



# Ladywood School

**JANUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER**



Dear Parents/Carers

In this, my first parent email of 2023, may I take the opportunity to wish you a Happy New Year; I hope that you and your families enjoyed the Christmas break.

Once again we have a fun packed term and are planning many exciting activities for your children. This term Year 6 children begin their swimming sessions, which is always a very enjoyable experience. In addition, we will be carrying out activities linked to 'Being safe on the Internet' and taking part in the Children's Mental Health Week which is focusing on the theme 'Let's Connect'.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Susan and everyone at Ladywood



## **REMINDER**

Please note that school finishes at the usual time on Friday 17th February and re-opens on Monday 27th February

## Friends of Ladywood

Once again, a huge thank you to our families who attended the Christmas Fayre, we raised an amazing £1137.58 which will go directly to classes to buy new resources.

Thank you also to our parents who are part of our Friends of Ladywood Group, who helped organise raffle prizes and suggest ideas for the event.

*If you would like to help us with future fundraising events and get together with other parents, we'd love for you to join our Friends of Ladywood group.*

*To find out more email:*

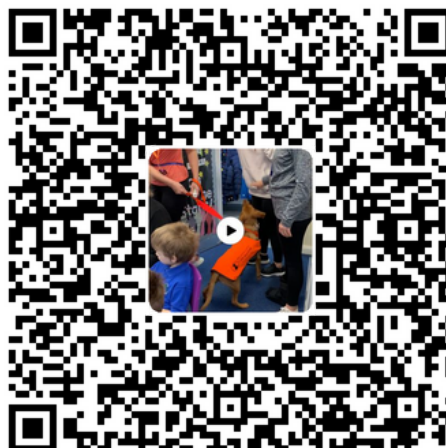
*friendsofladywood@ladywood.bolton.sch.uk*

*or speak to your child's class team*



## ELSIE

In December 5 Ladywood staff were trained to be handlers with Elsie. Here is a sneak peek at how pupils prepare to be safe when meeting Elsie for interventions. This was the first time Elsie visited a whole class so we are very proud of pupils, staff and Elsie. We look forward to sharing with everyone the impact on our pupils learning of having Elsie at school. Scan the QR code to watch the video.



## PAYMENT FOR SNACK

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 by cash. Please send into school in an envelope with your child's name on. Thank you.



## Welcome to Ladywood

A very warm welcome to Rebecca Andrew, Victoria Howard, Jade Whalley, Georgina Dunleavy and Tim Earnshaw who have joined the Ladywood team.



Our Hideaway is looking amazing! We are thrilled with our new woodland wall.



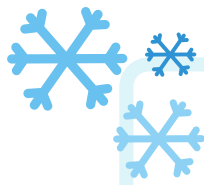
As a school we are reminding everyone of the **Catch It, Bin It, Kill It** campaign, taking steps to keep everyone safe in terms of cold spreading etc throughout the winter months



## Visit our new Ladywood Website!

We are excited to share that we have a new school website! Please click on the link below to view

<https://www.ladywood.bolton.sch.uk/>



## 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.



## 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](mailto:parentpartner@ladywood.bolton.sch.uk).



## 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 UNIFORM BANK



We would love any donations of nearly new or good quality uniform for our uniform bank. Please donate these at the school office.

Nearly new uniform is available at the school office. Please contact the office to discuss your needs.



# LADYWOOD SCHOOL



NO  
NUTS



We thank you for keeping our  
school safe!



# ONLINE SAFETY

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one game of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.



## What parents & carers need to know about ...

# AMONG US

PEGI  
7

Among Us is one of the most popular games of 2020. A space-themed 'social deduction game' where 4-10 players take on the guise of Crewmates, who must complete various tasks around their spaceship, while randomly selected Imposters must try their hardest to sabotage the others' efforts. The Imposters have to remain undetected through rounds of voting to win. While Among Us is a largely safe game, it's still prudent to be aware of any potential risks young ones might encounter when playing.

### Inappropriate chat

While Among Us can be enjoyed locally via Wi-Fi, it is commonly played online. Between rounds, players come together to discuss who they think the Imposter is with a text chat, and it's here where children will come into contact with others. There is a profanity filter on the game as standard, but it can very easily be disabled and (like any unmoderated chat groups) children can be exposed to inappropriate, sexual or explicit language.

### In-game purchases

Among Us is currently available on both PC (via the gaming service Steam) and mobile devices. On the PC, the game costs a flat amount of £3.99 and has some in-game purchases, whereas the mobile version is free to play but contains adverts and in-game purchases. You can pay to remove the ads or purchase in-game cosmetic items. While these amounts are relatively low, there's still the possibility that young ones could accidentally spend lots of money on the game without realising it, as the process is complete in a couple of taps if a card is connected to your store account.

### Risk of hacking

Among Us has been the target of hacking activity. Indeed, only recently the game's developer, InnerSloth, tweeted advice that users play private games or with people they trust, in response to hacking issues. As yet, there has been no breach in player accounts. However, if a big enough hack were to take place and player details were accessed, it could lead criminals to having access to credit card data and other personal credentials.

