

Ladysmith Federation

Junior School News

Friday 11th September 2020

Ambition

Thank you!

As far as Ambition goes, I'm not sure we could have been any more ambitious than hoping for a smooth return to school but that is exactly what has happened! We are thrilled with the way in which the children (and parents!) have adapted to the new staggered start and end to the day—thank you all for your continued support and cooperation.

Adventure

We are especially proud of all of our year 3 children and those in other year groups who are new to us at Ladysmith Junior School.

They have made a fantastic start to their adventure here and we are looking forward to getting to know the children and their families over the course of the year.



Achievement

Well done to our stars of the week!

Year 3:

Rishi, Phoebe and Evie

Year 4:

Ryan, Sophia and Noah

Year 5:

Oliver, George, Ethan and Isabel

Year 6:

Dylan, Esther and Madeleine

Federation News

Welcome to a new year across Ladysmith Federation! We are thrilled with how well the children have already settled into what is a very unusual start to the year—it's great to have our schools full of children once again! We are looking forward to getting to know those of you who are new and your children.

If there are ever any questions, please speak to your child's teacher or contact Mr Wilkinson or Mr Broad at the Junior School or Mrs Brown, Mrs Collinge or Mrs Featherstone at the Infant School. Our contact details are available on the website or you can catch us on the playground before or after school.

Ladysmith Junior School 01392 255554
www.ladysmithfederation.net

Messages

Apologies for the amount of information below– please let us know if you have any questions.

Beginning and end of school.

Thank you all for your cooperation and support with staggered drop-off and pick-up times. We appreciate that for many families, this has presented you with new challenges at the start and end of the school day.

If you are having difficulty with managing different drop off or pick up times, please do come and speak to us and we will be able to help find a solution.

To help us keep things smooth and to ensure that we are staying as safe as possible, we ask that children do not arrive too early in the morning to avoid unnecessary 'traffic' both on the roads and in the lane outside school.

At the end of the day, please leave the school site as soon as you have collected your child. Many older children are leaving the school site independently to meet at an arranged meeting point which can work well if you have arranged this and your child is happy and confident to do so.

Contact with staff

If you need to contact your child's teacher, please feel free to pop in and see them after school in the playground. If you need to speak to the teacher in private, please contact the school office on 01392 255554 or speak to Mr Broad or Mr Wilkinson on the playground before or after school. Mr Broad and Mr Wilkinson are always available before and after school should you wish to pass on a message or ask any questions.

We are asking parents not to contact teachers directly via their email addresses unless this is something you have set up with your child's teacher.

During the recent lockdown, we encouraged parents to get in touch with teachers via email but this was at a time when staff had dedicated no-contact time to read and reply to messages. Now that we are back at school full time, we ask that you get in touch via the office or by speaking to Mr Broad or Mr Wilkinson who can then arrange for the teacher to get in touch.

Library books

In order to adhere to government guidelines around COVID-19, the library will only be available to children once every fortnight. Children are invited to scan out up to 4 books to last two weeks.

This is to allow the required 72 hours in-between different year group pods using the library.

We are finding that some children are unable to take books out of the library because they already have the maximum allowance out from last year. Please bring any library books back to school in a plastic bag.

We are asking the children to ensure that they are reading their Accelerated Reader book regularly but they are also welcome to read books / comics and magazines of their own choice from home or from the local library. Children should be recording their reading daily in their reading records and we ask that an adult signs the reading record at least weekly.

PE Kit

Apologies for the delay in confirmation on what PE kit the children will need. We are asking that after next week, from 21st September, on the days your child has PE, they wear their PE kit to school and stay in this all day. This should be a plain white t-shirt or a maroon polo shirt, a school jumper / cardigan and either dark coloured shorts and / or dark coloured 'jogging bottoms'. PE kit needs to be as plain as possible and children will not be allowed to wear branded football kits etc. They will need to wear trainers but these can be any colour.





Lost Property

We are unable to store lost property in school due to the possibility of 'cross-pod contamination'.

Any named property will be returned to your child's class but any unnamed uniform or lunchboxes etc will have to be thrown away or recycled. **Please please label everything** your child wears or brings to school.



Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) are offering additional crisis support during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

If a child or young person (under 18) is experiencing a mental health crisis, you can now access CAMHS 24/7. Please contact **03300 245 321** during normal hours (8am-5pm, Mon to Fri) or

0300 555 5000 outside these hours. Callers will speak to a call handler; their call will be forwarded to a voicemail service and their message will be returned within one hour.

There are three CAMHS crisis teams: Torbay and South Devon; Exeter, East and Mid Devon; and North Devon. Your call will be directed to the appropriate team.

In the event of an emergency, please call 999.

General information about CAMHS services and referrals can be found on the Children and Family Health Devon website.

Useful Emergency Contact Numbers:

NHS Helpline: **111** Use **999** if a medical emergency.

Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub, if you are concerned about your own safety or that of a child or young person: **0345 155 1071**

National Domestic Abuse Helpline (Devon): **0808 2000 247** (24 hours) Use **999** if you are in immediate danger.



YoungMinds Crisis Messenger, for free 24/7 support across the UK if you are a young person experiencing a mental health crisis. If you need urgent help **text YM to 85258**

Samaritans (24 hours): **116 123**

Citizens Advice Bureau National Helpline: **03444 111 444**

Every Mind Matters

Today Public Health England has launched a new NHS approved campaign directly targeting young people aged 13-18 and parents/carers of children and young people from 5-18, with additional engagement provided via school resources.

The campaign aims to:

Equip parents/carers and young people to take action to protect and improve children and young people's mental wellbeing

Build mental resilience to navigate the Covid-19 outbreak and evolving mental health challenges

Provide support for those children at greater risk of worsening mental health.



Dates for the diary:

16.9.20—Year 3 drop in Q&A session—2.30pm-3pm

15.10.20—Individual school photographs

23.10.20—Last day of the first half term

26th—30th October—Half Term Break

2.11.20—First day of second half term

