

If you have any questions, or would like more information on the curriculum, please do not hesitate to ask. ARP staff are available to speak to before and after school, or you can send a direct message on the message section of Class Dojo. Please could you contact both teachers when you are sending messages on Dojo so that we can be sure to see the messages on our working days.

### ARP Staff



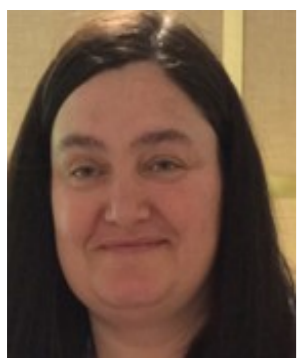
Deborah Campbell  
Class Teacher  
Thursday and  
Friday



Liz Humby  
Class Teacher  
Tuesday,  
Wednesday



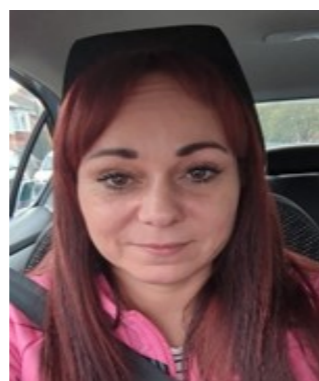
Amina Hussain  
SEND Teaching  
Assistant  
Wed, Thurs, Friday



Donna Anderson  
SEND Teaching  
Assistant Full Time



Joanne Court  
Lunchtime  
Supervisor  
Supports in  
classroom regularly



Kelly Richardson  
Lunchtime  
Supervisor  
Supports in  
classroom regularly



## ARP - Koala class

### Autumn Term 2024

We hope you have all had a great summer break, and welcome back to school for Autumn term. This year we have one child returning from last year and four new children in Koala Class.

Our theme for the Autumn term is "Who am I?" The children will think about their world—their families, school and friends. We will also learn about their bodies, feelings and senses. The children will be learning at their stage and have access to curriculum content which matches this. Any returning Koala children will be learning about new aspects of this topic.

If your child is new to Koalas, we would greatly appreciate it if you could send some photos of the children as babies and also one of them each year of their lives (preferably on their birthdays) so we can make a timeline. We would also like photographs of their family members, which will help the children to talk about them. You can either send in photos which we can photocopy or post them on Tapestry or Dojo.

In Forest School the children will collect fruit from the orchard to cook with, explore our forest school area and make maps. They will explore, looking for signs of Autumn and build fires to keep them warm! They will also learn new games to help get lots of exercise and develop gross motor skills. The children will attend Forest School every Friday afternoon. The children can wear leggings or tracksuit bottoms on Fridays rather than school trousers. We will provide waterproofs and wellies, although children can wear their

## Useful Reminders

**Class Dojo:** We will use the Class Dojo App to post information and updates about life in our class. You can comment on posts and use the message function to communicate information to teachers.

**Please note: Absences must be reported by telephone to the main school office, not by Dojo to class teachers.**

**Communication:** We will use a combination of Tapestry, class Dojo and telephone calls to communicate about your child. You can speak to someone in the school office at any time and teachers will be available to speak by telephone before or after the school day.

**Labelling:** Please remember to put your child's name in their school clothes as this helps us to make sure they have all their belongings at the end of the day.

**Reading:** The children will be bringing a library pack home to enjoy sharing with you. Please record in the yellow book how your child enjoyed you reading the stories to them and how they interacted with the books, looking at the pictures, or telling parts of the story. Once you have shared the book and any activities, please return the pack to school and your child will bring a new pack home. In time, children may also bring home words, sounds and phonics books to practise at home too.

**Coats:** The children will be playing outside every day so please ensure your child has a warm coat during the Winter. They will also need hats and gloves if they are comfortable wearing them. We have waterproofs and wellies for wet days.

**Spare clothes:** It is helpful for your child to have a spare set of clothes including socks and underpants in their bag every day in case of toilet accidents, falling over in mud or getting wet playing in the water. We are also grateful for any donations of clothes your child has grown out of and no longer needs.

**PE Kit:** The children will have PE kit supplied by school which will be kept in the classroom.

**School resources:** Children may sometimes bring home school resources to help them learn. They also sometimes bring home school toys that they have in their pockets. We would be very grateful if you would kindly return any school resources after you have used them at home.

## Here are some of the things we are planning to do this term.

<b>Reading</b>	We love reading in Koalas! We read and talk about picture books every day and the children enjoy sharing and joining in with familiar stories. Many of our topics and themes start from stories, to foster an early love of books and develop pre-reading skills by looking at pictures, retelling favourite stories and acting out elements from stories. We do "Drawing Club" daily which encourages the children to use their imagination and think more deeply about stories. When ready, they will learn to recognise the sounds letters make and follow the Read, Write Inc. phonics programme in school.
<b>Writing</b>	The children develop their writing muscles by doing "Dough Disco" and a variety of fine motor and hand strengthening activities. We also do a "Squiggle while you Wiggle" programme daily to develop gross motor skills. There are many opportunities for the children to make marks, draw, colour and develop pre-writing skills. During play and planned activities we encourage the children to "write" for a purpose. The early stages involve activities such as making marks to write their name, making shopping lists and labels for their pictures. As the children develop, they begin to follow the Read, Write Inc. program in school, often by being included in mainstream groups.
<b>Maths</b>	The ARP environment is set up to provide lots of opportunities to develop maths skills through play—counting, matching, comparing and measuring. We also have planned activities daily to build maths skills progressively. This term we will be focusing on exploring numbers 1 to 10 (and beyond), counting, subitising, grouping and forming numerals. We will also compare groups of objects to find out which has fewer or more and will start to combine groups of numbers to add them together. We will be learning to recognise 2D and 3D shapes and will compare objects according to their weight, length and capacity. Children may also join their mainstream classes for maths when appropriate.
<b>Speaking, listening and Communicating</b>	In Koalas the children are continuously developing their communication skills through play, planned activities and group times. They have adult play partners to model positive communication with their peers. The children are beginning to learn how to listen to, and follow, instructions. We use visual symbols to help the children identify how they are feeling and to communicate this to others. We also follow advice and strategies from Speech and Language Therapists working with the children.
<b>Personal and Social development</b>	As we return to school we will be learning how to get along with new friends—sharing, taking turns, finding out about different likes and dislikes and resolving conflicts by talking. We will also be exploring emotions and how to manage them, using "Zones of Regulation". We will give you more information about these zones when we start to learn about them in class.
<b>Physical Development/ P.E.</b>	The children all really enjoy active play and this helps build their balance and coordination. The children play outdoors every day and have opportunities to use bikes and scooters. Once the children settle, they will visit the sports hall once per week for a P.E. lesson. Physical development also includes the children learning about their bodies and developing independence in following toilet, hygiene and eating routines.
<b>Geography/ History/ Science/ICT/ Understanding the World.</b>	The children will learn to name parts of their body and talk about what keeps them healthy. They will also consider how they and their families have grown and changed over time. They will observe the changes around them as the seasons change into Autumn then Winter and record these changes by taking photographs to compare. We will learn how people celebrate Diwali, Halloween and Christmas.
<b>Expressive Arts and Design/ Art and design technology</b>	The children will be encouraged to be creative daily, with paint, collage, junk modelling, playdough, musical instruments and role play. Adults will play and work with children to develop their imagination through role play and small world area play. The children will be encouraged to explore paints and art materials to make pictures and their own creations. For music the children will join in an adult led music group every week, exploring percussion instruments and keeping a regular beat. We will sing songs about Autumn, body parts and then Christmas.