

Barleyhurst Park Primary School



Welcome to
Lions Class!

Ourselfes
Lions Class
Autumn 1 2026



A very warm welcome to all the children and parents to Barleyhurst Park Primary School.



I hope everyone had a lovely summer break and are looking forward to beginning their adventure as the Lovely Lions.

It was wonderful to meet many of you in the summer term and to welcome everyone back to school this week. The children arrived looking very smart and have shown so much enthusiasm for meeting their new classmates, teachers, and diving into all the activities we have planned.

This half term, our topic is all about **ourselves and others**. Through this theme, we hope to get to know each other a little better by sharing the stories and experiences that have shaped who we are so far.

Settling in

First and foremost, our goal is to help your child settle into a daily routine that feels secure while remaining flexible and exciting. Over the coming weeks, the children will be learning to look after their own belongings and gain confidence in asking for help when they need it.

Most importantly, they will be getting to know the adults in the school and building wonderful new friendships with their classmates.



Starting school is an exciting time, especially as children adjust to participating in larger groups than they may be used to. We will be gently guiding them as they learn to take turns, put up their hands to answer questions, and join in with class discussions.

These habits take time to build, but we always make sure to celebrate and encourage every step forward!

What the children will be learning

Communication and Language

- Listening attentively to adults and their peers
- Expressing their needs and emotions, asking for help
- Answering questions and talking about themselves
- Learning and using new vocabulary confidently

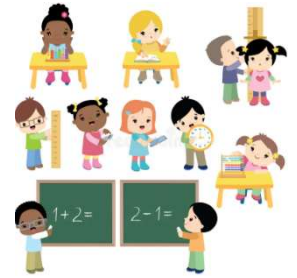


Literacy

- Development of early phonics, letter recognition and formation
- Development of reading skills and enjoyment of books through individual, group and whole class reading of stories, poems and non-fiction books
- Opportunities to practise emergent writing
- Name recognition and name writing

Mathematics

- Counting games and songs
- Counting out given amounts and labelling the amount
- Reading, writing, ordering and counting numbers 1 to 10
- Understanding the composition of numbers to 5 initially (number bonds)
- Development of mathematical language through play.



Understanding the World



The children will be thinking about their:

- family
- feelings
- home and school community

Expressive Arts and Design

The children will be using and developing their artistic skills to create their own:

- Collage self-portraits
- Pictures of a family member using an iPad
- Photo frames to display a family photo
- Collage, painting and printing using a variety of media
- Exploring musical instruments
- Singing familiar and new songs



The children will be able to experience different role play areas.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Activities to encourage independence, concentration and confidence
- Developing strong relationships and managing emotions
- Create classroom values which the children follow and believe in
- Learning together skills (as part of our whole school Learning and life skills approach)
- Learning about healthy eating and managing personal needs



Physical Development



- Awareness of space during P.E sessions
- To use large and small play equipment
- Development of core strength, stability, balance, co-ordination and agility
- To develop fine and gross motor skills through play activities
- To hold a pencil to form recognisable letters

Your support

Please support your children by:



- Reading different types of texts with them regularly
- Reading their Monster Phonics books online (the children will receive login details soon - please check the front of their Reading Record books and the sticker containing which book/books they need to read weekly)
- Reading their focus and high frequency words (found in the front of the Monster Phonics books and in the reading record)
- Encouraging the children to answer a range of questions about the books they've read
- Completing short learning journal tasks on Tapestry weekly
- Reminding them to bring their book bag and the reading record to school every day
- **Ensuring their belongings are named**
- Making sure they bring in a named water bottle to use in class
- **Ensuring they come to school wearing their P.E. kit, hair tied up (if long) and earrings covered or removed on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays (our PE days)**

There will be some yellow stars in your child's book bag soon. We want to celebrate what's happening at home, as well as school. It could be something like moving up swimming groups or eating peas at dinner time without moaning! Please write down your child's success and we will share, celebrate and display it!



Library

Lions go to the library every **Friday**. Please make sure your child has their library book in their book bag so they can swap it for a new one.

Important dates:

BOOK WEEK - WEEK COMMENCING 19th OCTOBER

LAST DAY OF TERM - FRIDAY 23rd OCTOBER

You will be getting an email in the next couple of weeks regarding Tapestry, our online learning platform, which some of you are already familiar with. You will then need to activate your account in order to view our observations of the children and perhaps posting your own observations/comments/home tasks! Tapestry can also be used to send messages to me.

Thank you for your continued support. Please don't hesitate to speak to myself or a member of the Foundation Team if any issue occurs.

We are very excited and looking forward to teaching and supporting the Lovely Lions.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Breitigam and the Foundation Team



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