

Dartmoor dartmoor federation  
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST **d**

## Nurture, Inspire, Achieve

A small school, learning together in the local community

9<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear parent/ carer,

Another fortnight has flown by and we really are experiencing some wet, windy weather! It has been delightful to see the Lydford children display positive behaviours both in their learning and in the outside space. The creative curriculum we offer to all children has allowed them to make Egyptian boats, create a water cycle in a jar and bubble blowing with willow wands in forest school. Forest School is continuing through the inclement weather, with plans in place to put up our shelter before long. Watch this space!

### **GOLD WOODLAND TRUST AWARD!**



Through our forest school sessions and the development of the site, we have been awarded a GOLD award by the Woodland Trust for getting involved in green activities including tree planting, visiting local woodland, reducing carbon emissions and recycling. Lydford Primary School children have planted new trees in their school grounds and worked hard to reduce their carbon emissions and joined in various other Woodland Trust activities. **A huge thank you to Mrs Waddington for her hard work both on the site and with the children in their sessions.** She is encouraging them all to nurture and maintain the site, learn about nature, care for their environment, learn bush-craft skills and participate in artisan crafts. Pupils' positive mental health and well-being is promoted through these hands on learning experiences in the natural environment.

With so much uncertainty in the world, children and young people need our emotional support now more than ever. To raise awareness of positive mental health at Lydford Primary, both classes are integrating our school vision into the curriculum as well as offering weekly sessions in our forest school. You too can promote wellbeing at home. Tips for wellbeing you may want to share with your children:

**CONNECT:** spend time with family and friends. Enjoy doing things together and spend time talking to one another. Maybe help prepare a meal or play a game. Take a break from gadgets.

**BE ACTIVE:** It keeps you physically healthy and makes you feel good. Breathe in some fresh air on a woodland walk.

**KEEP LEARNING:** Try something new. Try a new hobby or learn about something just because it interests you.

**GIVE:** Do something for a friend or a relation/ adult. As well as making them feel good, it can help you feel good too!

**EAT WELL & REST:** Eat a balanced diet and make sure you're getting enough sleep.

Organisations that can help:

<https://www.kidscape.org.uk/advice/parent-advice-line/>

<https://www.familylives.org.uk/>

<https://www.place2be.org.uk/our-services/parents-and-carers/coronavirus-wellbeing-activity-ideas-for-families/>

### **SCHOOL LUNCHES**

At the moment, we are providing universal and free school meals through Norse as a cold packed lunch option. We have not been providing hot meals to date due to Covid and the school kitchen has not been in use. This week, we have had several enquiries. I have gone back to Norse to ask about the possibility of served hot lunches from our kitchen. **We are now able to provide hot meals from the school kitchen via Devon Norse from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October.** Please book your child's school meals once the menu is available on School Gateway. Many thanks for your ongoing support.

### **DROP OFF AND COLLECTION**

Drop off in the morning is going well with parents/ carers and staff adhering to social distancing and control measures such as wearing masks. Our aim is to provide a friendly welcome even when we do so at a distance. Please could you let the school office know by email if your child is likely to be travelling home regularly with another parent so that this can be logged for safeguarding – a new 2020/21 form will be circulated. Please continue to let us know by 12pm on the day if possible if your child is going home with another parent on an ad hoc basis. Thank you for your support in this matter.

## **READING**

Please remember to record when your child reads at home on Class Dojo. . Ways to record reading on Class Dojo could be:

- Post a picture of the book/ your child reading
- Comment on their reading aloud – what words they struggled with or read with ease
- Post a video of your child reading aloud
- Discuss the text together and post comments

## **FRIENDS OF LYDFORD SCHOOL (FOLS)**

Friends of Lydford School is our parent teacher association. The association has been established to promote the school, to organise events and to raise funds for the school. They have been able to fund many important purchases. All parents are automatically members of the Friends of Lydford.

In these unusual times we have been less active than normal but we are looking for new ways to restart.

If you would like to join the FOLS WhatsApp group please can you text Tessa on 07964 668 975 or Ruth on 07950 796630.

If you don't use WhatsApp but would like to be on an email list we will be asking school admin to send the first email about activities this term in the near future and will include more ways for us all to stay in contact

## **ROAD WORKS**

We have been advised by Devon County Council that they plan to carry out resurfacing repairs to the road to the South West of Lydford. The section of road affected will be from the old railway bridge (to the west of the main entrance to Lydford George) towards North Brentor. To enable the work to be carried out safely, the road will be temporarily closed to through traffic. Access to the Lydford Village from the A386 via School Road will be unaffected.

The work is scheduled to start on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October for 4 days.

Kind regards,



Mrs D A Petersen (Acting Head of School)



# Gallery

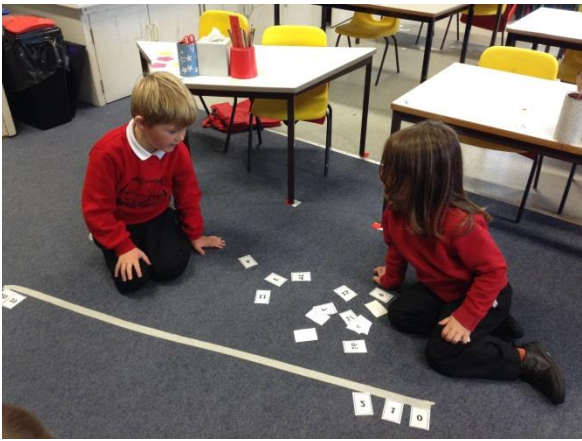
## Class 1



Finding Dinosaur Eggs



Looking for Lime Regis



Maths Fun



## Class 2



Making Water Cycle Jars



Making Reed Boats

