

Ladysmith Federation

INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS

Friday 1st December 2017

FEDERATION NEWS

CLERK to GOVERNORS

Liz Westcott has sadly resigned as Clerk to Governors. We would all like to say "Thank You" for the great job that she has done for us at Ladysmith Federation. Therefore, we now have a vacancy so, if you are interested in becoming our Clerk to the Governing Body, please contact our Chair of the Governors, Mr Ian Gibson, via either school offices. The successful candidate must be flexible in their approach, motivated and an organised individual to work with our dedicated Board of Governors.



Ambition Adventure Achievement



Latest News from the OPAL project:

We are working towards our **GIANT SANDPIT BUILDING DAY** on Saturday 20th January. We plan to install a **GIANT** sandpit that runs the length of the wall that separates the playground outside the reception classes. We'd love **LOTS** of lovely volunteers (with wheelbarrows and spades) to move the sand! If you can help by lending us your muscles please email or pop into the office. There will be hearty fare to keep the workforce going and plenty of hot drinks – children and their spades/wheelbarrows also welcome! 



A delegation from the School Council joined the Playteam for a meeting on Thursday. They worked together to identify solutions including for the School Council to educate us all (adults especially!) in Forest School rules via a poster campaign. This will help the children to play by the same rules when out at lunchtime.

Would you believe it, but the most popular donations for our OPAL project so far have been some old suitcases! We need approximately 1000 loose items to give the children enough variety and choice in their play so we're now collecting:

- ✓ MORE suitcases!
- ✓ Pots and Pans – if you or any relatives have new pans, trays, colanders, sieves, bowls, wooden spoons, large metal spoons etc. for Christmas please let us have your old ones!
- ✓ Swimming "noodles" or pipe lagging
- ✓ Astro turf off cuts
- ✓ Plastic guttering off cuts
- ✓ Plastic tubes of all sizes



Thank you for your help. There are some bins for you to drop them into just outside the school office.

Year 1 would like to say a big thank you to the CPTT for funding a wonderful Storyteller, John Brolley who wrote a version of "The Kiss That Missed" and performed it with the help of some of our children.



Next week, please sign up for the Christmas Banquet party food and remember to dig out your medieval costumes for the Party on Thursday 14th December .

Ambition Adventure Achievement



The next **Pop Up Café** has been planned for **Friday December 8th** in the **Infant School Canteen 3pm-4.30pm**. This time it will be the turn of **Year 1** to bake. Year 2 CPTT reps are hoping to run some seasonal activities, plus Sarah Dart has offered to supply us with mulled wine. Jen Harris will be selling second hand uniform



Outstanding Accounts

The end of term is fast approaching and we obviously need to balance our books. Could we please ask everyone to clear all debts and drop payment into the office:

Nursery Fees and Nursery Meals; Cooking and Snack money (£5 per child per term Reception); Cooking Money (£3 per child per term YR1 and YR2.); Year 2 Puppetry (£7)



Exeter Foodbank

We are a registered provider for Foodbank vouchers. If you would like to find out more about the scheme you can discuss this with our Family Support worker, Lindsey Blackwell. She can be contacted confidentially through the School Office or by emailing her directly at

lblackwell@ladysmithfederation.net



Application for Infant/ Primary/Junior School – September 2018

If your child was born between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2014 (inclusive) you need to be thinking about applying for infant/primary school. The application process for primary places opened on 15 November 2017 and will close on 15 January 2018.

Please make sure you complete an Admission Form online. **Admissions to schools are not automatic** – every place has to be applied for regardless of what school you would prefer.

www.devon.gov.uk/admissiononline. Applications made after 15th January 2018 will be classed as late and may lead to disappointment due to all the places being filled. If you cannot apply online, you will be able to apply using a hard copy of the common application form. If you require a hard copy of the application form please contact the Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019. Please note that it will not be possible to make an application by email. Your child must be in full-time education at the beginning of the term following his or her fifth birthday. This would be at a school unless you decide to educate at home, in which case you should contact Admissions for further advice. Any queries should be directed to Devon County Council Admissions on 0345 155 1019.



This also applies to our Year 2 children who will be joining Junior Schools in September. Please make sure you complete an Admission Form online. **Admissions to schools are not automatic** – every place has to be applied for regardless of what school you would prefer. www.devon.gov.uk/admissiononline.

Meet the Staff:



Helen Keenor is our school Special Educational Needs and Disability Coordinator and works from Monday to Wednesday and leads on all aspects of SEND.

You can contact her via the school office, by phone and by emailing:

infant.admin@ladysmithfederation.net

Lindsey Blackwell is our Family Support Worker and works at the Infant School on Mondays and Tuesdays. Lindsey works at the Junior School on Thursdays and Fridays. You can contact her via the school office, by phone and by emailing: lblackwell@ladysmithfederation.net



School Nursing Service Update

The School Nursing service across Devon has been developing their service to improve access to a School Nurse and to information and support for all school aged children. We would like to take this opportunity to let you know of some of the changes that have taken place, or are due to take place, and remind you of your local School Nurse team contact details (*see brochure on stand in office waiting area*). **Find us online at:**

www.devonintegratedchildrenservices/public-health-nursing



Ladysmith Infant and Nursery School 01392 271596

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Lost Property

As the end of the term is approaching please check lost property. We have a mound of various clothing items (including coats!) again this term. Remembering to name **ALL** clothing would help enormously and if your child should come home wearing the wrong sweat shirt or fleece, please return it to the class teacher. Please remember to name **all** items and encourage your child to look after them.

