



## Kirkstead Class - September 2025

I hope you and your child/children have all had a relaxing summer and that they are looking forward to the beginning their new school adventure. I would like to take this opportunity to share all the Kirkstead routines with you and everything you need to know to get this year off to a great start.

### Drop off/Pick Up

The day will start with the children coming in through the KS1 gate which will be open at **8.35am**. Please bring your child straight to the red double doors where a teacher will be waiting to welcome them into school. For this first week, you are initially invited to bring your child into school - help your child find their coat peg in the corridor where they can leave their coat, put their lunchbox on the trolley by the classroom door, find their named trays in the classroom where they put their book bag and direct them to sit on a carpet dot before saying your goodbyes. The following week the children will be encouraged to come in independently. At home time, the KS1 gate will be opened at **3:10pm** and the children will be collected from the classroom door at **3.15pm**.

### Topic



To help ease your child into their new learning environment, our first two weeks will focus on the topic **“Hello”**. This theme encourages children to share about themselves, celebrate what makes them unique, and talk about their families. It’s a lovely way for them to build confidence and begin forming connections with their peers.

Following this, we’ll dive into our next topic: **“Wonderful Weather”**. Children will explore the season of Autumn, observe changes in nature, and learn about different types of weather. As part of this, they’ll take part in **Forest School**

sessions, where they’ll experience the natural world firsthand—an exciting opportunity to learn through outdoor play and discovery.

### Reading and Phonics

The children will be taught daily phonics using our fantastic scheme Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised. Alongside our phonics scheme, in week 4, the children will initially bring home Little Wandle picture books to share in school and at home. Once ready the children will move on to reading **fully decodable** reading books. These phonics books will include sounds that your child has learnt, and they will have shared the book with an adult in school before they bring it home. As a result of this, your child should be able to read it independently. In addition to the phonics book, they will also take home a ‘sharing’ book that they will **not** be able to read independently and is designed to be shared with a grown-up. They may, of course, choose to read something they have at home for this instead.



Little Wandle books will be sent home on a **Friday** from week 4. Please return the book on the following **Friday**. The books we have purchased are a valuable resource and we kindly ask that you keep the books in a good condition so they last as long as possible. Sharing books will be changed on a **Monday** and **Wednesday**.



#### LINCOLN ANGLICAN ACADEMY TRUST

Ruskington Chestnut Street C of E Academy | Chestnut Street | Ruskington | NG34 9DL  
Telephone 01526 888482 | Email enquiries@laat.co.uk | Web www.thelaat.co.uk

The Lincoln Anglican Academy Trust Ltd is a registered company in England and Wales No 8737412



Every child will have a 'Home School Record' with their reading books for yourself to record when your child has read. Dojo points are awarded for daily reading, but only if the home school record is signed. If the home school record is not signed, or if the book is not returned to school, your child will not be able to choose a different book.

## Mathematics



In the first few weeks the children will explore routines and timings, they will be encouraged to develop their positional language as they talk about the objects in their outdoor and indoor provision. The children will be learning about and practising subitising up to 4. They will be singing a range of counting songs and practising counting objects, actions and sounds up to 5. They will look at the composition of numbers to 5 and ways of representing numbers to 5 too. They will also be comparing amounts and identifying which group has fewer and which has more. The aim is to embed a good understanding of number. Their learning will be supported by the Numberblocks programme.

## P.E.

PE will take place every week on **Tuesday**. Please send your child to school in their PE kit. The children will remain in PE kit for the whole of the day.

## Forest School

From week 3, the children will be taking part in weekly outdoor Forest School sessions and they will **need to have clothing appropriate to the weather**. This should consist of either a named puddle suit or named waterproof trousers and waterproof jacket and named wellies or boots. This clothing will be kept at school until the end of the term.



## Homework

Homework will be given out each Friday in the homework folder and it is expected to be back in school on the following Thursday. From week 2, the children will receive a phonics home learning task every week.

## Baseline Assessments

In the first 6 weeks, each child will be participating in the reception baseline assessment (RBA). The purpose of the assessment is to provide the starting point to measure the progress schools make with their pupils. The RBA is a short, interactive and practical assessment of your child's early literacy, communication, language and mathematics skills when they begin school, using materials that most children of your child's age will be familiar with. It was statutory for all schools from September 2021. For more details on the baseline assessment you can speak to the class teacher and also visit [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/682e31e3e9440506ee953953/2025\\_Information\\_for\\_parents\\_reception\\_baseline\\_assessment.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/682e31e3e9440506ee953953/2025_Information_for_parents_reception_baseline_assessment.pdf).



### LINCOLN ANGLICAN ACADEMY TRUST

Ruskington Chestnut Street C of E Academy | Chestnut Street | Ruskington | NG34 9DL  
Telephone 01526 888482 | Email enquiries@laat.co.uk | Web www.thelaat.co.uk

The Lincoln Anglican Academy Trust Ltd is a registered company in England and Wales No 8737412



### Fruit and Water

The children will be given a healthy snack (piece of fruit) each day. We encourage drinking water regularly so please send your child in with fresh water every day in their named water bottle.

### Picking up after school

If someone other than the usual person will be picking up your child after school, please let us know.

We are looking forward to a fantastic start to the term and can't wait to see your child thrive and grow.

Kind regards,

Mrs Nicholson, Mrs Allitt & Miss Rogers



#### LINCOLN ANGLICAN ACADEMY TRUST

Ruskington Chestnut Street C of E Academy | Chestnut Street | Ruskington | NG34 9DL  
Telephone 01526 888482 | Email enquiries@laat.co.uk | Web www.thelaat.co.uk

The Lincoln Anglican Academy Trust Ltd is a registered company in England and Wales No 8737412