# Barleyhurst Park Primary School














"Lovely lions look, listen and learn.
We can do it, we will do it, we will do it well!"

# Celebrations

## Lions Class

## Autumn 2 2026

**Welcome back, Lovely Lions!** We hope you had an enjoyable break and are now ready to continue your learning adventure in Leo's class.

Throughout the first half term, Lovely Lions have become more confident and have shown enthusiasm and hard work in everything they have done. They loved **Book Week** and displayed good segmenting, blending, comprehension and acting skills. Well done, Lions!



There will be many more exciting things to look forward to this half term, and I am sure that you will achieve wonderful things if you continue to listen carefully and always try your best.

Thank you to all the parents/carers who attended the **Parents' Evenings**. It was great to share with you all the things Lovely Lions have been up to during their first half term in the **"big school"**.

Moving forward, our topic for this half term is **Celebrations**. We will be learning about celebrations that are familiar to the children, as well as some that may be less familiar, such as Remembrance Day, Bonfire Night, birthdays, Christmas, Diwali and Eid.

During this half term, we will also be looking at how our environment changes during the autumn season.

## School life

We will continue to help the children feel settled in the school environment and reinforce the expectations we have of them.

The children will continue to put away their belongings, find their names, listen and follow instructions.



Throughout the day, the children will have opportunities to choose activities that are both indoors and outside. They will be expected to complete a range of activities with me or the other adults in the class but will also continue to explore the learning independently.

The children are now starting to attend most of the school assemblies, such as the Monday assembly, the Star of the Week assembly on Fridays and singing assemblies. They are also enjoying being on the playground at playtimes, seeing and playing with their siblings and friends in KS1.

The children will be joining KS1 pupils as we begin the practice for our Christmas Play.



As you already know, the children have the opportunity to choose a book from the school library each week. They need to return the book the following Friday in order to borrow a new library book.

## What the children will be learning

### Communication, Language and Literacy



- Continue the development of letter recognition and formation.
- Development of reading skills and enjoyment of books.
- Sequencing and retelling events in stories using 'Talk for Writing'.
- Opportunities to practise emergent writing.
- Name recognition and name writing.
- Learning new letter sounds every week in Monster Phonics lessons.
- Learning focus words and high frequency words in Monster Phonics.
- Having Monster Phonics reading assessments (magic reading tests).

Mathematical development



- Counting games and songs.
- Reading, writing, ordering and counting numbers 1 to 20.
- Recognising different 2-D shapes in our school environment.
- Exploring composition of numbers to 5 and 10.
- Making repeating pattern.
- Thinking about the number that is one more and 1 less.
- Subitising (saying the amount of objects without counting the items individually)

Understanding of the world



- Thinking about different celebrations such as Bonfire Night, birthdays, Christmas, Diwali and Eid.
- Using simple IT equipment.
- Looking at our environment and thinking about the seasonal changes.
- Learning about hedgehogs and hibernation.

Expressive arts and design



- Create firework pictures using different drawing and painting techniques.
- Make clay hedgehogs, using clay tools.
- Make colourful Rangoli patterns.
- Make food for Leo the Lion's birthday party.
- Different role-play experiences.
- Exploring instruments and listening to music from different cultures, including music composed by Dolly Parton (our composer of the term).

Personal, social and emotional development



- Activities to encourage independence, concentration and confidence.
- Continuing to be thinking about our classroom values.
- Thinking about our own community.
- Forming relationships within our classroom.

Physical development



- Developing an awareness of space.
- Using large play equipment safely.
- Travelling, using different parts of the body.
- Learning basic gymnastic shapes, balances and jumps.
- Improving their general fitness.
- Learning to express themselves through dance.



Your support

We hope you can assist your child in their learning by:



- Sharing the weekly Monster Phonics e-books as indicated in the weekly sticker in their reading record. Please make sure you are using the correct link: https://ebooks.monsterphonics.com
- Writing a brief comment in their reading record. (E.g. Read with mum/dad, date and title of the book)

- Helping them to learn their focus and high frequency words as indicated in each e-book. (The children must recall them automatically)
- Reminding them to bring their reading record to school every day.
- Keeping informed about weekly learning by logging onto Tapestry and completing a fun learning task at home.
- Ensuring all items of clothing are named.
- Ensuring that they come to school wearing the correct P.E kit on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.
- Useful websites: www.topmarks.co.uk, (early years section) www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies , www.phonicsplay.co.uk (phase 1 and 2 games), www.iboard.co.uk (4-7 years) and BBC Bitesize (early years).



## Key Dates

- Monday 9th November - Individual photos
- Thursday 12th November - Our Class Trip to Tiggywinkles
- Friday 13th November- Harry's Rainbow - Dress down
- Friday 27th November - Dress Down (Bring a bottle or a raffle prize)
- Wednesday 2nd December - Christmas Fayre from 2:15pm
- Tuesday 8th December - Nativity performance
- Friday 18th December - Last day of the Autumn Term

If you have any questions, please speak to me or a member of the Foundation Team.

Thank you for your ongoing support and co-operation.

Mrs Breitigam and the Foundation Team

