



LADYWOOD SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a fabulous first half to the Spring Term with lots of lovely activities happening in school.



A particular highlight was our 'Light Up Ladywood' event which I hope some of you managed to attend. It was lovely seeing families engage with the art instillations

and the awe and wonder it created.



In addition, classes have been busy celebrating Chinese New Year, Pancake Day and Valentines Day to name just a few. We had a whole week focusing on Children's Mental Health which was linked to this year's theme of 'My Voice Matters'. Children had the opportunity to express themselves in a variety of ways which is obviously extremely important at Ladywood.

Wishing you a lovely half term

Susan and everyone at Ladywood

Upcoming Events



16th February - Finish for Half Term



Thursday 7th March - World Book Day - see letter on Class Dojo for further info



Friday 8th March, 1.30 - 2.30 - Parent Coffee & Chat Session - see flyer below



22nd March, 1.30 - 2.30 - Engaging Activities & Ideas to Support Maths at Home

Reminder

Please note, school finishes on Friday 16th February and re-opens on Monday 26th February

Light Up Ladywood

Thank you to everyone who came to our amazing Light Up Ladywood event.



Measles

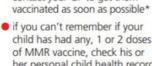
We have received a letter due to recent outbreaks of measles elsewhere in the UK, The UK Health Security Agency has advised that it is likely that we will see measles cases in Greater Manchester. Measles is highly infectious and can cause serious health consequences. The MMR vaccine is a safe and effective way to protect from measles, mumps and rubella. Please check that your child has had their MMR vaccines, and if unsure speak to their GP.

More information can be found at MEASLES - Don't let your child catch it - Schools version (publishing.service.gov.uk). We have let all parents know via dojo and are in contact with intrahealth regarding the MMR vaccine programme. Please can you familiarise yourself with the leaflets and information attached so that we can be aware of symptoms etc. If you have any questions please let us know.



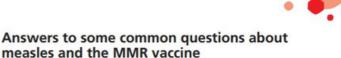
- measles outbreaks happen when not enough children have been vaccinated
- measles can be a very serious disease, leading to ear and chest infections, fits, diarrhoea, and damage to the brain. Measles can kill
- your child is at risk of measles if he or she hasn't had the MMR vaccination
- 2 doses of MMR vaccine are needed to get the best protection
- if your child is due to have had 2 doses of MMR but has not yet received them, no matter what age they are, you should contact your GP to get them
- child has had any, 1 or 2 doses of MMR vaccine, check his or her personal child health record (the Red Book). If this doesn't help, speak to your GP
- if you don't know how many doses your child has had, it's better to have 2 doses of MMR vaccine now rather than risk leaving them unprotected

*In response to a local outbreak then the 2 doses can be given one month apart from the



age of 18 months





Why are we seeing these outbreaks of measles?

Measles is a highly infectious disease, spreading quickly from person to person, especially in schools. A child with measles will infect almost all unprotected children they have contact with. Since the end of 2017 there has been an increase in measles globally which has affected the UK. This has resulted in some spread into wider communities, in particular in undervaccinated groups.

When are the MMR vaccinations usually given?

The best times are between 12 and 13 months of age and again at 3 years and 4 months, with one dose on each occasion. But, if your child wasn't vaccinated then, they can be vaccinated at any age with 2 doses one month apart.

Will there be any side effects to the vaccination?

Your child may get the symptoms of measles, mumps and rubella for up to 6 weeks after the vaccination but in a very much milder form. This proves that the vaccine is working and your child is building up resistance to future contact with the viruses that cause the 3 diseases. Not all children show these symptoms but that doesn't mean the vaccine isn't working.

Should parents in outbreak areas get vaccinated against measles?

As with many diseases, once you have had measles, you don't catch it again because you have built up a natural resistance to it. So, if you've had measles or 2 doses of MMR vaccine you do not need to get vaccinated now.

For more information about measles and MMR go to www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/



Children's Mental Health Week:

5th-9th Feb all of our pupils were involved in a number of opportunities to raise awareness and support children's mental health and wellbeing. The theme this year was 'My Voice Matters' and our children had the opportunity to Express Yourself wearing own clothes that you feel comfortable wearing. Pupils joined in singing together and were Proud to be Loud during our shared class dance opportunities with Lou the dance teacher. Classes paired up to enjoy hot chocolate and marshmallows with their friends and each class had a Time to Shine session which was planned with a buddy class and was tailored to support the children's opinion and choices about what they wanted to do together. We heard about board games together, walks around the track with friends, shared craft sessions and time enjoying the forest with friends. Pupils at Ladywood definitely know their voice matters!!!





















