



Dear Parents

I am writing to you to introduce myself as your child's form tutor and your first point of contact with any queries you may have about your child's day-to-day experiences at school. I also write to let you know about several points of procedure that will hopefully make things run smoothly throughout the school year.

At the end of the school day you should collect your child from the main playground, thus ensuring your child's safety. If your child is staying at school for aftercare or for any other reason s/he will be dismissed to the care of the adult running that activity. Please note that we are not able to let children go with older siblings into the car park.

In the case of planned absence, please let the office know in writing so that we are aware of the reasons for this. In the case of an unplanned absence, we ask that you call the office as soon as practical in the morning and that this is followed up by a letter to the form tutor on the child's return to school.

Prep diaries with timetables will be issued and we do ask that you check and initial your child's diary each week. It is also a very useful tool of communication between teacher and home; do please use it if you want to send a message to any of the teachers in school. We also ask for your support in ensuring that uniform and other belongings are clearly named and in good order.

In order to support your child at home I would like to suggest that a specific, quiet time is set aside for any prep task that your child may be set. In addition, your child should be reading for at least 15 minutes daily and will have an opportunity to select books from the school library. You can provide vital support here by listening, or if more appropriate discussing the text with your child. You may also wish to borrow books from the local library or buy one or two texts to support your child's learning. However, the most important thing is to show that you are interested in and value what s/he is doing and learning. Please come and see me if your child has a worry or a query so that we can work together to sort matters as quickly as possible.

I look forward to meeting you at the curriculum evening on Tuesday 20th September from 7.00 – 8.00 p.m. where we will have the opportunity to chat more informally about year 4. I fully anticipate a happy, productive term, working in a three-way partnership – parent, child and teacher.

Extended overview of curriculum for Michaelmas term

English	Historical stories & novels: King Henry VIII's Shoes, Camille and the Sunflowers Range of poetry in different forms Persuasive writing, linked to history; which would you rather be 'rich or poor' in Tudor times? Posters and information leaflets Planning, instructions, descriptive writing, recounts, reviews and evaluations.
Maths	Place value, ordering and rounding Understanding + and -, x and ÷ Money and real life problems Fractions and decimals Paper and pencil procedures Rapid recall of multiplication and division facts
Science	Moving and growing: focus on skeletons of humans and other animals. Research and making a model of a joint type for presentation Keeping warm: focus on properties of materials, insulators and conductors. Investigations to acquire knowledge and experiments to test predictions. Fair testing and variables.
History	The Tudors; focus King Henry VIII and his six wives and some aspects of daily life for rich and poor. Visit to Sulgrave Manor for experiential learning opportunity.
Geography	Weather words, symbols and variables. Understanding water cycles. Research weather forecasts, linked to internet with ICT presentation.
ICT	Touch typing and keyboard skills. Power point presentation for weather forecast
RE	Different religions represented in our neighbourhood.
Art	Exploring colour: using different media to create, copy and reproduce pictures and collages, using curriculum areas as stimulus.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Maxine McDonnell