



# Lions Newsletter

## Term 3

Spring 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back, we hope you all had a great winter holiday! We are looking forward to hearing all about what the children have been up to during their time away from school and all of the Lions Team are looking forward to the topics and activities that we will be covering over the next two terms.

### Topic

This term the children focusing on the topic 'Around the World'. Here we will be exploring different countries and continents and their cultural differences, celebrations, clothing, beliefs and languages as well as looking closely at different styles of art and music from all over the world.

In our cooking lessons, we will also be exploring the different food we find in other countries and learn how to make some of the healthier recipes and treats that we encounter. If your child has any photographs or souvenirs from visits to other countries that could be beneficial to their learning, please encourage them to bring them in to show.

### Science

The children are already excited about starting our new work in Science. Here we will be starting to look at different types of animals that we can find from across the globe and the habitats that they live in. The

children will also be learning about the life cycles of these creatures, considering what all animals need to survive and how they are specially adapted to their environment.

Key words for Science:

animals, creatures, habitats, life cycle, needs, survival, environments, adaptations, carnivore, herbivore, omnivore

### English

Our English work for the term is based on different stories and poems from around the world. Here the children will learn how different cultures influence the types of stories that we read and we will be looking carefully for links to our other subjects, particularly science. At the start of the term the children will be reading and adapting 'Handa's Surprise' and 'How the Kangaroo Got It's Tail'. before moving on to other children's tales from around the world.

For our non-fiction work the children will be making a fact-file about their favourite animals and writing practise letter writing to zoo keepers.

We will also be continuing with our daily phonics and reading skills as well as using Explorify and Picture Detectives to work on the children's speaking and listening targets.

Key words for English:

author, illustrator, familiar, same, different, setting, culture, edit, adapt

## Mathematics

In mathematics this term, the children will be developing their money skills and will be learning about the different values of coins and notes and discuss how to identify these. The children will also take part in a range of role-play activities to help them use money in real-life situations. We are also planning a trip to the shops to put our road-safety and money skills to the test.

Later in the term we will be revisiting our number and place value skills and applying these to solve simple problems using all of the operations that the children have learned.

Key words:

number, counting, place value, higher, lower, how many, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, money, penny, pence, pounds, coins, notes, cost, price, change

## Other Information

We will be continuing with the work that we started earlier in the year on 'life skills' and 'social skills' to help all of the children feel more confident in unfamiliar situations. In addition to the 'Communications Skills Pack' that we have been using, the children will be taking part in a wide range of social games and activities to help them develop their skills. We will also continue to explore social stories which will introduce new scenarios or situations that our children may struggle with. Most of these stories and activities are tailored to our children's needs so, please feel free to write in your child's home-school book if there are topics such as dentist appointments or different hygiene issues etc. that you would like us to cover.

Throughout the term, we will also continue to explore UNICEF Convention of Children's Rights as a class and will be updating our

'Class Charter' where the children will get plenty of opportunities to think about what is important to them and speak out if they are concerned or have something important to share. It is important for our children to know about their rights so that they can be happy and ask for help if it is needed.

## How You Can Help Your Child Learn

Research continues to show that it is important for children to read, count and have conversations regularly at home in order to support their learning at school. Please try to read for at least 10 minutes each day and to practise other skills in order to build your child's confidence in using language and basic number. We will also send out homework from time to time to support different learning or personal skills.

This term, it is particularly important for all of our children to explore the idea of money as much as possible through trips to the shop, playing with coins or even pretending to buy something when playing. Money is an abstract concept that needs regular coverage in order to secure an understanding of it. If you need extra resources or support for this, please contact the class staff for assistance. There are also activities on Education City and Purple Mash if the children would like to explore money further.