Attendance/Leave of Absence

As part of new guidance and monitoring of pupil attendance from the Department of Education, a Leave of Absence form needs to be completed 2 weeks prior to an event, due to authorisation from the Head Teacher.

Parents will need to provide as much information as possible before sending in the form. As a parent, you may wish to take your child, out of school, on holiday in less busier times, to benefit from quieter facilities. Please can you put this level of detail in the Leave of Absence form.

If you are taking your child out of the country for longer than 10 days, school will also require copies of flight tickets, both leaving England and arriving back into England, and an address where your child will be staying.

We realise that sometimes families may need to visit family overseas at short notice. We will still require a Leave of Absence form to be completed, flight tickets and address where the child will be staying.

In addition, we understand that children with Special Educational Needs may need to attend medical appointments more frequently and these will be authorised, however we would still ask that school are informed of these prior to attending.

It is the right of a child to receive an education and school attendance is crucial for children's progress of learning. Attendance is closely monitored at school and if there is an issue Ladywood's Attendance lead may be in touch to offer support or strategies.

If your child is off school for any reason please get in touch with the office to let them know the reasons. It is important we have a full picture of children's attendance throughout the year.

Parent Partner

Sarah Travis is the School's Parent Partner and will be able to provide guidance, advice and support for parents/carers.

She will be available Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoon.

Should you require any help then please contact Sarah either on the school office number: 01204 333400

or via email parentpartner@ladywood.bolton.sch.uk



Snack Money

May we remind parents of non-pupil premium children, of the voluntary contribution of £1.00 a week towards your child's snack. This can be paid in cash or via your School Gateway account. If paying by cash, please send into school in an envelope with your child's name on. Thank you.





We said goodbye to Sarah Bartlett, wishing her all the very best in her new post.



Friends of Ladywood



What is FOL?

Friends of Ladywood are a group of parents/carers (who wish to have a more involved role in school) and staff, that get together regularly to discuss and plan upcoming fundraising events.

When do we meet?

We meet once every half term.

What if I cannot commit to attend every meeting?

Do not worry if you cannot attend every meeting, we understand that parents and carers will have a busy home life also. We will keep in regular contact with you over email to inform you of any outcomes and future meetings you may be able to attend.

What does it involve?

Being a friend of Ladywood involves a wide range of things.

Here are a few:

- Attending meetings to discuss upcoming events (Easter Raffle/Christmas Fair) & bringing new ideas to the table.
- Sourcing raffle prizes from local businesses.
- Helping to put on large events at the school to fundraise for Ladywood.





If you are interested in becoming a member of 'Friends of Ladywood' but cannot attend please email:

friendsofladywood@ladywood.bolton.sch.uk
one of our team members will be in touch.



Schoolgateway

Online Payments



We have now moved to School Gateway with regards to the payment of school meals, snack and a way in which we can communicate with parents.

Please see the guidance below on how to sign up to School Gateway.

It is essential that parents sign up for School Gateway so that you will continue to receive information from school such as school closures due to bad weather etc. We will no longer be using Teachers2Parents as a form of communicating.

If you are struggling to sign up please feel free to come to our Parent Coffee & Chat session on 8th March, 1:30-2:30 at main site and we will be able to assist you in signing up. Alternatively you can telephone the school's office for guidance over the phone.



How to activate your account

1. Download the Android or iPhone app.



- Press 'Sign Up' then enter the email and mobile number your school has on record. If you're not sure if they have the right details, it's best to check and update first.
- Press 'Send PIN'. You will receive a text message with your unique PIN.
- 4. You're now ready to log in and start using School Gateway.
- If you don't have a smartphone or prefer to use a computer, you can set up your account using the web version of School Gateway.
- 6. See a video guide here

How to log in

- Once you have your PIN, go ahead and launch the School Gateway app on your smartphone or tablet.
- Enter the email you have registered with your school and the PIN you received. If you didn't get a PIN, it is likely because your school doesn't have the right contact info. Get in touch with them to check.
- If both the email and PIN are entered correctly, hit 'Login' and you're ready to start engaging with your school.
- 4. You can also access School Gateway on the web





Texting Service - Adverse Weather Conditions/School Closure

Please can we remind parents of our procedure if we need to close the school due to adverse weather conditions or for any other reason. If school is not going to be open we will make a decision and send a text message out as early as we possibly can. If for any reason transport is not running, they will contact you directly. Please ensure that the main contact number for your child is up to date at all times and check for texts on a regular basis. School closure messages will also be put on:

https://www.bolton.gov.uk/schoolinformation/school-closures, Facebook and our Website.



