

## Welcome to Lamorna Class (Year 6)

Firstly, a very warm welcome to Lamorna Class and can I say how much I am looking forward to working with you and your child to make this year a fun-filled learning journey. I bet it doesn't feel possible that Year 6 has come around this quickly and it only seems a blink of an eye that you were waving them off to their first day in Reception. But here we are...

Below are a few of the key details about the organisation of your child's class this year. For any other information, our class webpage will be continually updated if ever you have queries about dates, expectations or homework and documents and photos will also be found on Seesaw.

**Staff:** Mr Ashley Larter (Teacher), Mrs Louise Greygoose (TA), Mrs Osmand (TA), Mrs Laity (TA)

### **Weekly Organisation:**

<b>Monday:</b>	<b>Tuesday:</b>	<b>Wednesday:</b>	<b>Thursday:</b>	<b>Friday:</b>
<b>All day – Mr Larter</b>	<b>All day – Mr Larter</b>	<b>All day– Mr Larter</b>  AM - Whole Class Brass lessons  <b>PM - PE</b>	<b>AM – Miss Mathews –</b> RE / Computing / French  <b>PM – Mr Larter</b>	<b>AM – Mr Larter</b>  <b>PM – Mr Davey –</b> Science / DT
<b>Homework</b>				
Min. 20 minutes reading every day – to be written in planner (by child or parent)				
TT Rock Stars – Min. 30 mins a week (5 mins every day works well!) Due Friday morning (Set each Friday)				
Spelling Shed – Complete assignments once a week - Due by Friday morning (Set each Friday)				

### **Homework:**

We are currently considering our whole school policy for homework but at the moment we have stripped it back so as to concentrate on the fundamental basics. As a rough guide we will follow the timetable above. The regularity and quantity of homework will increase as the year progresses (especially after the first half term) in the run up to SATs and in preparation for secondary school.

**Reading** – your child will bring a school library book home, along with their Accelerated Reader bookmark indicating their range for book choices and their points target for the term. When they complete their book, they will be able to complete the associated AR quiz. Please help your child to build on their reading stamina, fluency and comprehension by ensuring they ***read at home, daily for a minimum of 20 minutes***. This is a key area for home support so ***please use your child's School Planner every day to indicate what they have read and keep us informed of any positives or concerns with their reading that you have***.

**Times tables** – any support with this will be greatly beneficial, all children need rapid recall of all tables and associated division facts (between 1 and 2 seconds response time). Try to keep it fun, short, regular - really push 'Times Tables Rock-stars' to assist with this – if you would like other resources to help with this please do ask.

**A last note on homework - your child should be able to access all homework independently. HOWEVER**, if they require support this is fine, but please let us know in your child's planner or email me. Also feel free to note anything you think your child requires support with resulting from the homework. Finally, if your child is finding the homework throughout the year tough - first of all reinforce the learning attributes of determination, independence and resilience, but definitely avoid the onset of a full-scale 'Homework Armageddon'; instead of this rather drop me a note in their planner and we can work through the problem at school.

**Planners:** As always, the planners are a crucial part of home/school communication. Please utilise these as much as possible when letting us know something. There are also lots of handy resources that can be used such as Maths/English glossaries and overviews (handy for homework!) and a **home / school agreement** that we would appreciate you talking through with your child and signing.

**Logins** for various online platforms such as EdShed (Maths/Spelling Shed), TT Rock Stars and Accelerated Reader will be stuck in your child's planner.

**Walking to school:** Sometimes children walk to/from school without an adult. Therefore, we ask parents to write a letter or email to me stating when they will be walking home. We cannot release children without an adult unless a letter/ email has been sent or if you have made a special arrangement with the office or myself. Then on the days your child is walking home alone they need to sign themselves out using a book at the office.

**Mobile Phones:** Any mobile phones that are brought into school must be given to a member of staff in class so they can be stored safely. Mobile phones should not be used in school time and we try to discourage children bringing them in unless in extreme circumstances.

**Free School Meals:** Please also see the school office (or the school website) if you think Free Schools Meals might apply to your children. Funding is brought into school for interventions, small group-work, subsidising trips, etc. via this process, so even if your child won't eat the dinners, it is definitely worth applying.

**School Gateway App / Parent Pay App:** Please note that if you would like your child to attend wrap around care (breakfast club or Fun Zone) then these need to be booked using the correct apps. Payment for dinners, trips, clubs etc can also be made using the parent pay app.

**Communication:** We would appreciate it if you could link up to your child's Seesaw by accepting the invite via email. This means you'll be able to see your child's learning, see documents/photos and send and receive messages from school.

**Attendance/Punctuality:** It is vital that children attend school every day unless they are definitely unwell. Missing any chunk of time (even the odd day or two) can have a negative effect on their learning. Being prompt to school everyday is also crucial as it means that they are able to maximise every learning opportunity, feel settled for the day ahead, have a positive start and be able to access support and interventions that often occur at the very beginning of the day.

### **Secondary School Preparation:**

Please can you ensure that your child takes full responsibility (obviously a little nudge in the right direction never hurt!) for packing all their necessary equipment every day – a forgotten piece of homework, remembering to wear PE kit on the day we have PE, homework planner needs to be their responsibility in order to instil independence by the time secondary school arrives. Wherever possible we will avoid the phone call home asking for forgotten PE kit (for lessons or clubs when they are available) or homework – after-all it is a key skill for secondary school and beyond to get organised and hit deadlines!

### **Key Transition Dates:**

**Application for secondary school must be completed online at [www.cornwall.gov.uk](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk) by 31<sup>st</sup> October – please ensure this deadline is met to avoid any unnecessary disappointment or stress for you and your child.**

Before the deadline, the school strongly recommends that you encourage your child to take part in as many transition activities as possible – both to inform your decision and to help reduce their anxieties for next September, even if this involves activities at schools you are not applying for.

You will soon receive details from the two Penzance schools regarding the upcoming Open Days and Parent Open Evenings:

- Humphry Davy School has an open day which the children will attend as a class on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October.
- Mounts Bay Academy has an open day which the children will attend as a class on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October.

Other local schools:

- **Hayle Academy / Helston Community College / St Ives Academy / Mullion / Nexus**

We do not have such strong links with these schools and therefore if you wish your child to attend their taster days please contact the schools direct for details and double check they are correct on the schools' websites.

### **SATs - Monday 8<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May (A rough guide below of timetable)**

Monday	SPaG
Tuesday	Reading
Wednesday	Maths – Paper 1 Arithmetic / Paper 2 Reasoning
Thursday	Maths - Paper 3 Reasoning

\*please reassure your children that these are purely something for us to worry about and that by the time they arrive we will have got them as well prepared as possible to show off their many academic talents!

### **Finally...**

I am sure that you are probably bored to tears with the length of this 'note' by now so I'll conclude here. However, I would like to finish off by making it clear that I have an open-door policy and want you to always feel welcome to discuss your child's school work, progress or concerns (however small it may seem). So rather than worrying at home, phone or jot a note in your child's planner or email me so we can build a successful partnership to help your child have a happy, successful year.

I am really looking forward to the year ahead and working with your child to make it a year to remember!

Kindest regards,

Ashley Larter