



Friday 9th January 2015

Welcome back

I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable holiday. It's great to see the children back looking so happy and enthusiastic!

As always it is really important that the children get the most out of their time in school this term. You can help them with this by making sure they get here at the right time and ready to learn.

The school doors open at 8.45am and registration starts at 8.55am. If they arrive after 8.55am they are late for school, and they will have a rushed and unsatisfactory start to the school day.

This Wednesday 14 children were late for school – can we see if we can get this down to 0 from next week onwards.

Federation news

At our Federation Leadership team meeting this week we looked at school reports. We have decided to coordinate these across both schools, and have been looking at changing the format to make them clearer and easier to understand.

As part of the changes the **reports from both schools will be sent home on Friday 13th March.**

This will allow us to let you know how your child is doing in school, and to set them some targets to work on during the summer term.

Family Assemblies

Over the next two terms we will be reintroducing Family Assemblies. Each class will have the opportunity to present some of the work they have been doing to you, and to get up on stage to perform in front of you and the rest of the school.

The assemblies will take place in the school hall on Friday mornings at 9.05am, lasting about 20 minutes. ***You are very welcome to come in and watch your child and their class.***

The assemblies are scheduled for the following dates – make sure you make a note in your diary:

3AN 13th February

4DB 6th March

5AS 13th March

Year 6 17th April (Beam House presentation)

4HG 24th April

5KH 1st May

5IE 22nd May

3JE 5th June

3GM 12th June

6KR 19th June

6MC 26th June

6KM 3rd July

4JT 10th July

Look out for the date of the Year 6 Production, which will be happening as usual towards the end of the summer term.

Ladysmith Junior School 01392 255554

www.ladysmithjunior.devon.sch.uk

Assembly theme

Our assembly theme for this half term is 'Going for Goals'. This theme focuses primarily on the key aspect of motivation, and gives an important opportunity for all children's abilities, qualities and strengths to be valued.

The theme provides opportunities for children to reflect on themselves as individuals, particularly their strengths as learners and how they learn most effectively.

We will be looking at how to make wise and balanced choices about our goals, and how to go about setting and achieving them.



Learning Letters

At the end of last term we sent out our latest 'Learning Letters', outlining the work the children will be doing this half term. These are now on the school website if you missed them, or you can pick up a copy from the School Office.

As a brief reminder, here are our topics for this half term:

Year 3 'Magnets and magnetism'. This will include lots of pirate-based work with treasure maps and compass directions, art work and pirate music.

Year 4 'Batteries Included' – looking at the different uses of electricity in the world around us

Year 5 'Fire, Fever and Fashion' – learning about life in 17th Century London, including the Plague and the Great Fire

Year 6 'Ancient Civilizations' including China and the secrets of Stonehenge

Follow us on Twitter @ladysmithfed





Friday 9th January 2015

Playtime and lunchtime

Wherever possible we try to get the children outside into the playground at playtime and lunchtime. The children learn much more effectively, especially in the afternoons, if they have had a chance to let off steam and run around.

If it is raining heavily we keep them in, but the rest of the time we follow the Billy Connolly rule: *'there's no such thing as bad weather, only the wrong clothes'*.

Please make sure your child has a suitable coat at school so that if it is a bit drizzly they don't get too wet when they're playing outside.

Can I also remind you that we ask the children to stick to fruit as a breaktime snack as part of our Healthy Schools programme.



Exeter Foodbank

We are a registered provider for Foodbank vouchers. If you would like to find out more about the scheme you can discuss this with our Family Support worker, Lindsey Blackwell. She can be contacted confidentially through the School Office or by emailing her directly at lblackwell@ladysmithfederation.net

Ladysmith Junior School 01392 255554

www.ladysmithjunior.devon.sch.uk

Follow us on Twitter @ladysmithfed

