

Ladysmith Federation

Junior School News

Friday 24th April 2020

A big Hello from Ladysmith Junior School

We know that many of the children are missing being at school and we are missing having them all here. The school site is looking fantastic—Mr Hawkins has been working tirelessly (as always!) to make the site look its best, ready for the children's return.

The chickens are certainly missing all of the attention and there are some new additions with newly built shelters and work on the reading bus well on the way.

Next week, we will be sending out a video message to show you around school so you can see the changes and say hi to the chickens!



We hope that you and your families are well.

Dear Parents,

Don't stress about schoolwork. In September, I will get your children back on track. I am a teacher and that's my superpower. What I can't fix is social-emotional trauma that prevents the brain from learning. So right now, I just need you to share your calm, share your strength, and share your laughter with your children. No kids are ahead. No kids are behind. Your children are exactly where they need to be.

With love,
All the teachers on planet Earth

I recently saw this post on social media and it resonated with many of the conversations we have been having with parents where we are reassuring you that there is no pressure to complete all of the work set—it is far more important that children's (and parents') mental health is prioritised during this difficult time.

With that being said, it has been great to see the way in which so many of the children are engaging with their learning at home.

It seems that it may be the case that this current situation will continue for some time longer and we are currently reviewing our provision for home learning. We have put together a short survey to gather your views of the current remote learning

resources and how these are implemented.

[Please click here](#) to complete the survey which will remain open over the weekend until Monday lunchtime.

In the meantime, we are continuing to provide resources via the school website and staff will continue to stay in touch to check in. Teachers are also available via email to answer any questions you may have.

[Please click here](#) to access last week's newsletter with details of the following topics:

- Keeping in touch
- Remote learning links
- SEND and Family Support
- I am struggling financially. How can I register for Free Schools Meals?
- Advice from the Department of Education: Keeping children safe online
- Information for children from Public Health
- Handwashing advice

General Information

Dear Wild Learners,

We hope that you are all well in these strange times. Whilst not being able to visit schools DWT have been working to create a 'Wild Learning at Home' Page <https://www.devonwildlifetrust.org/discover-wildlife/exploring-nature-home>

The page includes activities to help those at home to have a little nature in their lives whilst also touching on some curriculum content. Each week we are posting a new topic - and each topic will include a mix of craft activities, lesson plan ideas, Practical action ideas and Identification guides.

If you can, feel free to follow us on social media - we are providing daily ideas and inspiration on most platforms. We would love to see anything you or your pupils get up to so please feel free to share with us -either via email or tag us in social media.

Devon Wildlife Trust will be sending out a new wild challenge every week for school pupils to undertake during this time of lockdown.

CHALLENGE: This week the theme is MINIBEASTS and we are challenging school children from the ages of 4 – 11 to create an image of an insect using either natural materials or from things they can find in the home.

Each week the chosen winning pupil(s) will receive an FSC identification guide related to that topic!

To participate all you have to do is take a **picture of your artwork**, with the child's first **name and age** and send it to Emily from the education team on ebacon@devonwildlifetrust.org by the deadline of **Sunday 27th April** we will be in touch with the winner afterwards.



Devon
Wildlife Trust



Free Audio Books

Audible are offering a huge selection of audio books for free while schools are closed using this link : <https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>. There are lots of up to date and popular choices.

NSPCC support

There is some useful information / tips on the NSPCC website that you may find helpful at <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/coronavirus-advice-support-children-families-parents/>



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