



Dear Parents/carers,

Welcome to a new year of exciting opportunities within the Primary Department at Lonsdale School! You will have had recent correspondence giving information of your child's new class and Form Tutor, and may have noticed that teachers have moved. More details regarding class structure can be found below, along with some key information for the next academic year.

Class Structure

We are thrilled to announce that there will be five Primary classes for the 22-23 academic year! Meeting the academic, social and sensory needs of our pupils will always be our focus, and so our classrooms, teachers and structure are evolving to match our growth. This has given us opportunity to make some exciting changes! Due to the needs of our current cohort, there will be no Early Years class in 22-23, and our class groups will no longer be split by Key Stage.

Teachers across the school are moving classrooms and teaching different groups in September, which may mean that your child is in a classroom or with a teacher that they have had before. Please rest assured that this does *not* mean they are moving into a similar group to a previous year.

We have taken many factors into careful consideration when grouping pupils, such as preferred learning styles, sensory and social opportunities and academic pathways. We are confident that these groups will give our pupils the greatest opportunity to access all they need to maximise their progress.

Our new class names and Form Tutors are listed below. You will receive more detailed information relating to your child's particular class after transition day.

Class name	Teacher
Dragonfly Class	Miss Gregor
Monkey Class	Mrs Baker
Alpaca Class	Mrs Sumner
Robin Class	Miss Wood
Falcon Class	Miss Rose

Lonsdale School, Brittain Way, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, SG2 8UT
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**Reading & Phonics**

In January of this year, the Department for Education released an updated National Reading Framework, which includes mandatory changes to the way that all schools in England teach reading and Phonics. We have been working closely with this document, alongside trusted professionals from wider teams, to ensure that any changes we make benefit our pupils in a positive way.

In light of this, we are excited to be working with 'Little Wandle' next year, to deliver an SEN specific daily 'Systematic Synthetic Phonics' programme to our Primary pupils. Our reading scheme will also receive a major update to reflect this, with more details of changes coming in September.

To support learning between home and school, we will be hosting a series of events in 22-23 entitled the 'Lonsdale Learning Centre'. These will be information sharing afternoons, aiming to give parents and carers an opportunity to ask questions, share strategies, and learn more about how they can support learning at home.

Our first event will be on 'Supporting Reading' with more details being released in the coming weeks. To hear more about how you can support your child in their reading development, please come along!

Homework

Your child will continue to have homework set through our Remote Learning portal (accessed via the school website). If you need support to access this, please contact your child's form tutor. More details on regularity, content and deadlines will follow from your child's form tutor.

The most important thing you can do to support your child's learning is to read with them.

We understand that pupils often shy away from their reading scheme books whilst at home, so remember that it doesn't have to be a reading book; a bedtime story, comic, a cereal box – it all counts! Please record in their reading record daily, and ensure that the reading record is sent to and from school every day with the communication diary.

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2019-2022

Learning for Life!

Headteacher: **Ms Annemari Ottridge** M.Ed. NPQH NPQEL



Tapestry

Tapestry is an easy-to-use and secure online learning journal, which celebrates children's learning and development between home and school. Over the past year we have been using 'Tapestry' to record and share pupils' progress. We will continue to do so next year, and hope those of you who have accessed Tapestry so far have found it useful. Please continue to upload exciting events from home, and comment on learning that takes place in school.

Tapestry captures a small snapshot of the activities that your child engages with in school, and works alongside paper and computer based work to form an overview of your child's learning.

Your child will have a minimum of 5 observations per half term, and these can be viewed any time by logging in to the Tapestry parent's app.

Our weekly newsletter provides information and photos on pupils learning across the school, and more details on what your child enjoyed each day can be found in their communication diary. We will warmly welcome you to view a wider variety of your child's learning at our termly progress meetings.

Finally, I just want to say how excited our team is for the year ahead. There are a wealth of exciting prospects as we begin planning for more educational visits and visitors to school, and we can't wait to get started. Your child's Form Tutor will be writing to you personally with more specific information and to share your child's new timetable, but if you have any questions in the meantime, please do get in touch.

Warm regards,

Kathryn Gregor

Primary Phase Lead

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