### Use of external apps

Many players use external apps like Discord to voice chat with each other while they're playing. The problem with this is that it is unregulated by the game. Usually on Discord, players will only talk to other people they know in private chats, but a stranger could add a child on an external app, pretending to be interested in playing Among Us with them, when in reality they could be attempting to bully, groom or extort.

### Mild violence

The art style of Among Us is cartoony but does contain some very mild violence. Imposters must kill off Crewmates one by one and can do this in a number of different ways. Some younger children might find this uncomfortable and could get scared or become upset when an Imposter is chasing them, or if they are the Imposter and are forced to kill. An age rating of PEGI 7 should help guide you in deciding if the game is appropriate or not.



## Safety tips

### Play with your children

Playing with your kids is one of the best ways to understand the game, and what makes it so popular. Among Us is free on mobile and is incredibly easy to pick up and play. It's also a great way to bond with your young ones - unless of course you're the Imposter or vote them out of the spaceship! You can do this by picking 'Local' on the main menu then 'Create Game'.

### Use private lobbies

Among Us uses private lobbies to let players keep track of who they're gaming with. Using a uniquely generated code that can be given to friends prior to a game starting, it gives parents peace of mind knowing who their kids are playing with. To get a game code, simply select 'Host', choose the game settings, press 'Confirm', then send the six-digit code at the bottom of the screen to friends to invite them.

### Deactivate credit cards

Having your credit card automatically paired with any online accounts that can be accessed by children is asking for trouble. A solution could be setting them up with their own account with no credit card attached. They can still ask you when they want to make a purchase, but it's totally up to you as to when that transaction happens.

### Use an alias

By default, your name on Among Us will be set to whatever name your device recognises you as. If this is your child's real name, you'll want to ensure they change it before hopping into a game. This is really easily done by clicking 'Online' on the main menu, then simply typing in a new name at the top of the screen.

### Talk about the risks

It's a good idea to talk to your child about the risks associated with online gaming, especially when there are chat options and an ability to communicate with others. Try to maintain an open dialogue with your child about their experiences of the game and who they're playing with. This will help you to stay on top of how they're feeling and ensure they know they can come to you if ever they feel upset or uncomfortable about anything they've experienced.

## Meet our expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for five years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the current gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGBible. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work - but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.



Sources: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.innersloth.spacemafia>

[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram - @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 28.10.2020

## 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/>

## 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.



### **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.

### **Operation Encompass**

Ladywood School is in partnership with Bolton Safeguarding Board and Greater Manchester Police in a project called "Bolton Encompass". The project is designed to provide support for children who may be impacted on by domestic violence. Information from Encompass will be shared with Mrs Susan Tailor who has been identified as key adult at Ladywood. The key adult will ensure that appropriate supportive strategies are put in place.



### **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.

### **Dinner Money**

The cost of school dinners is £2.30 per day/£11.50 per week. Should you wish your child to change from sandwiches to school meals or vice versa, please give the school office notice. Dinner money can be paid by cash or by SIMS Pay.

Dinner money can also be paid for the half term or for the term.

## **COMMUNICATION WITH HOME**

We are delighted with the engagement of parents/carers in Class Dojo and will continue to use this as the main form of communication.

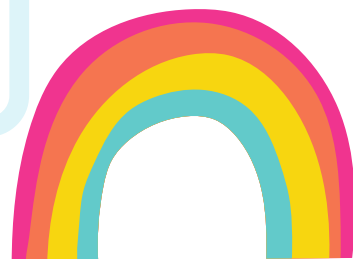
However, we appreciate that there may be times that you feel you need to speak to someone in person or urgently and the office team are always available and welcome calls from parents / carers.



## **Contact Information**

Can you 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.



# LADYWOOD HOLIDAY LIST 2022-23 – PUPILS

September 2022							
WK	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
36				1	2	3	4
37	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
38	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
39	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
40	26	27	28	29	30		

October 2022							
WK	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
40						1	2
41	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
42	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
43	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
44	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31						

November 2022							
WK	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
44		1	2	3	4	5	6
45	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
46	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
47	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
48	28	29	30				
49							

December 2022							
WK	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
49				1	2	3	4
50	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
51	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
52	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
53	26	27	28	29	30	31	

January 2023							
WK	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
53							1
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February 2023							
WK	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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	27	28					

March 2023							
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April 2023							
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13						1	2
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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May 2023							
WK	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
17	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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22							

June 2023							
WK	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
22				1	2	3	4
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July 2023							
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	31						

August 2023							
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33	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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35							

SCHOOL IS CLOSED TO PUPILS  
ON ALL SHADED DAYS

## LADYWOOD HOLIDAY LIST 2023-2024 - PUPILS

September 2023							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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May 2024							
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SCHOOL IS CLOSED TO PUPILS ON ALL SHADED DAYS