

# Ladysmith Federation

## Infant and Nursery Newsletter



Friday 17th July 2020



### Ambition

#### Bug Club and Doodle Maths

Our online learning tools in EYFS and KS1 have proved to be really effective whilst the majority of children have been learning from home. Don't forget over the Summer holidays Bug Club and Doodle maths are both brilliant for daily Reading and Maths. Don't forget to go to the Active Learning Website to login.



### Adventure

#### NMA

These new Virtual Tours will



allow you to experience the amazing exhibits of the National Marine Aquarium without leaving home, and learn all about the incredible habitats and animals living in the Ocean around us.

All tours will have a limited number of participants so everyone will be able to ask questions and take part in an interactive experience. To book, your virtual tour follow the link

<https://nationalaquarium.digitickets.co.uk/category/28419?navItem=162914>

### Achievement

#### LCAT –Toddler Group

Ladysmith would like to say a huge thank you to Charlie Nixon, who has been running the fabulous Toddler groups and other community ventures on the behalf of LCAT (Ladysmith Community Action Team). Charlie's work with children and parents has enabled a generation of children to build relationships and skills before starting nursery, and with other members of the wider community. We wish Charlie all the very best in the future and hope to be able to continue working with her in some capacity.



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to everyone who has sent in cards and gifts this week. There have been some lovely goodbye messages. We are especially sad to be saying goodbye to Year 2. You should have received lots of information about what September will look like for the children. We are hoping to have a short Newsletter throughout the holidays to keep you up to date with fun activities and help prepare your child for a return to school. Have a wonderful Summer!



Ladysmith Infant and Nursery School 01392 271596  
[www.ladysmithfederation.net](http://www.ladysmithfederation.net)



# Summer Learning

## Tiny Happy People 0-5 Year Olds

Activities for babies, toddlers and children. BBC Tiny Happy People is here to help you develop your child's communication skills. Explore simple activities and play ideas to find out about your child's amazing early development. From baby talk and obstacle courses to recipes and activities. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people>

<b>Schedule for the week</b> <i>Morning, Afternoon, Evening</i>				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Ready, steady go! 	What's in the bag? 	Exploring nature 	Laundry time 	Make your own rainbow 
Shopping game 	Posting box 	Traffic light game 	Building scrap people 	Homemade skittles 
Making flash cards 	Tap, tap box 	Peek-a-boo! 	Sing a lullaby 	Sleepy time games 

## Literacy Support

It is really important to keep sharing and reading books together with your family.

Why not join in the Summer Reading Challenge this year? KS1 will be posting information about it on Seesaw

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

If you are planning on continuing with any phonic revision over the holidays you will find lots of useful resources on our school website. Remember that we follow Letters and Sounds <http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/>

The Literacy Zone is also a highly recommended website for resources <https://literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone/>

## Maths Support

Over the Summer you can enjoy lots of practical, everyday maths together at home. Children love counting money from a piggy bank or playing shop. A family game of cards or any board games help to develop their understanding of number and place value. Top Trumps are brilliant for comparing the value of numbers. When you're cooking together at home there are lots of opportunities for weighing and reading scales.

If you're running out of ideas why not visit our website or use this Babcock resource that has new activities each week. <https://www.babcockldp.co.uk/improving-schools-settings/mathematics/>

# Information and Advice for Parents

## Staying in Touch

Our teachers will be taking a well deserved break this Summer but don't forget to use our website for the most up to date information. [http://www.ladysmithfederation.net/web/recent\\_school\\_letters/281945](http://www.ladysmithfederation.net/web/recent_school_letters/281945) . If you need any ideas for home learning over the holidays please use our Remote Learning section where there is further information on learning support.

For admin and other enquiries: [infant.admin@ladysmithfederation.net](mailto:infant.admin@ladysmithfederation.net)

## Virtual Summer Camp



**MATT'S KIDS PRESENTS**

**SUPERHERO SUMMER CAMP**

JOIN US FOR A FUN FILLED VIRTUAL SUPERHERO SUMMER CAMP.

**WHEN - 1ST-2ND AUGUST**  
**WHERE - ONLINE**  
**TIME - 9:00-10:30AM**

**SATURDAY 1ST AFTERNOON**  
PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT  
**SUNDAY 2ND AFTERNOON**  
ZOOM FAMILY QUIZ

**st matts**

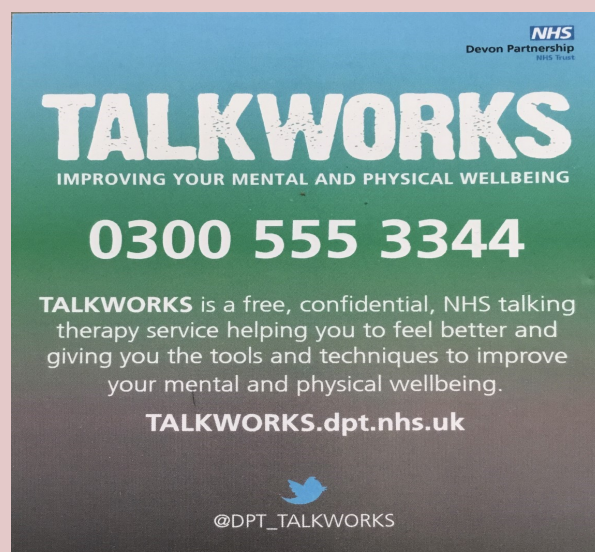
## Food Bank

St Mathews Church in Newtown is delivering weekly parcels for those in need of food and toiletries. This is available to people living in the Exeter area.

