



7th September 2016

Dear Parents,

For those of you who are new, we wish you a very warm welcome! I hope that you have all had a fantastic time over the summer! I am really pleased to say that the children had a fantastic first day at school! They were very enthusiastic and positive and we are really looking forward to the year ahead!

This letter is just to let you know some of the things that are happening over the next few weeks, some of the things that have changed and just a few reminders. Firstly, our class is now called Maple Class! Each class across the school has been named after a tree, we have done this to try and avoid confusion; however, it is taking some getting used to! Maple Class consists of the Reception and Nursery children. The adults in Maple Class are myself, Camille McManus, Moira Malone (full-time teaching assistant), Niki Holmes (full-time teaching assistant) and Karen Minney (part-time teaching assistant).

As a school, our curriculum focus for the Autumn Term is History. In Maple Class, we are finding out about the lives of our family and in particular grandparents. We have named our topic 'Gorgeous Grandparents'. The children will be tasked with finding out about their grandparents and what school was like and the kind of toys they played with when they were children. We will also be inviting grandparents in later in the term when it is National Grandparents' day. The children will make treats and offer drinks to make everyone feel welcome. More information about this day will follow.

Over the next couple of weeks there will be several different books and folders being issued to the children in their book bags. Each will contain an explanation about what the book or folder is for. If you have any queries about the books then please do ask either in person, by phone or email!

PE will take place on a Wednesday afternoon and a Friday morning. For nursery children, if you wish to send them in with a PE kit then please feel free to do so. However, they will still be able to participate in these sessions even without a kit.

Many of the children have brought in water bottles, thank you. If you could just ensure that these are labelled that would be most helpful. Also, if you could just make sure that your child has a spare set of labelled clothes (including underwear) kept in their book bags, just in case of accidents. We do of course have spare clothes at school however we do find that if a child does have an accident then when they have their own set of clothes to change into it makes the situation a great deal easier and quicker to manage!

The shed, is now a getting ready area where children can store their aprons and wellies so that they can access these during the day. It would be great if each child had their own apron and pair of wellies which were kept at school.

Finally, just a clarification about the 'Bursting Table'! The purpose of the Bursting Table is for children to learn about other children's interests, to develop their speaking and listening skills and to also learn how to share. The children can bring in objects that are important to them and that they want to tell others about. They can also bring in things that they really like or are proud of.

If you have any further questions please do contact us.

Many thanks,

Camille McManus