



Maple Class Welcome Letter

September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you enjoyed a refreshing summer holiday and that your children are settling well into their new class. Some of their routines are detailed below.

Arriving and Leaving

The doors open at 8.40 am and registration is at 8.50 am. Any children who come after this time must come in via the office to sign in. Morning break is 10.30 to 10.45 and lunchtime is 12 pm to 1 pm. At the end of the day, 3.10 pm, children should be collected from the same door as last year and will stay with school staff until they are collected. If your child is being collected by anyone different, please notify the class teacher or the office.

Uniform and Physical Education

As always, the children will be expected to wear the correct uniform to school each day. Please note that the wearing of nail varnish and jewellery is not permitted in school. Children with long hair, must keep it tied back at all times. Please be aware that the weather often changes dramatically and ensure your child has a raincoat in school every day. Year Two children will have their main PE lessons on **Thursday** mornings before half-term and on Thursday afternoons after half-term. Please ensure your child is wearing their PE kit for these days and that it is clearly labelled. All names written in pen fade quickly so please check and re-label regularly if necessary. We will continue to do the Friday mile or alternative exercise on Friday afternoons and your child is welcome to bring their trainers for this.

Who teaches your child?

Mrs Delve works as the classroom assistant in Maple each morning. The children also have several specialist teachers. Miss Crathorne will be teaching art each Thursday before half-term and Mr Kip Pratt will be teaching music each Thursday after half-term. PE will be taught by sports coaches from 'Achieve 4All'. These coaches will also be leading sports activities at lunch time and providing after school dodgeball and ultimate frisbee on Wednesdays and Thursdays. More details will be provided.

Home Learning

Thank you for your support with listening to your child read daily at home. To enable your child to develop their comprehension skills, please talk about the book together. It is very helpful if you write down impressive words that they have managed to read and whether they manage to notice and correct any mistakes that they make. Please record regularly in their reading diaries so we can monitor their progress.

Homework will be given out each Thursday and will be due in the following Tuesday. The homework will be explained before it goes home, and it will link to their learning in school. Please let me know if there are any problems and make a note in the homework book if you have helped your child. Spellings will be sent out every other week and will include details of when the spelling test will take place. Please help your child to practise their spellings at home. I have provided some suggestions of different ways of learning spellings on an additional sheet. Using the free online program Spelling Frame is also good way of practising spellings. Homework will sometimes include times table practise. Don't forget to encourage your child to improve their position on Times Table Rock Stars!

The Federation is following the Learning Challenge Curriculum for science, geography, history and other non-core subjects. You will find more details about this in the Parent Overview and Knowledge Mats. There will be an opportunity to do work at home relating to this as a voluntary project. More details will follow.

We ask that children only bring in any objects from home that are linked to our topics in class. However, every Friday one child is selected to take Elmer, our much-loved class mascot, home. This is an opportunity for the child to share their weekend activities with Elmer. They can then bring Elmer and an item connected with their activities back to school and tell the class about their activities.

Lunches, Snack Time and Birthday Treats

Please read through the menu at home with your child to check what they want and whether they will like that option. During school hours we will continue to remind children to drink plenty of water. Please make sure that their drinks bottle and snack container are clearly marked. The school encourages healthy eating and free fruit is provided for afternoon snack time. We ask you to provide small healthy snacks for morning break. Please do not send in birthday treats; the school will not be able to give birthday treats out in the classroom or on the playground.

Medications

The school can only administer prescribed medication which needs to be left in the office with a signed form. Any other medication will need to be administered by parents/guardians.

Adult Helpers

Additional help is greatly appreciated. Most morning begins with independent reading. If any of you can help with this, even if just now and then, please let me know. From time to time, there will also be activities during the day when additional adults would be helpful. I will keep you posted.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate in contacting me through the office so a suitable time can be arranged for a chat.

Best wishes
Mrs Maddocks