

Welcome to the first edition of our Forces Newsletter. We aim to distribute this newsletter with you termly to share and celebrate the experiences that we provide for our Forces children. We would like to take this opportunity to introduce the Forces leaders that we have across our Academy and who support your children.

## The Forces Leaders

Mrs Laura Thwaites

*Year 3 Class Teacher & Lower Key  
Stage 2 Leader*



Miss Naomi Burr

*Year 5 Teaching Assistant*



Miss Olivia Grimley

*Year 4 Class Teacher*



## Support we offer:

- A Tuesday lunch time drop in 'Forces club' in Mrs Thwaites' classroom for Key Stage 2 children.
- Weekly sessions for Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 children with Mrs Ford in the woodland den.
- A Forces library located outside of Miss Smyth's Year 4 classroom. These books can be shared at home and in school to support the needs of pupils.
- Countdown charts, diaries and memory books for children with parents that are working away from home.
- The opportunity to Zoom/Skype within school time with parents that are deployed. We understand that time differences can limit contact during the week, and we are happy to support contact between families.
- Trips to military bases and to alternate venues to build a sense of community within our Forces pupils.
- Forces family breakfasts for our pupils and their parents and carers.
- The opportunity for children to lead whole school projects to promote an awareness of our Forces community.

## Deployments and Postings

If a parent or carer is deployed or posted out of area, please contact the school office to request a deployment letter to complete and return to us.

The information that is provided allows us to ensure that the best possible provision is in place for your child to ensure that this period of time is as positive as possible in relation to both their education and emotional welfare.

admin@withamsthughs.org

## Did you know?

Information on the Service Pupil Premium, such as how this can be used to meet to the needs of our Forces children and our forecast of spending, can be found on our school website following the link below.

<https://withamsthughsacademy.co.uk/service-pupil-premium/>

## How can you help?

If you have any further suggestions with regards to how we can further support the Forces pupils in our care, or if you are able to offer support with organising trips to your place of work, please contact Mrs Thwaites.

Laura.thwaites@withamsthughs.org