

Ladysmith Federation

Infant and Nursery Newsletter



Friday 11th December 2020



Ambition

'The Wizard of Oz'

Exeter Corn Exchange

18-Dec-3rd Jan

Produced by an entirely locally-run professional production company. The show is Covid-safe: as well as 50% capacity, it is one act only (so no interval mingling), masks (unless exempt) and there is a one-way system. But otherwise, it's the normal music, laughter and silliness of panto! Both Eva Brennan and Oscar Goodchild Yr4, are performing in it as Munchkins.

See flyer on next page

Adventure

We have had a very Christmassy day!



Achievement

Thank you to everybody who has been so generous and donated today. This is a small selection of the food that we will be donating to Exeter Food-bank.



Federation News

A huge thank you to Lucy who has organised the second hand uniform so that it can be sold online.

Second hand uniform items are back on sale and available online from this weekend through the Facebook group ['Ladysmith Schools \(UK\) Buy and Sell Page'](#). Click on 'Topics' to find the list of second hand uniform. Items can then be picked up from the Infant School Office with payment of cash on collection or via parentmail. There are lots of jumpers and cardigans, skirts, dresses and trousers all in great condition and in all sizes. Items will appear on the Facebook page over the weekend.



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



Santa Run

A group of children from Dolphin class completed the Exeter City Community Trust charity Santa Run at the weekend ,raising money for the school.

Ayla Matthews, Darcey Newman, Harvey Wasniowski, Molly Rowe and Sophie Kirsopp ran 2 and a half times round Heavitree park (2.5km) in their Christmas gear. They enjoyed hot chocolate and a yule log treat afterwards!



Free Christmas Show

" A Christmas Messenger"

Saturday December 12th, at 2 pm & 5pm

This production runs for an hour and is an all-round family show which takes a comedic look at the nativity story.

Join us as we travel back to the time of Mary and Joseph on a mission to prove that Christmas, and the Nativity story, is for everyone!

This event is taking place at St. Mark's Church, Pinhoe Road, EX4 7HU.

Pre-booking is required but tickets are free.

Book for the 2pm showing here

<https://stmarksinexeter.churchsuite.com/events/qnd0dbgf>

Book for the 5pm showing here

<https://stmarksinexeter.churchsuite.com/events/4kuhemic>

Or call Reverend Tanya on 01392 423311.

Letter to Father Christmas

It's nearly Christmas, and we know you want to make sure that your letter to Santa Claus gets to him. Please remember, as Santa says: get your letter posted by Friday 11 December.— that's today!

Santa/Father Christmas
Santa's Grotto
Reindeerland
XM4 5HQ



Information and Advice for Parents

Parent Survey

We had a very positive response to our parent survey with **99%** of parents saying that their child is happy at the school and would recommend it to another parent. Here is a snap shot of some of the comments:

“ I think the teaches and staff are doing an amazing job in very challenging circumstances.”

“ The infant school is incredibly nurturing and supportive

“ It is a fantastic school that makes kids from all backgrounds and cultures feel welcome.”

“ I am pleased that the curriculum allows my child to explore and create, rather than putting pressure on at this young age.”

“ I think that the school handled the remote learning during the last lockdown and the transition back into school fantastically.”

If you wanted the school to contact you about your responses you should received an email from Mrs Collinge and Mrs Featherstone next week.

Idling Engines!

We realise that it is cold outside but there have been an increased number of people waiting in their cars at pick up and drop off times with the engines running.

This has a real impact on the air quality around the school and on those people passing by on foot. Can we please ask parents to turn off their car engines when they are parked on the roads around the school.



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CLASS CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Nursery—Wednesday 16th December
Years 1 and 2—Thursday 17th December and
Year R Friday—18th December

Children will need to bring into school a £1 donation as a contribution towards the party food. Staff will be buying the food for the party, taking into consideration any allergies and dietary requirements.

In line with government guidance, the children will have their own plate/bag of food that will not be shared with anyone else and they will be sitting just with children from their class.

Children can wear their party clothes to school on that day. Year 1 will be dressing up for their medieval banquet.



Christmas Cards

We are saying this year, that as a federation, we are having the policy of no Christmas cards.

Apart from the environmental impact, there is the potential for unnecessary handling / sharing of envelopes and the issue of children bringing them in from home. Also, we obviously can't have children deliver cards to other classes and parts of the school.

If you have bought cards for your child/children to give out, can we please ask that this is done outside of school.

SPRING TERM—AFTER SCHOOL GYMNASTICS CLUB

All Gymnastics/multi skills after school clubs will continue again after Christmas starting week commencing 5th Jan 2021

They will run for 6 weeks on the following days:

Wednesday : Year 2 Gymnastics/multi skills, 3:20pm-4:30pm, cost £21. 00

Thursday : Year 1 Gymnastics/multi skills, 3:20pm-4:30pm, cost £21.00

To book a place or find out more information on these clubs after school clubs please email radfordssoccerschool@outlook.com contact name Mr Radford.

Dates for the Diary

Christmas Lunch:

Wednesday 16th December

Nursery Christmas Party:

Wednesday 16th December 13:00

Year 1 & 2 Christmas Party:

Thursday 17th December

Reception Christmas Party:

Friday 18th December

Last day of Autumn Term:

Friday 18th December 2020

First day Back YR-Y2:

Tuesday 5th January 2021

First Day Back for Nursery:

Wednesday 6th January 2021

Check Dates online: [Online Calendar](#)

Please Note that School will not be closing a day early as you may have seen in the National News this week . Our last day of Term is still Friday 18th December .

Free School Meals over the Christmas Holidays

DCC have now put in place arrangements to provide supermarket vouchers to nearly 15,000 children across Devon who currently receive free school meals, to help their families buy groceries over the Christmas holidays.

From Tuesday 8 December DCC will be sending a unique code per child to all families known to the Local Authority, that are currently in receipt of Free School Meals. Each code can be used once on a [website called 'Hawk Select'](#) to redeem vouchers to the value of £30 per child (£15 per week for the two weeks of school holidays) for Sainsbury's, Tesco, Morrison's, Asda, M&S Food and Waitrose.

The website requires families to provide an email address for the vouchers to be sent to once they have chosen their preferred supermarket. When received, they can save the vouchers to their phone or tablet to use online (depending on the supermarket) or show at the checkout in store. Alternatively, they can print the vouchers off to give to the cashier.

If you think you may now be eligible for free school meals due to a recent change in your family's circumstances, please help us ensure you can access this holiday voucher support over Christmas by applying online through the [Devon Citizen's Portal](#) .This is the quickest and easiest way for your eligibility to be assessed and you will get an instant decision. Alternatively, you can call our **education helpline on [0345 155 1019](#)**. **You must apply by Friday 18 December 2020.**