 **STIKINS**® We have set up a fundraising account with Stikins which means that any orders made will benefit the school. Letters will go home next week with details of how to order. The company was recommended by a parent who already uses them and says they are really good!

Stick-on name labels for clothing and personal items - name labels that simply stick on and stay on - no sewing and no ironing needed!

STIKINS® name labels stick on the wash-care label of clothing and fabric items or directly onto personal items. Independently tested using the ISO6330 wash test procedure for 40 washes at 40 degrees, STIKINS® can be put through washing machines, tumble-driers, dishwashers, and microwaves.

STIKINS® measure 30mm wide by 15mm high and are white labels printed with a bold black font.

You can order Stikins online at <https://www.stikins.co.uk/> Our fundraising number is 11463

Keeping Our Children Safe.....

At home.....

Operation Encompass is the reporting to schools, prior to the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has been exposed to, or involved in, any domestic incident.

Operation Encompass will ensure that a member of the school staff, known as a Key Adult, is trained to allow them to liaise with the police and to use the information that has been shared, in confidence, while ensuring that the school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children, or their families, who have been involved in, or exposed to, a domestic abuse incident.

We are keen to offer the best support possible to all our pupils and we believe this will be extremely beneficial for all those involved.



Do You Qualify?

We understand that there are many pressures on families and financial pressure is one of them. We would like to encourage parents to take up the opportunity to register for "Free School Meals" if you meet the criteria below. Although you will know that all children in the Infant School have a free lunch, this registration brings additional benefits. You may carry memories from your own childhood of "free school meal" children being distinguishable from others by having to carry a different coloured ticket to lunch or stand apart from others. At Ladysmith Infant and Nursery there is nothing that distinguishes a child who has a free school meal from others. Once registered and in receipt of the "Pupil Premium Grant" parents may be able to claim back the cost of a jumper, trip, or club.

The school will also benefit from an additional amount which is used to improve what we do for our children. With huge pressure on budgets, registration for Free School Meals entitles your child to the Pupil Premium Grant and gives the school £1320 extra per year.

If you meet the criteria:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided the parents are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on, which is paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax credit
- Universal Credit

Please follow this link if you think you may be entitled: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

FISH holiday clubs are offering Drop and Shop childcare sessions for children aged 4-11 years in the lead up to Christmas so parents can get some weekend Christmas shopping sessions without little people in tow!



These sessions are being run from Ladysmith Infant School on two Saturdays in December, the 2nd and 9th, sessions will run from 9am-3.30pm and children can enjoy a range of Christmas activities including Christmas arts and crafts, baking, bouncy castle and lots more fun activities finishing the day off with a Christmas movie and hot chocolate!

Session fees are £15 per child and are being run to help raise funds for the Women Vs Cancer charity with 100% of the session fees going towards this cause. Two of FISH's staff members are taking part in a 450k cycle across India next year for the charity and these sessions will go towards their fund-raising efforts. **To book please call FISH directly on 08445 618847.**



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS – REMINDER

Christmas Performances

Reception performances start promptly at 9.45 am

Hedgehog - RH (Miss Symons) - Monday 11th December 2017

Rabbit - RR (Miss Ronchetti) - Tuesday 12th December 2017

Squirrel - RS (Mrs Jarrell/Mrs Youde) - Wednesday 13th December 2017

Year 1 performances start promptly at 9.45 am

Bumble Bee - 1BB (Mrs Pounds) - Monday 4th December 2017

Dragonfly – 1D (Mrs Jones/Mrs John) - Tuesday 5th December 2017

Butterfly – 1B (Mrs Smith) - Thursday 7th December 2017

Year 2 performances start promptly at 2.30pm

Seahorse – 2S (Mrs Heuer-Evans) – Monday 11th December 2017

Turtle – 2T (Miss Potter) - Tuesday 12th December 2017

Dolphin – 2D (Mrs Slack/Mrs Collinge) - Wednesday 13th December 2017



Please don't be offended if we say no to your request to take a sibling out of class to attend a performance with you. This is for the following reason: We have nine different performances over the next two weeks and each class has many children with brothers and sisters in other classes. It would be very disruptive if they each attended one or two other performances on top of their own.

Your understanding in this matter is much appreciated. Thank you.

Children's Christmas Lunch – Wednesday 13th December 2017

School Christmas Parties – Thursday 14th December 2017

Last day of term - 15th December at 3:20pm.

Children return to school Thursday 4th January 2018
(except NURSERY who return on Monday 8th January 2018)



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