

3rd July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Summer 2 Week 5

Sports Day

As we move into the final weeks of the school year, it has been another lovely week, and one that began on a real high with our Sports Day on Monday. It was a brilliant day from start to finish: pupil participation and support were outstanding, and the event was superbly organised by all of the staff involved. We were also very grateful that temperatures were much cooler than the week before and that, happily, it stayed dry throughout. Thank you to everyone who helped to make the day such a success, and to our pupils for the wonderful spirit in which they took part.

Prom 2026

On Friday 19th June, we celebrated our Class of 2026 at this year's school prom, and what a fantastic evening it was! Our pupils arrived in style and looked absolutely incredible. It was wonderful to spend the evening reflecting on the memories, friendships, and achievements that have made the last five years so special.

From some of Lowton's favourite prom dances to exciting new activities, there was plenty of laughter, dancing, and celebration throughout the night. We are incredibly proud of everything this year group has accomplished and it was a fitting way to mark the end of their Lowton journey.

A huge thank you to Mahoney Pics for capturing the evening so brilliantly. Photos are now available to view, download, and purchase here: <https://mahoneypics.pic-time.com/YwLtoepjuV3Ka>

We now look forward to celebrating with Year 11 once again in August when they receive their results. Until then, enjoy a well-earned break – you've earned it!

Mobile telephones

You may be aware that new legislation has recently come into force requiring schools in England to have regard to the government's guidance that schools should be mobile phone-free environments by default. We would therefore like to remind you of our current expectation: if a pupil brings a mobile phone to school, it must be switched off and kept in their bag throughout the school day. Looking ahead to September, we will be introducing Yondr pouches, which will enable us to become a fully phone-free school. We will share further details about how these will work nearer the time, and we are grateful for your support with this important change.

 **CARING, LEARNING
AND SUCCEEDING**

Uniform changes for September

A brief reminder that there will be some changes to our school uniform from September. Please take a moment to check the details on our school website (www.lowtonhs.wigan.sch.uk) before the summer break, particularly if you are planning to buy uniform over the holidays.

Parent Survey – Summer 2026

Each year, we ask for your feedback through our Parent Survey, and your views genuinely help to shape how we continue to improve our school. We would be very grateful if you could take a few minutes to [complete our Parent Survey \(Summer 2026\)](#). The deadline for responses is Friday 10th July. Thank you in advance for taking the time to share your views.

Parental workshop – Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA)

We are pleased to invite you to our final parental workshop of the year, delivered in conjunction with the Neurodiversity in Schools Project. The session will take place on **Monday 6th July** from **1.30pm to 3.00pm**. Led in collaboration with the Wigan Parent Carer Forum, the workshop will provide helpful guidance and advice around Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA), including ways to better understand and support your child. No booking is required, and all parents and carers are welcome to attend. We look forward to seeing you there.

Lowton Loves Reading – Summer newsletter

With the summer holidays now in sight, we are delighted to share the Summer edition of our reading newsletter, Lowton Loves Reading, which is attached. It is full of ideas for keeping reading alive over the holidays, along with recommendations, useful websites, and news from our Reading Room, including a recent author visit. Reading for pleasure makes a real difference to pupils' wellbeing, confidence, and progress, and research shows that even twenty minutes a day over the summer helps pupils return to school ahead in September. We would encourage every family to find a little time for reading over the break, whatever the format and whatever your child enjoys.

Kellogg's Football Camps

We have been contacted by Kellogg's Football Camps who have partnered with EFL, Manchester City, Celtic & Rangers League clubs to give secondary school children free, active and confidence boosting days on the pitch. If you would like to book a free place on one of their football camp, click this link: <http://www.kelloggsfc.com/>

When asked for a barcode, enter the code SCHOOL and book a FREE day of football fun.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of our school.

Yours faithfully,

Jane Galbraith
Headteacher



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READING

SUMMER TERM May-Jul 2026

SUMMER

newsletter



Welcome to our Summer edition of 'Lowton Loves Reading'

As we approach the end of another busy and rewarding school year, we wanted to take a moment to talk about the importance of reading and how important it is for well-being and for building confidence. A child who reads widely is a child who encounters new ideas, new worlds, and new ways of thinking. That curiosity and adaptability is something that will serve them well long after they leave our school.

A Summer Full of Possibility!

