

Ladysmith Federation

Friday 8th January 2021

Welcome

Firstly, I would like to welcome you all back to a new school term at Ladysmith. As you may already know, I started my new job as Federation Executive Headteacher last Monday. This means that I will have a more strategic role working to bring both Federation schools even closer together. I will be in and around both schools on a daily basis, out on the playground when possible and still around for questions and a chat.



I am excited about the role and whilst it has been a challenging start, I am already extremely proud of all Federation staff who have worked amazingly hard this week to get everything in place at such short notice. I am also grateful to our whole school community, especially parents, who have shown understanding and supported our actions in this difficult time.

Please look after yourselves and I look forward to a time when both schools can open fully.

Regards, Mark Wilkinson

Leadership Structure

As mentioned above, I now have a role across both schools. With this in mind, we now have Dave Broad in the Infant school and Neil Williams in the Junior school as Heads of School who, supported by me, will focus on the daily running of each school. If you have any questions or concerns that you would have previously come to me with, please direct them to Dave and Neil in the first instance. They are in turn supported by deputy heads, with Fran Collinge and Karen Featherstone at the Infant school and Louise Williams at the Juniors. Please also feel free to contact them with questions or concerns.

Infant School

Dave Broad – dbroad@ladysmithfederation.net

Fran Collinge – fcollinge@ladysmithfederation.net

Karen Featherstone – kfeatherstone@ladysmithfederation.net

Junior School

Neil Williams – nwilliams@ladysmithfederation.net

Louise Williams – SEN@ladysmithfederation.net

Critical Workers and Vulnerable Pupil Places

As you will be aware, school is still open for children of critical workers or vulnerable children. We are trying to keep the number of children in school to a manageable level for a number of reasons. The first and foremost of these is the safety of our whole school community. The new variant of Covid 19 has been shown to be highly transmissible and by reducing the number of children in school, we hope to minimise any infection within our school community. With this in mind, please do not be offended if you receive a call from a member of school staff to check your critical worker status or to ask about your circumstances. They may also need to call your employment. It may be that we are not able to offer some children places and have to put them on a waiting list. I understand that this is frustrating but please work with us in these difficult times.

Remote Learning

Over the Federation, we have a range of tools to deliver remote learning to the children at home, depending upon their Key Stage. We feel that these platforms all offer something different that is appropriate and accessible for children in the different age ranges.

There is an expectation that children will complete remote learning and participate in live calls or activities where possible. We understand that this is not always easy with device sharing and other day to day issues when you are trying to manage several things at home at once. Please do not be offended if we call to see how things are or to see if you are having technical problems if we have not seen or heard from your child on remote learning.

If you have any questions or problems with the remote learning, please contact your child's teacher in the first instance if possible. If you need further help, please contact a member of the leadership team named above.

Wellbeing and Safeguarding

If you have concerns about your child's wellbeing, your own wellbeing, or any other concerns, please feel free to contact us at school. For support about wellbeing activities at home, please follow the link below to our website:

[Ladysmith Federation Wellbeing Pages](#)

Ladysmith Community

Before Christmas, class 2T wrote cards to the Jack Simpson Care Home .

Year 6 put together a Christmas video which contained singing, acting, poetry and animation which was also sent to local care homes.



@ladysmithfed

COVID-19 WEEKLY UPDATE



National Lockdown

[Please follow this link to see a summary of what you can and cannot do during the national lockdown.](#)

Testing

When to get a test

If you have symptoms, get a test as soon as possible.

Book a visit to a test site to have the test today. Test sites are open 7 days a week. Order a home test kit if you cannot get to a test site.

England and Northern Ireland

You need to get the test done in the first 8 days of having symptoms.

On days 1 to 7, you can get tested at a site or at home. If you're ordering a home test kit on day 7, do it by 3pm.

On day 8, you need to go to a test site - it's too late to order a home test kit

[Follow this link to the NHS testing information page](#)



**We must
keep on protecting
each other.**



HANDS



FACE



SPACE



STAY ALERT · CONTROL THE VIRUS · SAVE LIVES

Ladysmith Federation

Infant School: 01392 271596

Junior School: 01392 255554

www.ladysmithfederation.net



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