



Friday 12th December 2014

Federation News

On Thursday both headteachers worked with senior staff from each school to review the work in children's books. This is one of the key strategies that we use to monitor the progress the children are making, and it was really useful to look at this across all year groups.

It was good to see that most of the children are working really hard, and that they are reaching at least the standards expected for their age.

It was also really good to hear teachers from both schools sharing ideas with each other and talking about ways in which we can help the children with their learning.

Year 3 Carols

On Tuesday afternoon you are invited to join Year 3 in singing some Christmas Carols. We will either be in the playground or the hall (depending on the weather), starting at 3.00pm. There will be cups of tea and mince pies in the hall afterwards, and we would love you to join us.



"HERE WE COME A-CAROLING!"

School Council Willow project

The School Council have been discussing some improvements to the school field. They would like there to be more shaded areas, and have been working with their classes to design some willow structures to plant in the spring term. Each class has been consulted by their representative, and the Council will be choosing the winning design this afternoon.

The PTFA have kindly funded this, and we are looking forward to seeing the design start to take shape.

Assessments

Pupil Tracker will be switched back on by the end of the school day on Thursday. You will be able to log on and see updated assessments for your child.

You will see a much longer list of statements outlining things your child has learnt this term than you did last term. This is because we have been able to add in things they have covered in previous years – there won't be such a long list in the future!

Ladysmith Junior School 01392 255554

www.ladysmithjunior.devon.sch.uk

School Improvement Visit

Last Friday we were visited by two members of Devon's School Improvement Team. They spent the whole day with us, watching every teacher teaching, discussing various aspects of the school with different leaders and governors, and analysing our paperwork. At the end of the day they said that:

*Progress the school is making towards being judged good by the target date is **good**. This is because:*

- *Achievement is good overall*
- *The quality of teaching is good and supported by evidence in pupils' work this term.*
- *The quality of leadership and management is good.*
- *The progress made since the last inspection is good.*

They also gave us some things to keep working on, particularly continuing to raise standards in maths and making sure that disadvantaged children do as well as possible.

We are very pleased with the report, and will keep working hard to make sure the school is as good as it can be.

Happy Christmas

As we break up next Thursday this is the last newsletter for this term. I hope you all have a great Christmas, and look forward to seeing you back to school on **Monday 5th January.**



Twitter

As you may have noticed we have a Federation Twitter account (@ladysmithfed). We have been adding information about things going on in the schools.

We have been looking at other schools' accounts, and they often have pictures of children with their work. We would like to do the same, as it is a lovely way to share the good things going on in the schools. We have the permission of many parents to use their child's photos on the internet, but if you would prefer us to not put your child's photo on Twitter please let us know.

We are always really careful not to add names with photos so that individual children cannot be identified, and if you have asked us not to use your child's photo we will not do so.

Website

Mr Wilkinson has been busy adding things to the school website, including some updated policies and news about school events.

He has also added news about two of our children who have been very successful in national BMX competitions, which is very exciting. If your child does something out of school that you are proud of please let us know so that we can share this with everyone.

Follow us on Twitter @ladysmithfed

