



# Deer Class Newsletter

Dear Parents and Children,

Welcome to Deer Class! My name is Claire Henderson and I am delighted to be joining the Havannah First School community this year. I hope that after a relaxing summer holiday, you are all ready for the start of the school year.

These half termly newsletters will provide you with useful information about the weeks ahead and will also share and celebrate with you our learning from the previous half term.

On our first newsletter of the year you will find a topic overview that outlines what we will be learning this half-term. If you have any further questions, please do get in touch and I look forward to working with you all over the year ahead. The first opportunity for us to meet in person is at our **Coffee Morning on Tuesday 19th September at 9am** and I hope many of you will be able to attend. A copy of the information shared will be sent home if you aren't able to join us.

Best wishes, Claire Henderson



**Classroom Organisation** Deer Class is a Year 3 class, and I will teach the class every day, except for a Monday afternoon, when Mrs Mingoia and Mr Burnett will teach the class for two lessons (Mrs Mingoia will teach Spanish or RE; Mr Burnett will teach Computing). Our class will also be supported by Mrs Francisco throughout the week, particularly for English. Mrs Francisco will also open the East Stairs door that the children enter school through each morning.

**BAGS:** Children can bring in their bags containing their planners and reading books and leave them on their school peg. They will also need a named water bottle every day which will be brought home at the end of the day.

**PE** Our PE lessons are scheduled to be on Wednesday and Friday. The children will be asked to bring their PE kits to school on these days and get changed before the lessons. Wednesday's session will be indoors and school PE kit will be worn. Our Friday sessions will be outdoors, weather conditions permitting. It can get quite chilly outside so extra layers like sweatshirts, hoodies and joggers/leggings are useful to keep in their PE bags.

**Times Tables** The children will be continuing working on their times tables this year. They are encouraged and supported to develop a rapid recall of the times table number facts, as this helps them use their knowledge in Maths to solve calculations and problems. They will be assessed on a particular multiplication table each week, they will be asked to practise learning these number facts at home. The children will build up gradually to be able to answer the questions within about 10 seconds to encourage this speed. To help the children, they will be given details to log on to 'Times Tables Rockstars'. Logins for TT Rockstars will be stuck in the front of planners and it would be great if you could encourage the children to practise at home.



**Spellings** Spelling is an integral part of writing, so your help would be appreciated in encouraging your child to regularly learn the spellings set, to enable them to use them in their writing. The children will be set spellings each week given to them on a Friday and they will be assessed on them the following Friday. You will also receive a copy of the on-going key word list for Year 3 and Year 4 children. It would be wonderful if the children could learn these words alongside their weekly spellings so that they will have a solid grasp of how to spell them by end of Year 4.

**Reading** The children read individually on a regular basis (we aim for at least once a week) and it is also important that they read on a daily basis at home. Reading books, which have been chosen by the children, will be sent home every night, to be returned the following day, whether the book is finished or not. Planners will be checked regularly, with children being encouraged to record the pages they have read in their own reading planner.



**Homework** Homework will be set in their homework books on a Friday. The children will bring this home and should return it to school by the following Tuesday. The homework will be a range of activities from different curriculum areas throughout the year. The activities will be set to support learning in class and will be matched to the children's ability.



**Twitter / X** We post lots of our fantastic activities and achievements on X, previously Twitter. Please follow us if you can. We are [@DeerClassHFS](https://twitter.com/DeerClassHFS)