Dear Parents/Carers,

First of all, I hope you have all had a brilliant summer. It has been fantastic getting back into the routine of ‘normal school’; seeing the children learning, running and smiling again has been a pleasure. So far, they have been very mature, understanding and quick to adapt to the necessary changes we have made in school. They’ve been a delight to teach. I thought it would be helpful for you to have further information on the routines and expectations in Maple Class.

**P.E will take place on Friday.** Please could children bring their P.E kit in on that day and then take it home at the end of the day to be washed.

**Forest School will take place on Wednesday.** Similarly, please could children bring their Forest kit in on Wednesday morning and take it home at the end of the day to be washed. Their wellingtons can stay at school.

Children should bring in a water bottle every day that will be kept at their desk, which they will take home at the end of each day to be cleaned.

Unfortunately, other items can’t be brought in from home so we won’t be able to do ‘Show and Tell’. As such, all stationery the children may need will be provided by us so we would please ask that pencil cases and stationery stay at home.

The children will be completing Times Tables Club, three times a week and will bring home their sheets so you can monitor their progress as well as support them with learning their times tables at home.

Importantly, children must read at home at least three times a week. The date, title and page of the book should be recorded in their Reading Log. The children will be asked to discuss what they have read as well as recommend books they have loved, to the class. I can’t stress the importance of reading at home enough! Research shows that children who read more frequently at home go on to have much better life chances when they are older. In the short term, their vocabulary, knowledge and imagination is greatly enhanced.

Homework will be set each Friday; to be completed by the following Friday. The homework will consist of reading (to be recorded in your child’s Reading Log), Spellings and Maths. Due to COVID restrictions, the Spellings and Maths will be online activities: Purple Mash and Doodle Maths / TTRS linked to classroom work and your child’s needs. Any queries or difficulties, please let me know. I will email you all each week with a reminder of the email set for the week. Spelling tests will be on a Friday and will be based on the homework. We will also be covering these words during class time.

We are looking forward to the year ahead in Maple, the beginning of Key Stage 2. I still can’t quite believe how fast the time has passed; I remember them all in Reception class very clearly! We have a fantastic team in Maple this year and we are determined to ensure that each and every child receives the safest and most enjoyable experience, where each child can learn and flourish. Please drop me a line if you have any questions

Best Wishes,

Mr Thomson

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