



Lowerplace Newsletter

Friday 15th May

No.12

A message from the Ms Martin, Headteacher

Dear Families,

I'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our families for your patience and understanding yesterday when due to circumstances beyond our control we had to close the school to Year 1 and 2 pupils. The closure was due to a power cut in the OL16 area. Engineers discovered a fuse had blown in the Clarendon Street substation which caused damage to the underground cable. This resulted in our Charter Street building having no electricity and therefore we could not lift the shutters to enter the building. In addition, we had no internet or phone system across the school. Staff and children coped brilliantly, and it really demonstrated the fantastic team that we have at Lowerplace. It is great to see everyone back in school today and the power, internet and phones restored.

• Staff news

This week Mrs Veznaver has started her maternity leave. This was slightly earlier than expected and a separate letter has been sent to her class providing details of who will replace her for the remainder of the year. I'm sure you will join me in wishing her and her family well as they look forward to the safe arrival of their baby.

Next week, we will be reluctantly saying goodbye to Mr Hague, our Sports Coach. His company are transferring him to another school that they work with. He will be replaced by Mr Magnus until the end of the term. Mr Hague has been a valued member of our team and we will miss him a lot. We wish him lots of success in his new role.

• Attendance

It is great that we are keeping our annual attendance figure in line with national averages. However, **when we break down our absences, our unauthorised absences are 1.2% higher than national.** This tells us that children are being kept off school for reasons other than being ill e.g. extended holidays, late after the register has closed, medical appointments with evidence.

Please try to avoid making appointments in the school day and keeping your child off for minor sniffles.

With best wishes,

Ms K Martin

Headteacher



Lowerplace Attendance :	94.5%
National Attendance:	94.7%
Authorised absence:	3.2%
National authorised absence:	3.8%
Unauthorised absence:	3.5%
National unauthorised absence:	2.3%

Year 6 SATs

Completely
Totally
Proud of
you



Well Done
Year 6!
SATS are over!

This week our Year 6 pupils completed their SATs. These are national tests assess children in spelling, grammar, reading, arithmetic and mathematical reasoning, and over the course of the week the children completed seven timed tests.

We are incredibly proud of how the children approached this important milestone. Each day, they arrived at school with a smile, ready to try their very best. They demonstrated real resilience, determination and a fantastic “never give up” attitude.

Their commitment to learning throughout the year has been evident and they should all feel extremely proud of what they have achieved. They truly deserve a huge well done from us all.

We hope they all enjoy a well-earned, relaxing weekend. We look forward to supporting them as they continue to embrace new learning challenges in their final term at primary school and prepare for their exciting move to high school.

Sports Day

It's with reluctance that we have made the decision to cancel Sports Day next week.

SPORTS DAY
IS SADLY
CANCELLED



Having carefully reviewed the weather forecast, which is predicting rain and cooler temperatures throughout the week, we feel that it would be best to postpone our Sports Days. Even if it does stay dry at times, we want to make sure that the experience is an enjoyable one for everyone, and spending an extended period outside (potentially up to two hours) in these conditions may not be the most comfortable for children, staff or parents.

While we are disappointed not to go ahead as planned, we are really looking forward to Sports Day later in the summer when we can (hopefully!) enjoy better weather together. We will be identifying a new date, along with back-up options, and will share these with you as soon as possible after the May half-term.

Thank you, as always, for your understanding and continued support — we are excited to bring everyone together soon for a lovely event in more favourable conditions.

Serious and ongoing concern involving parking in the streets surrounding our school

While we understand that the morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up can be a busy time, we continue to receive distressing reports from our neighbours regarding blocked driveways and, more concerningly, dismissive behaviour when residents have politely asked for cars to be moved.

Please remember:

- **Do not block driveways:** Even "just for a minute" prevents residents from leaving for work or emergencies.
- **Model our values:** Our children watch how we interact with others. Please ensure all conversations with our neighbours remain respectful and polite.
- **Safety first:** Illegal or obstructive parking creates dangerous "blind spots" for our pupils crossing the road.

As a school, we pride ourselves on being a positive part of this community. We will continue to work with local traffic enforcement to monitor the area and ensure the safety and rights of everyone in our neighbourhood.

Thank you in advance for your support in this matter.

Reception's Trip to Eureka

What a spectacular day Reception had at Eureka on Wednesday 29th April. They couldn't have asked for a better day at the National Children's Museum in Halifax. From the moment the children arrived at school they were very excited. It was truly wonderful to see them in Eureka taking charge of their own learning and following their curiosity through the various interactive galleries:

Sound Space: The children became conductors of their own orchestras, experimenting with light, shadow, and rhythm to discover the magic of music and sound.

Living and Working Together: They saw some fantastic teamwork in the mini-town, where our pupils stepped into character as shopkeepers, postal workers, and bank clerks.

All About Me: This gallery allowed the children to explore the wonders of the human body, from how we breathe to how our senses help us navigate the world. The giant teeth and oversized toothbrushes were, as always, a firm favourite!

The children also took part in **Minibeasts Workshop**. Closely linked to their current termly topic, *'What creatures live in our garden?'*, the session allowed the children to dive deeper into the fascinating world of "creepy crawlies."

The staff at Eureka were incredibly impressed by the children's existing knowledge. From identifying habitats to explaining life cycles, our pupils demonstrated just how much they have been learning in class. They were a huge credit to the school in how they behaved and conducted themselves throughout the entire day.

We'd would like to express a huge thank you to the Eureka! team, our dedicated staff and volunteers from Lowerplace, and our parents for making such a successful and memorable trip possible.

Dates for your diary

We hope you find the calendar of upcoming events helpful.

Please pin this to your fridge/add the events to your own calendar.

Summer Term

Dates	Event/Activity
Wed 22 nd & Thurs 23 rd April	Parents Evening
Wed 22 nd April	Y1 trip to the farm
Tues 28 th April	Y5 Inter-school Olympics Event
Wed 29 th April	Reception Eureka trip
Mon 4 th May	Public Holiday
Wed 6 th May	Y4 Production
Mon 11 th May – Fri 15 th May	Mental health Awareness Week
Mon 11 th May – Thurs 14 th May	Y6 SATs
Tues 19 th May	Sports day - CANCELLED
Mon 25th May – Fri 29th May Half Term	
Mon 1 st June - Fri 12 th June	Y4 Multiplication Check
Wed 3 rd June	New Reception Welcome Meeting 3.30pm & 5pm
Fri 5 th June	Y6 Outdoor and Adventure Trip 7.30am – 7.30pm
Mon 8 th June – Fri 12 th June	Y1 Phonics Screening Check
Thurs 11 th June	Ra Assembly
Mon 15 th June – Fri 19 th June	Y2 SATs
Thurs 18 th June	New Reception Stay and Play
Wed 24 th June	Parent Wellbeing Day
Thurs 25 th June	New Reception Stay and Play
Fri 3 rd July	INSET
Tues 7 th July	Y6 SATs Results Day
Tues 7 th July	Move Up Day
Wed 8 th July	Rb assembly
Fri 10 th July	Annual reports sent home
Tues 14 th July	2C Recorder performance
Wed 15 th July	Y6 Production
Tues 21 st July	Y6 Leavers Assembly

Summer Holidays: Wed 22 July to Wed 2 September 2026
School reopens on Thursday 3 September 2026