

Tuesday 13th September

Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome to St. Mary and St. Joseph's.

We have had a wonderful first week in Maple Class! The children have been having lots of fun and are making new friends, whilst getting used to all our new routines together.

Many of you have taken up the offer of a hot school lunch for your children and we have a good system in place to ensure the lunchtime runs smoothly. The children are encouraged to try a little bit of everything on their plate, even if they are not able to manage it all. Please do try to check the menu choices when sent home, in order to ensure that the children are given something that they are happy to eat!

There are just a few regular routines that we would like to share with you in order to ensure a smooth start to each day:

- The children will need two drink bottles, one for the classroom and a separate one with their lunchbox.
- There is a tray for the water bottles in the classroom and this is accessible to the children throughout the day.
- Although it will be a few weeks before the children bring a reading book home, please send the book bags in every day in order that we can send home any important communications. If you have not done so yet, there is still time to register for Parentmail.
- As a school we encourage healthy eating and we are proud to have gained a Healthy Schools Award. For morning playtime the children will need a piece of fruit which should be placed in their tray as they arrive at school. We also have a snack time in the afternoons but the fruit for this is provided through the Government scheme to encourage children to eat their 5 a day. During afternoon snack time the children will also be offered milk, which they are entitled to whilst they are under 5. After their 5th birthday however, this will have to be paid for if you wish your child to continue to receive it.

The children look so smart in their uniforms. Thank you for making sure that each item of uniform, PE kits, lunchboxes and water bottles are clearly labelled. This has already been extremely useful, especially at the end of the day!

Our main PE lesson will take place on Thursday afternoon and we will be encouraging the children to be as independent as possible when they are getting changed. PE kits will stay in school until the half term break.

We look forward to getting to know the children better over the coming days and establishing our classroom routines in order to create the best possible learning environment for every child.

Please do not hesitate to ask if you have any queries or need clarification on any of the above.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Webster