Ladywood Social Media

To keep up to date with all our latest news, please follow us on our various social media platforms.



Instagram: @ladywoodschool



Twitter: @ladywoodschool



Facebook: Ladywood School



Youtube: Ladywood School

Ladywood Blog

Please don't forget to check the blog for daily/weekly updates on the children's learning and all the exciting activities that have been happening around school. The blog is a great way for everyone to communicate and to keep up to date.

http://blog.ladywood.bolton.sch.uk/

Internet Safety

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about



WHAT ARE THE RISKS? TikTok is a free social media platform that lets users create, share and watch short videos ranging anywhere from 15 seconds to 10 minutes in duration. The app gained notoriety for its viral dances, trends and celebrity cameos and can be a creative, fun platform for teens to enjoy. Now available in 75 languages, it, has more than a billion active users worldwide (as of spring 2022) and is most popular with the under-16 age bracket. In fact, a 2022 of com report found TikTok to be the most-used social media platform for posting content, particularly among young people aged 12 to 17.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

IN-APP SPENDING

Advice for Parents & Carers

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

MAKE ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

LIMIT IN-APP SPENDING

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

READ THE SIGNS

Meet Our Expert

age is an experienced technology journalist with a scord of more than 10 years in the industry. Previou tor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a ce technology journalist, editor and consultant.



RAME







@natonlinesafety





Sickness

Please be aware that if your child has an episode of sickness and/or diarrhoea they need to be kept off school for 48 hours from the last bout of sickness.

All schools are expected to adhere to this guidance from The Community Infection Prevention and Control Team.

Many thanks in anticipation of your support

Parking

Could we please request that parents who drop/collect their child by car, ensure when parking that you do not block other cars in, and also that you do not park in a Masefield School parking place.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Communication with Home

We are continuing to use Class Dojo as the main form of communication with parents/carers.

However, we appreciate that there may be times that you feel you need to speak to someone in person or urgently and the office team are always available and welcome calls from parents/carers.

Appointments

If your child has an upcoming appointment, could we please ask that you notify school in advance of when the appointment is taking place. Could a copy of the appointment letter also be sent to school prior to the appointment.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Contact Information

Please ensure that contact details and medical information for your child are up-to-date. If you are unsure please contact the main office on 01204 333400.

Could we please ask that parents keep their phone switched on throughout the day so that we are able to make contact with you if needed. Thank you.

Good Attendance Matters

At Ladywood we provide a safe learning environment which encourages all pupils to attend and be punctual whatever their level of ability or specific needs. We pride ourselves on high standards of pupil attendance and we expect that all children will attend school as long as they are fit and well enough to do so in line with the expectations of 380 half days (190 full days) for an academic year.

A child's attendance at school is the responsibility of parents/carers. Ladywood School will continue to actively work with parents/carers to encourage a regular pattern of attendance is maintained to ensure our children:

- Benefit from the educational opportunities provided at Ladywood
- Experience a broad and balanced creative curriculum
- Build on their learning experiences to achieve their full potential
- Develop their social and personal skills
- Promote children's welfare and safeguarding, failing to attend school on a regular basis will be considered as a safeguarding matter
- Have their legal entitlement to education; ensuring regular attendance at school is a legal responsibility and permitting
- Absence from school without a good reason creates an offence in law

The Government have brought out new guidelines that requires schools to ensure all children attend well. This includes:

- ·Attendance meetings if attendance falls below acceptable levels
- ·Daily contact when your child is absent
- ·A requirement to show proof of medical appointment
- ·Door stop visits

TERM TIME HOLIDAYS

As a school we understand that our children sometimes need to go on holiday when it is quieter rather than during the main holidays when it is very busy. We ask that you put in a holiday request form and seek permission in order for this to be authorised.

LADYWOOD HOLIDAY LIST 2023-2024 - PUPILS

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SCHOOL IS CLOSED TO PUPILS ON ALL SHADED DAYS

Woodbridge Trust Holiday List 2024-2025 - Parents

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The dates that are shaded in Gold are the days children and young people are <u>not</u> in school.

The dates that are Red are Bank Holidays.