

# Ladysmith Federation

## Junior School News

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020

### *Federation News*

#### A message from our governors

Ladysmith Federation Governing Body would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our pupils, parents and families for all they have done during this unprecedented and challenging time. We also wish to express our enormous thanks to Emma Brown, Mark Wilkinson and all of the staff at both schools for the way they have handled this time. We are a strong school community, and for that we are very grateful.

The role of the Governing Body is to act as a 'critical friend' to the two schools. We are made up of parents, staff and community representatives, and we take collective responsibility for decisions made across the Federation. As we move gradually into this next phase after half term, we want to be clear that we are fully supportive of the actions being taken by Emma and Mark in their respective schools.

The most important duty of any school is to keep its children safe, and here at Ladysmith we take that duty extremely seriously. We also have a great responsibility to the physical and mental wellbeing of our staff. The actions being taken both reflect these concerns and reflect the different challenges faced by each school with regards to pupil age, staffing and building limitations.

While the changes may prove unexpected or inconvenient to some, we ask that you understand that these decisions have been taken in good faith, and with the best interests of all pupils and staff at heart. We also remind parents in the selected year groups that it is your choice as to whether or not your child attends school, and we ask that you respect each other's choices and individual circumstances as well.

Thank you for your continued hard work and support.

Ladysmith Federation Governing Body

(Details of Governing Body membership can be found on the Federation website)

#### This week's 'virtual Home Learning Stars of the Week' are...

**3NW**—Farrah for having a positive attitude towards everything she has done at home in a variety of ways/areas. She should be proud of her accomplishments!

**3CH**—Genevieve is 3CH's star of the week for being extremely creative at home and making/directing/acting in her own fantastic film.

**3CP**—Eilidh for creating an amazing ocean cleaning device that made plastic bricks for another use. And for talking so confidently and knowledgeably in front of the camera!!

**4AN**—Abi—Mrs Brown was really impressed with how much you (and Mum!) have been enjoying English and topic. Abi has also been reading the Harry Potter books; she found out that the Goblet of Fire had 32 points on AR!

**4RC**—Alice.....fabulous ongoing story. Each week, she incorporates the new writing theme into the story as extra chapters. Great effort to improve punctuation, too.

**4GM**—Gurhans - for sustained effort during the last half term with all of his maths, writing and creative work.

**5MS**—Oscar. Fabulous Manga art work and making his own sushi.



**OF THE  
WEEK**

## This week's 'virtual Home Learning Stars of the Week' continued

**SSW**—Amelia for her beautifully detailed & textured vase of Cherry blossom she created with tissue paper & paint. Inspired by this week's topic of Japan you can imagine this vase would smell wonderful.

**SLD**—Ollie for an amazing effort in his writing tasks. He created a wonderfully detailed setting description as well as a really informative fact file about Japanese animals. He has been working really hard on his punctuation and it has really paid off!

**GMC**—Faith for GMC for her 'Picker-Upper' cracking contraption she made!

**GJE**—Samit for self motivation and effort in producing an extended, well resourced and informative piece of writing on the Rain forest and its animals.

**GIE**—Mark for being ambitious and showing great perseverance in making a brilliant stop motion animation entitled Apple Wars Episode 1



We would like to say a huge **CONGRATULATIONS** to Ellie-May who has raised a staggering £1086 for Bramble Ward by completing a marathon distance of 26.2 miles during May! You can still donate by clicking here—<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Ellie-may>

### Anxiety

Please take some time to read the information attached to this email. There are some useful tips and activities around managing children's anxiety in general and specifically about returning to school.

#### **How can we tell if our children are anxious?**

*There are many different ways that anxiety can display itself - listed below are a few of the symptoms of anxiety of children and young people:*

*Difficulty concentrating and finding it hard to focus, not sleeping or waking up during the night – bad dreams, loss of appetite – not eating properly, tummy aches or complaining of not feeling well. Talking too much and asking lots of questions, or becoming sullen and quiet, being clingy to adults or crying, becoming more fidgety than normal, going to the toilet a lot.*

Please read the attached information to find out how you can support your child with their feelings of anxiety.

We have also sent out information about Devon Virtual Games—a physical challenge and a 'back to school travel' guide from Sustrans.

### **Dear Wild Learners...**

CHALLENGE: This week the theme is all about Reptiles.

To help, you can look on our webpage ([link here](#)) to find out more about reptiles.

- \* 4 – 7 year olds – Using any materials create some reptile art or craft
- \* 8 – 12 year olds – Create some reptile art and explain what a reptile is OR Create a poster on how to help reptiles.

Each week the chosen winning pupil(s) will receive an FSC identification guide related to that topic! There will be one prize for each of the two age categories. To participate all you have to do is take a picture of your work, with the student's first name, age and school and send it to Emily from the education team on [ebacon@devonwildlifetrust.org](mailto:ebacon@devonwildlifetrust.org) by the deadline of Sunday 31st May (extended for over half term) we will be in touch with the winner afterwards.

Best Wishes, Paul and Emily From Devon Wildlife Trust



**Devon**  
Wildlife Trust

## **General Information**

**[Please click here](#) to access a previous newsletter with details of the following topics:**

- Keeping in touch
- Remote learning links
- SEND and Family Support
- I am struggling financially. How can I register for Free Schools Meals?
- Advice from the Department of Education: Keeping children safe online
- Information for children from Public Health
- Handwashing advice



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