

Ladysmith Federation

Infant and Nursery Newsletter



Friday 22nd May 2020



Ambition

Book-tastic Competition

While you're at home why not share a book with your family and show us what you have read by creating a bookmark about the book. You could win some book tokens as a prize. To find out more go to

[http://
www.babcockldp.co.uk/sls](http://www.babcockldp.co.uk/sls)



Adventure



Devon
Wildlife Trust

This week the theme of the CHALLENGE is all about **Reptiles!** 4 - 7 year olds category are to use any materials to create reptile art and craft.

To participate all you have to do is take a picture of your work, with the student's first name, age and school and send it to Emily from the education team by the extended deadline of Sunday 31st May.

ebacon@devonwildlifetrust.org

Visit [https://](https://www.devonwildlifetrust.org/discover-wildlife/exploring-nature-home)

www.devonwildlifetrust.org/discover-wildlife/exploring-nature-home

Achievement

This week we had a lots of Star of the Week nominations. Please find more on the next page



2D Blake and Jackson Cox have nominated their mum and dad as star of the week. Lacy Anne nominated Niall and Josh Simon.



Freya has sent a super picture of her sister for star of the week.

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week is mental health awareness week and the theme this year is kindness. This edition of the newsletter is full of information and activities to support all of our families at Ladysmith with their wellbeing. Please find a message from our Governors on the next page in support of the very difficult decisions that we have had to make about gradually reopening our school.
Have a lovely half term, staying safe and well.



Ladysmith Infant and Nursery School 01392 271596
www.ladysmithfederation.net



Ladysmith Federation

Ladysmith Federation Governing Body would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our pupils, parents and families for all they have done during this unprecedented and challenging time. We also wish to express our enormous thanks to Emma Brown, Mark Wilkinson and all of the staff at both schools for the way they have handled this time. We are a strong school community, and for that we are very grateful.

The role of the Governing Body is to act as a 'critical friend' to the two schools. We are made up of parents, staff and community representatives, and we take collective responsibility for decisions made across the Federation. As we move gradually into this next phase after half term, we want to be clear that we are fully supportive of the actions being taken by Emma and Mark in their respective schools.

The most important duty of any school is to keep its children safe, and here at Ladysmith we take that duty extremely seriously. We also have a great responsibility to the physical and mental wellbeing of our staff. The actions being taken both reflect these concerns and reflect the different challenges faced by each school with regards to pupil age, staffing and building limitations.

While the changes may prove unexpected or inconvenient to some, we ask that you understand that these decisions have been taken in good faith, and with the best interests of all pupils and staff at heart. We also remind parents in the selected year groups that it is your choice as to whether or not your child attends school, and we ask that you respect each other's choices and individual circumstances as well.

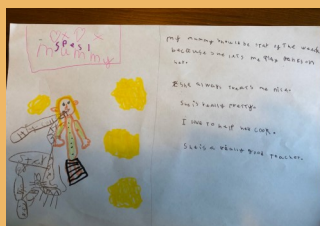
Thank you for your continued hard work and support.

Ladysmith Federation Governing Body

(Details of Governing Body membership can be found on the Federation website)

Parent Stars of the Week Nominations

2S– Rowan, Ella, Eloise, Andrei, Jack, Luke, Mussab, Olivia and Sach



2T– Amelie, Blossom, Destiny, Natalia, Olive



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Fun things to do for children

30 Days Wild

Can you do something wild everyday in June?

This June, join thousands of people across Devon taking part in our annual nature challenge, 30 Days Wild! We want you to do one wild thing a day throughout the whole month: for your health, wellbeing and for the planet. That's 30 simple, fun, and exciting Random Acts of Wildness.

You'll get a **free, downloadable pack of goodies** to help you plan your wild month, plus lots of ideas to inspire you to stay wild all throughout June (and beyond!). Come rain or sunshine, at home or on your daily exercise, there's something for everyone! For extra 'bonus' items, keep an eye on your emails for additional, fun activities, from instructions for baking hedgehog cupcakes to a beginner's guide to wild-life photography.

