as clerical assistant, has accepted a secondment for the role of Administrative Assistant at another cluster school. This is quite a different post and she is really excited about the secondment opportunities this can offer her. This news is hot off the press and I will keep you up to date as details are finalised for her new role and for us moving forward with the recruitment process.

We would like to welcome Mrs Yunzhao Fan to the school. Mrs Fan is a Hanban Teacher joining us, on a Tuesday and Wednesday over this coming term. She will be working with all the teachers and children across the school. Hanban teachers are a team of highly skilled teachers on secondment from their regular teaching positions in schools across China. I would like to thank Mrs Henderson for coordinating this opportunity for our classes.

In Service Day School Improvement Update.

We continue to look at Technologies in more depth. Both infant and upper stages have been working towards profiling with the children. P1-3 will be using a new part of the Online Learning Journal to capture children's views about their learning. P4-7 have now set up e-portfolios for profiling within Glow. By the February weekend, all pupils within P4-7 will be logging into these and beginning to personalise and populate their own profile -you may have already seen this! I have worked with Parent Council to produce an information leaflet on Reporting and Profiling that has now been issued to explain both processes and what we are doing at Low Port.

We also have been continuing our cluster work with our partners in the Educational Psychology Team around professional enquiry. There are many exciting research projects going on in classes across the school and cluster.

Celebrating our Learning Event

I would like to thank you for your support, feedback and kind comments at our Literacy Across Learning event. It was wonderful that so many of you could come along and visit classrooms to see how literacy features in a range of learning contexts. We had all kinds of activities including:- active literacy and play; paired reading; literacy circles; literacy with health and wellbeing; profiling; active spelling; Spanish; Mandarin. Pupils demonstrated their reading, writing, listening and talking skills supported by a range of technologies too. As modern languages comes under literacy, it was wonderful that two classes shared their learning in this area too. We are collating the feedback and take on board comments and ideas for future sessions.

School Show

Our school show is now well underway for P5 and P6! Show dates are 27th and 28th February, both evening performances from 6.30pm. Further information regarding tickets will follow.

Anytime, Anywhere Learning (AAL) Update

Staff, pupils (through pupil council) and parents (through Parent Council) views have been gathered relating to AAL, focusing on the opportunities and challenges this may offer learners. Following this, we will draft guidance and agreements to be shared with pupils and parents. We have a range of tablets, netbooks and laptops in all classes which will enable all children to access AAL without bringing in devices from home.

Website Update

Our website will shortly be going live. We are in the process of populating some of the last few areas before this launches. We will keep you posted on the progress of this and how to access the new site in due course.

Photography Permissions

The office team are currently reviewing the agreements for photography permissions and would appreciate your support in completing these when they come home via bag mail.

Health Reminder

- May we please remind all parents and carers that pupils should be kept at home until 48 hours from the last bout of sickness and/or upset stomach. There are NHS guidelines that all schools are asked to adhere to.
- For the safety of your children, please do not park or walk through the top staff car park for drop off or pickups as this is a very busy area with staff, buses and taxis.
- If you wish to have a word with your child's class teacher, please contact the office in the first instance. In the morning, teachers are often dealing with the children coming into school and cannot spend quality time with parents sharing concerns or updates. We also must be able to account for all adults in the

building for both fire and security reasons. May we please ask that you report to the office and do not go into class directly. Thank you for your understanding.

Parent Body News

The PTA are looking for male helpers for Sparkle Night - Dads who can come along and give a hand at the bar/raffle table etc. Previous Dad helpers have said how much fun they've had. It's on the 23rd February. Should you be able to help then please contact pta@lppspeople.org.uk.

In Parent Council, for the school travel plan we are meeting with the P7 JRSOs hoping they will lead us in this piece of work and look for ways to involve more pupils from the school. This will tie in with our carpark safety work and school cycle friendly award.

Secondly, we received a document about the "cost of the school day" and want to use it as a starter to find out what is already in place at Low Port to contain these costs, if and where parents are struggling with costs, and how we can offer support. If you have any thoughts or suggestions for these items please speak to us at the gates or email at pc-chair@lowport.org.uk we would love to hear from you.

Dates for next meetings are as follows:-

Parent Council Tuesday 10 April 7pm

PTA Wednesday 11 April 7pm

Diary Dates

Thursday 1 February	P6 Parliament visit in school
Wednesday 7 February	P7 Academy Tour
Friday 9 February	VLG 6 Minister assembly
Monday and Tuesday 12 and 13 February	HOLIDAY
Friday 16 February	P4 assembly with parents
Friday 23 February	PTA Sparkle Night
Tuesday and Wednesday 27 and 28 February	School show P5 and P6
Thursday 1 March	World Book Day event
Friday 2 March	VLG 7
Wednesday 7 March	P6 and P7 Bridges visit
Wednesday 14 - Friday 16 March	P6 camp
Thursday 15 March	P4 racket sports cluster event
Tuesday and Wednesday 20 and 21 March	Parents' Night
Wednesday 21 March	Easter Service
	P6 shared finish

Thursday 22 March	
Friday 23 March	VLG 8 P7 assembly end of term and return on Monday 9 April