

Lions' Class

Autumn Newsletter

Welcome to Lions' class! I hope you all had a lovely summer. I am delighted to have joined the team here at Kedington. I have already been made to feel so welcome and was lucky enough to have met all the children before the summer holidays. I am excited to get to know their individual personalities and qualities throughout Year 3.

Our class bubble will consist of 32 children, Mrs Carpenter who has been with the children for the last two years, and me. Our classroom layout may look a little different to how we would have wanted it to, due to us continuing to adhere to the government guidelines to ensure we keep both the children and staff safe. For example, the children will be seated in forward facing rows, have individual stationery packs, continue with regular handwashing, keeping shared resources to a minimum and having separate play equipment.

Year 3 is the start of your journey into Key Stage 2 so there will be more changes to what you are used to. Hopefully, this letter will explain a bit more about Year 3 and our learning this term. During this time your child's wellbeing is of utmost importance and we are doing everything we can to ensure a smooth transition into Year 3 as well as creating a happy and safe learning environment. Any questions or queries feel free to contact me - my door is always open. I look forward to working with you and your children throughout the upcoming year. Miss Faulkner

Literacy	Maths	Science	Geography/History
We begin the term teaching in response to the needs of the class. This will be done through assessment and by recapping previous learning. After half term, we will be working on our descriptive writing. We will be refining our writing through different types of sentences and choosing sophisticated vocabulary.	Lions' class will start off by recapping key learning from Year 2 and plugging any knowledge gaps. We will then start by looking at number sense and calculation strategies before moving onto place value and graphs.	In science, the children will follow Unity's CUSP curriculum starting with rocks. This builds on knowledge learnt about materials in Year 2. We will then be moving on to looking at animals including humans; where we will look at nutrition, the skeleton, muscles and joints. A knowledge organiser will be handed out at the beginning of each topic.	In history, our unit will be Stone Age to Iron Age. After half term, we will start our field work in geography to record both human and physical features.

PE

This term, Lions will have PE on a Tuesday and Thursday. Please ensure that all kit is labelled.

PSHE

PSHE and the emotional well-being of pupils will be at the forefront of our curriculum. We will be following a new scheme called PATHS to support our children's well-being.

Class Dojo

Please continue to use ClassDojo to share any messages and to keep up to date with what is happening in class day to day. This is where you will get regular updates about our learning and any information you may need to know.

Homework and Spellings

Homework and spellings will be sent out every week on a Friday in addition to daily reading. This will need to be handed in on the following Wednesday for marking. Knowledge organisers will be sent home for some subjects and we ask that parents support children by going over the content to support class learning on these topics.

After school collection

Please let me know if there are any changes to the person picking up your child in the morning or on ClassDojo.

Accelerated Reader

Now that the children are in Year 3, they are starting to move away from the banded reading system into Accelerated Reader (AR).

At the beginning of each half term, the children will take something called a **Star Reader** quiz, this will then provide them with a reader range. They will then choose a book from our class library that they will take home and read, ideally with an adult. This will give them the opportunity to discuss what they have read and work on their inference skills. Once the book has been read, the children will come back with a signed note, in their learning logs, from an adult to say they are ready to take the comprehension quiz on that book. They will do the quizzes independently during our reading sessions with their book as a reference. They can then change their book and the process can start all over again.

AR is a programme that tracks the children's understanding of the books they are reading rather than focusing on the word reading itself. The reading ranges are based on the difficulty of the questions on the quizzes the children will take, **not** the books they are reading. Some of the books will say stage 8 but this is not an indication of their reading level.