

Ladysmith Federation

Infant and Nursery Newsletter



19th July 2019



Ambition

As parents you may be aware that there are issues around fair funding for Devon schools. Schools in Devon are significantly affected by a gap of £290 per pupil when compared to other local authorities.

This equates to around £180,000 per year across the two schools. If you would like to know more about this issue, the link below takes you to a letter from 80 cross party MPs to the chancellor and has the support of the Governors of this school, the County Council and staff here at Ladysmith.

<https://www.devonnewscentre.info/devon-mps-urge-the-chancellor-to-increase-education-funding-and-make-it-fairer/>

Adventure

Everyday is an adventure at Ladysmith!

The staff would like to thank the parents and families of all the children for their continued support.

Working in partnership really makes the difference. If you have any feedback please use the OFSTED site to add your comments.

We've only had 7 responses this year so far.....

[parentview.osted.gov.uk/
login?destination=give-your-
views](https://parentview.osted.gov.uk/login?destination=give-your-view)



Achievement

What an ACHIEVEMENT! Kate from OPAL has presented us with our "Gold" award for the quality of our lunchtime play. Everyone is feeling very proud!



Federation News

The end of another amazing year at Ladysmith!

This will be the last newsletter of the year and what a great year it has been! We would like to thank all parents, children, staff and governors who have supported the school throughout the year.

We hope you have a wonderful summer break and look forward to welcoming you back in September. The first day of autumn term for KS1 children is Wednesday 4th September.



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www.ladysmithfederation.net



Ladysmith Community Baking Club

ANY VOLUNTEERS?



Cooking Room @ Infants and Juniors for 6 weeks each, Mon 1.30-3.20pm. Children from the schools

are paired up with older visiting volunteers (*not* family members; pairs get to know each other over the 6 weeks). We make lots of yummy treats and bakes, cook on site and enjoy our wares with a cuppa! If you know an 'older person' who you think may be interested in joining us in September, please get in touch with Charlie @ ladysmithcommunity@outlook.com. Thank you



Doodle Maths

We have invested in a new online maths resource for children and parents. To find out more make sure you put the **11th September at 2.30pm** in your diary when you can attend a free doodle maths demonstration. For more information check out their website here: <https://www.doodlemaths.com/>



Goodbye

We are very sorry to be saying goodbye to the amazing Mrs Cross in the school office. Sue has been a part of the team here at Ladysmith for over twenty years and will be much missed by staff, parents and children. She is incredibly knowledgeable and has a fantastic eye for detail. She also knows everything that there is to know about Ladysmith Infant School - a true expert in all things Ladysmith.

We would like to say an enormous THANK YOU! to her on the behalf of the whole school community and wish her all the very best for the future. We also hope that she will be regular visitor to the school as it simply won't be the same without her.



NSPCC

We are working with the NSPCC to deliver the "Speak out, Stay safe" programme in the Autumn term. On **Monday 9th September** there will be an online safety presentation at 2.30pm. We hope you will be able to attend and join us as we support the NSPCC in their buddy workout.

NSPCC

USED UNIFORM

SALE

Our next second hand uniform sale will be on the first Friday back to school, **6th September 3-4pm** in the infant school playground. Please can any donations of uniform be handed in to the infant school office.



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COLOUR RUN



What an amazing atmosphere at the colour run on Friday! It was wonderful seeing so many people there having a great time. Thank you to the CPTT for organising this fantastic event.



End of Term Thanks and Goodbyes

Goodbye to Year 2!

We say goodbye and good luck to all our Year 2 children who are transferring to Junior Schools. We hope they have enjoyed their time at Ladysmith Infant and Nursery School and will take many happy memories with them.

Good
Bye!

Volunteers

We say a big thank you to all our volunteers who have given up their time to come into school to help in the classes and at Forest School. **We really do appreciate your help.**

If anyone would like to become a Volunteer helper in the class or Forest School next term, please pop into the office to collect a form.

Thank
you!

CPTT

Thank you to all the members of the CPTT who have worked **so** hard to raise funds for our School and the Federation. At a time when all schools are experiencing financial challenges we need everyone to lend a hand.



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Dates for the Diary

KS1 Children return to school

Homes Visits start for Reception Children
Nursery start dates vary

2.30pm

Parent Internet Safety Session

Reception Children - Mornings only

(Staying for one lunchtime initially, dependant on the class)

2.30pm

Doodle Maths demo for Parents

Reception children attend all day

Theatre Alibi visit



SEATON

JURASSIC





UNLOCK THE SECRETS OF A GREAT SUMMER AT SEATON JURASSIC

Come and explore a time when Seaton was underwater and be inspired to help nature on land and in our seas. Three exhibition zones packed full of interactive experiences, surprises, and of course a timeship to take you back 200 million years!



NEW THIS YEAR IS OUR VERY OWN SEATON JURASSIC BEACH!

Perfect for younger visitors to play in the sand and to see what they can find in our very own dry rockpool.



Seaton Jurassic Beach open everyday from 27th July until 1st September

NATURAL SEATON FESTIVAL

20th July

Visit our stand at Natural Seaton Festival and join in the fun at this annual Seaton event to celebrate the natural world.



OPEN GARDEN FAMILY DAY

26th August 10am - 3pm

DROP IN

Join us in our wild garden for a day full of fun activities for all the family to enjoy. Just £2 per person (free for annual pass holders and exhibition visitors).

ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS

5th August 11am - 12pm and 12:30pm - 1:30pm

Our Islands from Dartmoor Zoo are bringing along some amazing animals for you to meet and handle - if you dare! £3 per person



BOOKING REQUIRED

See our website for details of these and all our special events

WWW.SEATONJURASSIC.ORG

SEATON JURASSIC

WEEKLY SUMMER FUN SESSIONS:

Saturday Craft

Every week at
10am - 12:30pm

Let your little ones
discover their creative
talents. £3 per child.

DROP IN

Wild Wednesdays

10am - 12 Every
Wednesday
starting on 31st July -
28th August

Embrace your wild side and join us
in the Seaton Jurassic garden
for wild and wonderful activities.
Perfect for little adventurers.
£4 per child.

BOOKING REQUIRED

Marine Garden Trail

Everyday 27th July - 1st September

Add a marine
trail to your visit
and complete the
challenge to collect
a pebble. Just £1 per
trail sheet.

SEA MONSTERS VS. PIRATES

29th July - 2nd August

Choose your sea monsters - celebrate Seaton
Tramway's pirates week by joining in our
Super Soaker daily water battle! Become a
super Jurassic sea monster to take on those
pesky pirates and let
battles commence!
WARNING: You
may get wet! £2 per
child (includes super
soaker hire).

ROCKPOOL RAMBLES

30th July, 16th, 17th August
and 29th August

Discover the
fascinating
creatures that
live in our
rockpools by
joining one
of our guided
rambles. £3 per person.

BOOKING REQUIRED

FOSSIL DAY WITH THE JURASSIC COAST TRUST

19th August Sessions
at 11am and 2pm

Join us for our fun fossil
workshops. Learn how to
identify what is and what
isn't a fossil. Get up close to
some fantastic fossil finds
from the Jurassic Coast and have your
chance to discover why the Jurassic Coast
is a designated World Heritage Site. £2 per
person.

BOOKING REQUIRED

SUPPORTED BY

GATEWAY TO

Seaton Jurassic, The Underfleet, Seaton, Devon EX12 2WD.

Call: 01297 300 390. Visit: www.seatonjurassic.org

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Follow us on Twitter @ladysmithfed



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Governor's Annual Report 2019

The 2018/19 academic year has been very successful for both of the schools within the Ladysmith Federation as a result of the level of effort and commitment given by everyone concerned. I would especially like to offer thanks to the numerous volunteers who support both of the schools in a huge variety of roles. Their involvement makes a huge difference to the quality of the educational experience that the children have during their time at the schools. Well done and please keep up the good work.

Both schools have benefited from their involvement with the River Exe Learning Partnership (RELP). This is a group of similar schools within the local area that have a similar ethos, who work together to share good practice and to ensure continuing improvement in the education that they provide. Both schools have participated in the RELP continuous development program and have been subject to peer review which has been very positive and shown that both schools are continuing to improve.

Ladysmith Infant School

The Opal Play Program in the Infant School has recently been reviewed and has received a Gold award. Congratulations to everyone who has had a hand in developing and delivering this program. Platinum award next!! The school has provided many enrichment activities including yoga, space dome and author and artist visits. These could not have happened without the support of Children, Parents and Teachers Together (CPTT) who's involvement and fundraising activities make a huge difference to both schools. Many thanks to everyone involved and keep up the good work. The Forest School continues and proves very popular with all of the children who experience it. Tapestry, which is a system where teachers and parents can upload photographs and share information, is continuing to prove useful in the Nursery and Reception classes and use of the system is growing. The Help Us Grow Green (HUGG) project has received funding which will see changes made to the outside environment over the next few months. Children from years One and Four have been involved in the Sing for Joy event at the Great Hall of Exeter University.

Ladysmith Junior School

The Junior School was subject to an inspection by Ofsted in November and came out of it described as a Good School/Good Provider. This is what we would have hoped and expected but it is always worrying to go through an inspection. Many congratulations to everyone. There has been continued development of the curriculum throughout the year in order to provide a broad and balanced education that values all subjects. A rich diet of off-site activities has also been provided including two residential for years Four and Six, a sleep-over in school for year Five and year Three went to the Principality of Wales. There has been a continuation of the Grow Project and further development of the school grounds in order to provide an enriched environment for children to play and learn in. This has also seen the arrival of chickens in recent weeks. Many thanks to everyone involved.

Governors are also required to ensure that their school have adhered to current Equal Opportunities legislation. Both schools operate on a fully inclusive equal opportunity basis and this is built into the policies and procedures that governors expect the schools to operate by. It is our responsibility to ensure that every child, irrespective of their needs, has the same opportunity to attain their full potential. Governors receive reports from the SENDcos of both schools regarding the needs of children that have been identified, the interventions that have taken place during the academic year and the success of those interventions. We are informed of staff allocated to support children and the training that is organised for staff in order that those interactions can be as successful as possible. The schools also provide support and advice to parents.

Governors are also volunteers who are working to support the schools and to ensure that they maintain the quality of provision that is expected for the children they educate. We are currently working towards developing new strategic goals for the Federation. If you are interested in learning more about this please visit the Governor section of the website at <http://www.ladysmithfederation.net/web/governors/216261>.

If you, or anyone you may know, are interested in becoming a governor and helping to support your schools please do get in touch to discuss this. I can be contacted on igibson@ladysmithfederation.net.

In summary 2018/19 has been a very good year for both schools and the governors are extremely grateful to all of the staff for the hard work that they have put in to make this year successful. This task has not been getting any easier over the last few years because of budgetary pressures that have been put on Local Authorities and schools; but staff keep stepping up to ensure that all of the children get the opportunities that they require.

As usual I would wish the children good luck when they move to their new classes or schools in September.

Ian Gibson



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