The summer holidays are a wonderful opportunity; Six full weeks with fewer pressures and more space to explore. We would love for reading to be part of that.

It doesn't have to mean working through a reading list or tackling something challenging. The best book for your child is simply one they want to pick up. A gripping adventure, a funny graphic novel, a fascinating non-fiction title about something they love.

It all counts, and it all makes a difference.

Research has shown that pupils who read over the holidays return to school ahead of those who don't. Even 20 minutes a day over the summer can have a measurable impact on progress when pupils return in September.

Encourage your child to pick up a book today!



WEBSITES & resources

A book is a dream
that you hold in
your hands.

- Neil Gaiman



Riveted by Simon Teen is an online community for anyone that loves young adult fiction! Here at Riveted by Simon Teen, you can read Young Adult books for FREE and discover your new favourite books and authors!

<https://simonteen.com/>



MAKE READING
RELEVANT

There are many ways of making reading relevant for your teens...here are some suggestions:

RECOGNISE MODERN WAYS OF READING

Teenagers read in so many different formats - e-books, short stories, blogs, graphic novels, even song lyrics. We need to value these as real reading - and allow teenagers the choice of whatever form they would like.

READING ROLE MODELS

Young people who see adults - parents, teachers, community leaders - reading and talking about books are more likely to read themselves. Conversations about reading, not just assignments, make it social and meaningful.

MAKE READING RELEVANT TO OTHER INTERESTS

Linking reading to film, music, gaming or sports is a great way to make it feel relevant to a teenage reader. If a novel connects to a favourite show or hobby, teens are more likely to dive in.

READING events!

AUTHOR VISIT TO LOWTON

As part of our drive to promote a positive reading culture, we recently had an author visit! Year 7 met with author Ashley Thorpe and listened to him speak about his career as a writer and what inspires him. Pupils rose to the occasion and represented the school wonderfully.



Manchester-based Ashley Thorpe, writes adventure fiction inspired by mythology and folktales from around the world, including the Yoruba deities known as the Orishas. His novels, among them *The Boy to Beat the Gods* and *Spirit Warriors*, draw on his love of manga and global storytelling to build vivid worlds and heroes.

During the visit, pupils explored how age-old stories have evolved over time and will be encouraged to create worlds and characters of their own, building on what has come before to make something new.



If you would like to purchase any of his titles, please use the link below:
<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Boy-Beat-Gods-Ashley-Thorpe/dp/1805075632>

AUTHOR profile

Malorie Blackman has written over seventy books for children and young adults, including *Noughts & Crosses*.

Noughts & Crosses by Malorie Blackman is a YA dystopian romance exploring a segregated society where "Crosses" rule over "Noughts". The story follows Sephy (a Cross) and Callum (a Nought) whose forbidden love faces terrorism, prejudice, and tragedy, ultimately leading to their separation and a tragic ending.

Pupils in Year 8 have been studying this



You can find out more about Malorie Blackman and her work here:
<https://malorieblackman.co.uk/>

Keira Jackson
Year 7

SPARX star!

with a HUGE Sparx score of **39,000**

SPARX winners

Pupils topping the leaderboards this month:

Top 3 in year 7

Keira Jackson (39,000)
Gishomika Sivakumar
Taiwo Cooper

Top 3 in year 8

Stephanie Leung (12,500)
April Hodges
Freddie Leech

These pupils will be getting a CD reader and a certificate at the end of year awards.

Please encourage your child to read at home using Sparx Reader



READING recommendations

See some of our new books in the Reading Room below:



Alice May Oseman is an English author and illustrator of young adult fiction. The third best-selling graphic novelist since records began, her works explore contemporary teenage life in the UK and have received praise for their realism, inclusion, and portrayal of mental health struggles.

The Breakfast Club Adventures is a popular children's mystery series by footballer Marcus Rashford and Alex Falase-Koya. The first book, The series focuses heavily on themes of teamwork, friendship, and problem-solving.



The Inheritance Games is a young adult novel series by author Jennifer Lynn Barnes. In The Inheritance Games, it is revealed that Avery Kylie Grambs has been chosen to inherit the fortune of deceased billionaire Tobias Hawthorne, whom she has never met or heard of. The series follows her efforts, along with those of the Hawthorne family, to uncover the truth of her inheritance.

Encourage your child to come and visit our Reading Room!

**There really is a book for everyone...
 Come and join us at lunchtimes to find yours!**