



Friday 17th October 2014

Federation News - The children need to come to school ready to enjoy outside playtimes even if it becomes a bit chilly or drizzly. We think it's really important for all of them to play outside whenever possible as it helps them to develop their social and motor skills. Please can you make sure that they bring a named coat, and that you encourage them to wear it, even in year 6. As it gets even colder more and more children will be wearing scarves, gloves and hats - please make sure these are also clearly named, as we always end up with piles of them by the end of each week.



School pets – the Year 5 children are really enjoying the responsibility of looking after the school chickens, gerbils and rabbit. They take it in turns to care for them, and are responding well to the responsibility.

The outdoor pets don't seem to have minded the rain this week – we were a bit surprised that they just stayed out scratching around and didn't run for shelter.

One of the Y3 children asked me this week if it's true that we have chickens – we'll have to make sure we take them on a trip to see them!

Sports Ambassadors If your child attends a sports club out of school which other children may be able to join, we'd really like volunteers to be 'ambassadors' to have their pictures on display alongside details of what their club is and how to join. Other children would then have a friendly face to speak to if they decided to join.

We already have a volunteer for the Exeter Saracens Rugby club who are keen to recruit, and a member of local climbing club.

If your child is interested in being a Ladysmith Ambassador could you drop a note to Mr Broad in 4DB.



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How's Your Child Getting On?

We have spent a lot of time over the last few weeks working out how to report your child's progress to you, given the changes to the National Curriculum I wrote about last week.

At the end of next week Year 3, 4 and 5 parents will be able to log on to School Pupil Tracker and see some important information about how well your child is doing. There will be a number of statements about what they are able to do in English and maths, based on what they have been learning over the last 6 weeks. You will also be able to see their targets, which they will be working towards in school. This will allow you to help them at home as well.

Year 6 are still working to the old National Curriculum and will have a different report sent home.

You will also be able to see whether or not your child is working at the level expected for their age. Hopefully the new system will be easy to navigate and helpful to you – we think it's a big improvement to the information we have been able to give out in the past.

Parents Evenings

It was lovely to see so many of you at our Parent Evenings this week. The teachers were very positive about the meetings, and were very pleased to be able to have the opportunity to talk to you about how things are going.

We are very pleased with how hard the children are working and their continued good behaviour around the school, which is allowing them to make the most of their time here.

We were very pleased with the turnout – over 90% of families came along, which is fantastic. If you weren't able to make it you are very welcome to pop in and see your child's teacher. If they aren't able to see you straight away they will be happy to make a mutually convenient time.

Next Week

Just to let you know I won't be here for a couple of days next week as I will be part of an Ofsted team inspecting another school.

Remember – we break up for half term on Thursday 23rd, so there won't be a newsletter next week. I hope you all have a lovely holiday.



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