<https://www.stmattsexeter.org/lyn>



## Staying Healthy and Happy



**NHS**  
Devon Partnership  
NHS Trust

**TALKWORKS**  
IMPROVING YOUR MENTAL AND PHYSICAL WELLBEING

**0300 555 3344**

**TALKWORKS** is a free, confidential, NHS talking therapy service helping you to feel better and giving you the tools and techniques to improve your mental and physical wellbeing.

**TALKWORKS.dpt.nhs.uk**

**@DPT\_TALKWORKS**



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## Feedback from Parents

We have been overwhelmed with positive responses from parents and carers during lockdown. We feel very proud of what our teachers, children and families have been able to achieve working together during this difficult time. Tapestry and Seesaw have proved that we have been able to keep in contact with our families online even when the school was closed (with the exception of our key worker group.) I'm sure you will agree that our teachers have been truly amazing!

We would be very grateful if you could spare a few minutes to log your comments on Parent View.

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>



## Childcare and Summer Provision

FISH are running a Summer holiday Club on the Ladysmith Infant and Nursery Site from 20th July onwards. Due to the covid restrictions they will have reduced capacity this Summer and will not be going on Friday trips. The club may run slightly differently as they make adaptations to ensure the children, parents and staff are kept safe and well. They will, however, be ensuring all children have lots of fun in a safe and happy environment.

If you want your child to attend the Holiday Club this Summer please book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment: <https://www.funinschoolholidays.co.uk/bookings/>



## Take Five

Our SENDCo and Family Support Worker have put together 5 ideas each week for you and your family.

1. Make a plan for the day (using simple pictures) so the children know what is happening
2. Go for a socially distanced walk, or bike ride by the river
3. Make some treats to share at a indoor/outdoor picnic
4. Cut up old magazines/catalogues and junk mail and use them to make a collage
5. Create your own super-hero; give them a name, design a costume, and think about what their superpowers might be.

## **Governors' Annual Report 2020**

The 2019/20 academic year got off to a very successful start for both of the schools within the Ladysmith Federation. Both schools made excellent progress on developing their existing wider curriculum, without compromising core subjects, in line with the change of emphasis of OFSTED to quality of education rather than a reliance purely on SATS results. Both schools, prior to Covid-19, continued to invite parents in to school, the infant school with its Partnership for Parents and the Junior school with parent curriculum workshops.

The Federation provides many enrichment activities which could not have happened without the support of Children, Parents and Teachers Together (CPTT) whose involvement and fundraising activities make a huge difference to both schools. Many thanks to everyone involved and keep up the good work.

2019-2020 has been a year where the whole school community has been incredible in support of each other. This has benefited the children in what is an unpredictable time and unprecedented time.

Both schools have benefited from their involvement with the River Exe Learning Partnership (RELP). This is a group of similar schools within the local area that have a similar ethos, who work together to share good practice and to ensure continuing improvement in the education that they provide. RELP has been of particular value during the current pandemic giving staff opportunities to share concerns.

### **Ladysmith Infant & Nursery School**

At the start of the year the Infant and Nursery school continued its journey to increase opportunities for children to become independent in their learning. From Nursery to Year Two, children's interests have increasingly been the driver for the learning that happens across the school. Teachers and staff are excited about the next steps as they continually extend the provision offered. Children have had greater access to the Forest School areas through the OPAL programme; play is rich and exciting and fitness levels have improved. The school site has been developed, with refurbished outside areas for Reception and Year One and baby trees forming a screen around the perimeter of the school.

Since lock down we have seen how brilliantly parents and staff have supported the children to continue learning, using Seesaw for the first time and developing Tapestry further. Support offered by the Family Support Worker has given families access to hampers from St Marks church and other agencies.

For the last four months we have missed having the whole school on site, but have been able to offer places to all key workers, all vulnerable pupils, all reception and nursery children. We have a "Recovery" curriculum under development ready for September, which has a focus on mental health and well-being, relationships and PSHE. We look forward to seeing everyone back in September, including 130 new children in Nursery and Reception.

### **Ladysmith Junior School**

The ongoing development of the curriculum at the Junior School has been a positive feature this year and we are very much looking forward to building on this in September.

A substantial grant has been obtained to develop the reading bus on which work has already begun. There has been a continuation of the Grow Project and further development of the school grounds in order to provide an enriched environment for children to play and learn in. Many thanks to everyone involved.

Prior to lock down we have continued to offer a wide range of enrichment experiences across the school and luckily the Year 6 Beam House trip was able to take place.

Towards the end of term, we have been able to offer all the children the opportunity to say goodbye to their class and teacher in person. We have also been pleased that we have been able to offer a range of transition activities and that Year 6 have managed to complete a number of end of year celebration activities, such as the year book, leavers' hoodies and a celebration video.

Both schools operate on a fully inclusive equal opportunity basis and this is built into the policies and procedures that governors expect the schools to operate by. It is our responsibility to ensure that every child, irrespective of their needs, has the same opportunity to attain their full potential. Governors are fully updated on how identified needs are met. The schools also provide support and advice to parents.

Governors are volunteers who are working to support the schools and to ensure that they maintain the quality of provision that is expected for the children they educate. The governing body currently does not reflect the diversity of the school population so if you, or anyone you may know, are interested in becoming a governor and helping to support your schools please do get in touch to discuss this. Contact the governors' clerk [clerk@ladysmithfederation.net](mailto:clerk@ladysmithfederation.net).

In summary, 2019/20 has been a challenging year for both schools and the governors are extremely grateful to all of the staff for the hard work that they have put in to make this year successful. This task has not been getting any easier over the last few years because of budgetary pressures that have been put on Local Authorities and schools. Staff keep stepping up to ensure that all of the children get the opportunities that they require. However, it may be that in the coming year some major fund-raising may need to be undertaken to address some of the funding issues around building upkeep.

The Governors wish the children good luck when they move to their new classes or schools in September. Have a great summer holiday.