

# Lions' Class

## Spring Newsletter



Welcome back to school and Happy New Year to you all. I hope everyone has had a restful and enjoyable Christmas break. I'm absolutely thrilled to be working with your children over the next two terms and supporting the Academy through my role as Deputy Head. Already, I have been made to feel so welcome and it was a pleasure to have met all the children last term and begin to learn their individual qualities. I feel we are in good stead to hit the ground running this term and continue to build upon the great progress made last term. The class will be taught at the beginning of the week by myself, and then Mrs Harding on Thursdays and Fridays. Mrs Harding will be building up the time she is in school over the next half term and a teacher called Mrs Stringer will be filling in on Thursdays and Fridays until she is back fully. If you do have any concerns or queries about your child's learning, then please make an appointment to see me. Once again, best wishes and a very happy New Year to you all. Mrs Ahlquist

Literacy	Maths	Science	Geography/History
We begin the term with narrative stories and will use the film, Monsters Inc, as a stimulus for writing. We then move on to learning about non-chronological reports and towards Easter, will learn to write shape poems using a range of poetry skills.	This term we focus on multiplication and division before moving onto fractions and telling the time. Times Table Rock Stars will continue most mornings - please encourage lots of practise of this at home!	Science will come later in the term and the children will learn about rocks and soils. They will classify rocks based on their properties and learn about different types of soil and their properties.	We begin the first few weeks of term completing the history unit. The children will learn about life in the Bronze and Iron Age. We then move onto the study of the UK in Geography.

### PE

This term, Lions class will have PE on Monday afternoons and Wednesday mornings. Please ensure that earrings are removed before the day of the session and hair tied back. They will also need to have a tracksuit or warm clothing for outdoor PE. Our indoor sessions will alternate between gym and dance. The daily mile will also begin - something the children are very excited about starting!

### Homework and Spellings

Similar to last term, homework and spellings will be sent out on a Friday to be completed by the following Wednesday. Please continue to sign the homework sheet when completed. Knowledge organisers will be sent home for some subjects. Please continue to quiz the children on the knowledge to support their learning in school.

### ClassDojo

I know Miss Poole has been excellent at updating ClassDojo and I will endeavour to do the same. Although, please bear in mind, I'm unfamiliar with the communication app at present, but will do my best to quickly catch-up and learn how the programme works. In the meantime, it may be best to communicate via written notes if you have any messages for me-especially in the first few weeks of term!

### Reading

The children will continue to use Accelerated Reader and take quizzes once they have completed a book. The children will do this in our reading sessions independently, with their book as a reference and then choose a new book for the process to start again.

There may be some afternoons in the week where Accelerated Reader does not take place because of our new curriculum blocking and the daily mile.

Whole class reading comprehension lessons will take place weekly using a new programme I will be trialling called 'Bug Comprehension'. In my previous experience, this has been a great success and children have enjoyed the challenging texts. Through discussion, they have been able to improve their vocabulary, retrieval skills and ability to make inferences. This programme will also be trialled in Years 4 and 5 and I will keep you informed on the outcomes as the year progresses.