Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Maple Class! (Year 5) I have been incredibly impressed by the positive attitude and enthusiasm I have seen by most pupils so far. I am very excited to support them all as they embark on this new stage of their learning journey, full of both challenges and successes. As the Class Teacher, I will also need your support! As parents, it is vital that you support your child with their learning to ensure your child reaches their potential.

PE Days

Our PE sessions take place on Tuesdays and Fridays. On these days, children must come to school dressed in their full PE kits, tracksuits are now a compulsory part of the school uniform. This also includes red shorts (weather dependent), white school PE T shirt. They must also wear black trainers ONLY on PE days.

Healthy Snacks and Water Bottles

As a healthy school, Children can bring a piece of fruit or alternative healthy snack/low sugar snack for their playtime snack. Alternatively, snacks such as toast, crumpets, or pancakes can be purchased via ParentPay.

Staying hydrated is really important for concentration and learning, so please ensure your child brings a water bottle each day. These will be placed on a trolley outside the classroom each morning and will be accessible to the children throughout the day. Please do not send your child with an over-sized water bottle as we do not have the space to store them all in school.

Spellings

Every teacher at KWPS is passionate about supporting your child's progress, spelling is an extremely important part of the curriculum. Spellings will be sent home each week, focusing on the spelling rule currently being taught, along with common exception words reinforced through our Literacy Counts programme. The expectation is that children will practise their spellings every evening. A spelling test will take place every Friday.

New spellings will be written in the front of your child's spelling book and tested at the back of the book each Friday. In addition, I will share "WOW Words" each Monday on Class Dojo. These vocabulary words are also built into our guided reading lessons. It is really important you spend time talking to your child about these words and using them in everyday conversations.

Reading

Reading aloud continues to be an essential part of developing fluency and comprehension. The expectation is that you will listen to your child read every night. And it is just important to talk about what they have read and ask them questions in order to support the development of their comprehension skills.

Reading records will be checked daily, and Dojo points will be awarded for reading at home. As parents, you will need to sign your child's reading record every time they read at home.

Knowledge Organisers

Knowledge Organisers will be used in school to support pupils with their learning and also shared with you as parents so you understand what you child is learning and what they are expected to know. They are a powerful tool for helping children, teachers and parents to stay focused on the key learning. They give children a clarity of learning, they support retrieval, independence and promote vocabulary development. They are a great tool for parents as you will be able to reinforce learning and the strong home-school partnership we are always looking to foster. Knowledge Organisers support pupils remembering and learning more so it is really important you talk about them at home.

Contact and Communication

Our goal is for every child to learn, thrive, and enjoy their time in school. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us via Class Dojo or arrange an appointment through the school office. Quiet hours will be set during evenings and weekends. I am looking forward to working in partnership with you throughout the year and celebrating your child's achievements together.

Thank you in advance for your continued support.
Warm regards,
Mrs Lewthwaite
Maple Class Teacher (Year 5)