



Friday 3rd October 2014

Really Important News - School building

A few years ago the Junior School was nominated by the Local Authority to be part of the government's Priority School Building Programme.

After a long wait the school has now reached the top of the list, and the government are now looking at the possibility of a new school building for the Juniors. At the moment a lot of survey work is being carried out (hence the holes being drilled around the place), and when this is completed a design will be drawn up. If the governors are satisfied with the plans, including an assurance that there would be minimal disruption during building works, it will go forward for planning permission.

We will keep you informed every step of the way, and as soon as we have any designs we will let you see them. There will also be opportunities for you have your say about the proposals as soon as we have more information about them.

Assemblies This week Mr Wilkinson told the story of Isambard Kingdom Brunel, illustrating his ideas with a model train set which went down very well. On Wednesday we heard about a teacher starting his 40th and final year at the same school, and meeting the granddaughter of one of his first pupils. Both people are inspirational for different reasons.

Ladysmith Junior School 0

Federation News

At last night's Meeting we were very pleased to welcome two new members of the governing body. They are Jo Evans and Karen Bates, both of whom are active members of our school community, and both have a great deal of experience and enthusiasm to bring to their new role. We hope they enjoy working with us.

The governors reviewed standards at both schools, and discussed the things we intend to do to improve the schools over the coming year.

We talked about the work we have done so far to make sure the schools work effectively together, and also started to talk about long term plans for the Federation, and agreed an outline timescale to allow us to plan for the future.

Don't forget to buy your tickets for the PTA Firework Display either from the Infant School Office or from myself or Mr Wilkinson in the playground.

Bike It

This week some of our Year 6 children have been taking part in Bike It training. They started by learning the basics of safe cycling and bike handling in the playground, for example thinking about which side to get off the bike and making sure you look over your shoulder before setting off.

After their instructors were happy with their skills they moved on to Level 2 training, which involves cycling on quiet roads. They were taught about how far away to stay from the kerb and how to safely negotiate obstacles such as parked cars (which was made slightly difficult as the cars kept driving away!).

The instructors were very impressed by the children's skills and also by their ability to listen, concentrate, and act responsibly. Well done to all of them!

There will be further courses for more of our Year 6 children in a few weeks time. Many thanks to Mr Corlett for organising and helping out with the training.

Meanwhile, if you are looking for a new child's bike you could have a look at the Ride On cycling charity, who are based on Marsh Barton. They recycle bikes, make sure they're safe, and sell them on at a really reasonable price. You can find out more at www.rideoncycling.org

Stationery Shop

Following the success in previous years, we are pleased to announce the return of *The Year 6 Stationery Shop* run by a group of children. This will provide everything you need for your pencil cases at **BARGAIN BASEMENT** prices.

We will be set up just inside the front gate every **Thursday morning** from 8.45am to 9.05am. So come along and see the Year 6 team and **grab yourself a bargain.**

Drawing Competition

Do you love drawing? Here's your chance to shine at what you love with our brand new drawing competition. Anyone can enter. It is space themed and you will have until Friday 11th October to enter.

You must put your name and class on your picture. The 4 best drawings will win a cool prize. Please bring your entries to the library during lunchtime.



Clubs We have been really pleased with the popularity of the fencing and gymnastics clubs, with nearly 80 children involved in these already. We have also been pleased to see about 30 children using the library every lunchtime – this is open to all children who can pop in whenever they want to. We have nearly completed the arrangements for the remaining after school and lunchtime clubs – watch this space for further details.

Have a lovely weekend, and don't forget you can follow us on Twitter @ladysmithfed

Roy Souter



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