



September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Maple Class have truly had a lovely start to the year and it has been heart-warming to see the children catch up with their friends.

As your child has now moved up to their new age phase of Key Stage 2, I feel it is important to encourage them to be as independent as possible, gradually transitioning the children to take more accountability for themselves to allow development. Due to it being the beginning of the academic year, I thought it would be helpful for you to be aware of the following:

This year we will continue to complete homework online on Doodle Maths (www.doodlelearning.com). Ideally, I would like children to spend at least 15 minutes per week on either Doodle Maths or Doodle Tables, this can be completed all at once or over the course of the week. The platform will set personal maths targets for your child to work towards throughout the year.

Furthermore, each week your child will be sent home with a personal spelling list (no more than six words) stuck in their reading records that they will need to practice at home in readiness for their weekly spelling test. Spelling tests will be carried out on a Friday.

I also expect your child to read at home, AT LEAST 3 times a week with an adult, which should always be recorded in their reading records. If your child is not a free reader, please practice the book in their Reading Record until they can read it fluently and confidently (the book must be read at least 2 times with an adult before it can be changed). Please remember to ask questions while reading with your child to aid comprehension skills. Your child will become a free reader when I am satisfied that they are reading grey books confidently and fluently, and can answer questions correctly about what they have read.

As well as a Reading Record, your child will also bring home a Reading Journal, where they will need to complete one entry per week based on the book they are currently reading or have just read. These tasks will be stuck in their Reading Journals every Friday. They will need to be completed and handed in by the following Friday. In addition to this, we will engage in Book Talk, a time used to discuss the book your child is reading.

At the end of Year 4, your child will sit their Multiplication Timetables Check. While this may seem far off, it is vital that your child gets a head start on the practice now to develop their foundations of mathematical knowledge for the years to come. It is my hope that a focus on this now will



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help to relieve children's anxieties and secure any gaps in knowledge in preparation for the Year 4 check. Your child should practice their timetables (x2, x3, x4, x5, x8, x10) as much as possible when at home. We will practice in school daily, however, your continued support with this would be greatly appreciated. Your child will have a DoodleTables login (same as DoodleMaths). More information on the Multiplication Check will be given to you nearer the time.

P.E. will be on a Friday this term. Please could children come into school wearing the correct kit (Longvernal P.E. t-shirt, black shorts or sports trousers and trainers). PE will be outside for the first term, so black Longvernal fleeces or green Longvernal jumpers can also be worn.

Forest school will be on a Wednesday. Forest school will take place regardless of the weather (unless extreme) so please can you ensure your child is wearing appropriate clothing (long sleeve tops and trousers) as well as making sure they have their wellies and waterproofs. It may also be useful to bring spare socks.

Please could you email the office an up to date 'approved pick up list' for your child, so we are able to update your child's records. This should include anyone who may be likely to pick your child up at the end of the day. You can share a password with me/the office if you require. For safety reasons, I will not let your child go home with anyone who is not on the list or has not been discussed with either myself or the office prior to pick-up regardless of whether your child knows the person or not. Thank you in advance for your co-operation with this.

As always, please do not hesitate to speak to me at drop off or pick up with any questions or queries and please remember to check the Longvernal school website and Facebook Page for updates on Maple Class.

I am thoroughly looking forward to the year and cannot wait to see the progress the children make.

Kind regards,

Amber Nolan