Guided Meditation

Based on the show "The Magic Garden" this meditation is designed to promote deep relaxation, relieve anxiety and improve sleep. It is also a lovely family bonding activity. Follow the link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-UaskQIRQLg&feature=youtu.be>



Learning

Online learning for Key Stage One is going to look a little different after half term as we transition into reopening our school for some children. We are going to need a little time to develop how this is going to look and the impact it will have on our Seesaw activities for years 1 and 2.

So... while we finalise details...

The first week back after half term, beginning on Monday June 1st, is going to focus on the Ladysmith love of books and stories.

We are going to have a book based themed week. There will be just one activity dropped on each learning drop day which will take you on a book based adventure with your children!

As usual everything that you need will be provided online.

During this first week further details will follow on any future changes to how we use Seesaw. But don't worry Seesaw is here to stay!

For the Love of Reading

Book Recommendation of the Week

This lovely tale focuses on three baby owls who wake up to discover their mother isn't there. Without her, they feel scared and vulnerable but then Mum returns, and they feel comfortable and reassured. *Owl Babies* is a wonderful book to share with babies and young children to help tackle anxieties and fears about temporary separation. Now you can enjoy it online below - or watch a version with signing. Snuggle up in your own little nest and get started. <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/storybooks-and-games/owl-babies/>



Information and Advice for Parents

Staying in Touch

- Our website—<http://www.ladysmithfederation.net/web> (Parent letters and remote learning)
- For admin and other enquiries: infant.admin@ladysmithfederation.net
- Tapestry (Nursery and Reception) and Seesaw (Year One and Two)
- Our Learning support email addresses: receptionsupport@ladysmithfederation.net year1support@ladysmithfederation.net year2support@ladysmithfederation.net

Don't forget to check Parent Letters on the website to find the most up to date information: http://www.ladysmithfederation.net/web/recent_school_letters/281945 and our Remote Learning section where there is further information on learning support.

Staying Healthy and Happy



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

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>



Financial Support

If you think that you might be entitled to benefits please follow the link below to the Government online calculator <https://www.betteroffcalculator.co.uk/#/calculator/new/step1>

FREE SCHOOL MEALS: All those in receipt of Free School Meals will receive a hamper of food worth £20. This can be collected from school every Monday on a weekly basis. If you fall into one of the following categories, you can apply for the Pupil Premium Grant, and will qualify for Free School Meals. Applications need to be made via the Devon Citizens Portal - on the DCC website : <https://www.devon.gov.uk/supportforschools/services-and-contacts/free-school-meals>



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Action For Children

We are on hand to support parents, when they need us. As coronavirus puts extra pressure on families, we're offering even more online parenting support. You can [find advice and resources on coronavirus](#), explore our online advice sites below, or speak to one of our parenting coaches in a [1-to-1 live chat](#).



Community Links CIC

We are a telephone support service for people struggling with mental health, domestic abuse, challenging SEND behaviour or wellbeing. We recognise that everyone's situation is different and that many things impact a person's ability to cope with the fast pace of change that has been imposed upon us. You do not have to struggle alone.

Please use the links below
familysupport@communitylinks-sw.co.uk or call on 07808 529034



Teaching Assistant Posts Available

Are you highly motivated, resilient, with a sense of empathy and fun? Are you able to support and celebrate achievement of pupils? Can you work flexibly, using your initiative and do you have a desire to develop your own skills and understanding? Do you believe in "Ambition, Adventure, Achievement" for all?

If so, we would welcome your application. We have three posts available, starting in September 2020:

Post 1: Year One Teaching Assistant on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoon, 12.30pm until 3.35pm

Post 2: Year Two Teaching Assistant every morning, 8.35am until 12pm

Post 3: 1:1 SEND Teaching Assistant 8.45am- 3.30pm

Posts 1 and 2 could be combined into one role. The posts available are fixed term contracts for either one year or linked to the attendance of a child.

If interested, please email Jessie Hay at finance@ladysmithfederation.net for an application