

### THE BIG WRITE

We teach our older children to plan their writing using the Vocabulary, Conjunctions, Openers and Punctuation (VCOP) approach. This is a very successful strategy which enables children to improve their own writing through achievable goals. Every two weeks your child will bring home a planning sheet with the task of discussing with you their plan for their 'Big Write' on the Friday.

Please talk through their planning and add any detail or idea which you think will benefit their work. Adding 'WOW' words or ideas for dialogue between characters is a tremendous help. They will be given detailed notes on how to improve and their other written work will be marked towards their own goals—linking their achievement with success.

### Parents in school

I am really keen to develop links between parents and school and will, wherever possible, invite parents in to join us for a celebration event or to share some work.

Please feel free to come in if there is something you would like to discuss. If you would like to volunteer to listen to readers or help with anything in school I would be **delighted** to hear from you. Please let me know if you think you might be able to assist in any way.

### TROON SCHOOL GOLDEN RULES

1. Show good manners at all times.
2. Follow instructions with thought and care.
3. Care for everyone and everything.

### CONSEQUENCES

1. Verbal warning
2. 2nd verbal warning, name on the board.
3. Loss of 5 mins golden time.
4. Children can earn back 5 mins if they choose to change their behaviour.
5. Moved to the Time Out table
6. Sent to another class for the rest of the lesson.
6. Sent to Mrs Lamb.

At each stage it is the child's choice to choose the right behaviour. If a child has to see Mrs Lamb and continues to make the wrong decisions, parents will be informed so that we can work together to improve the child's behaviour.

### REWARDS

1. Praise 2. Stickers 3. House points 4. Star of the Day. 5. Star of the Week 6. Head teachers Award. 7. Choice of reward (such as extra ICT time). 8. Mathematician of the week certificates 8. Hand writer of the week 9. Golden tickets 10. Values tickets

# Welcome to Maple Class

## Mr Firth



I hope that your child makes the most of their time in Maple Class and really enjoys the opportunities that will be on offer.

Don't hesitate to come in and see me if you need to, so that any problems can be sorted out quickly. After school is normally the best time. If I am unavailable please book an appointment with Mrs Mankee.

Miss Buckland will be supporting us in the classroom. Mr Dunstan and Miss Buckland will teach the class on a Tuesday afternoon.

Please follow our class twitter @MapleTroon

### General Information

#### PE and Games

**PE** will take place on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. The children will need their PE kit in school all week. School PE kit is expected – including sports trainers or plimsolls. You may wish to provide black or blue jogging bottoms for cold weather

#### Dinner Money -

Dinner Money has to be paid on **Mondays** and put in a clearly named envelope, together with the child's class and the amount enclosed. Children should bring their own dinner money into the classroom, it does not need to go to the office.

#### Samba-

Maple class will learn the Samba drums. These lessons will take place on a Tuesday afternoon.

#### Punctuality-

Lessons start at 9am and it is really important that children are in school on time. If they miss the register it causes a lot of disruption for everyone, especially if they are a school dinner as they will miss making their dinner choice. Please help your child by making sure they are in school **before** 8.55. Thank you.

**Absences** –Please phone the school as soon as possible to report your child as absent.

#### Assessment

The children are assessed, particularly in literacy, maths and science. These assessments form the basis for our planning of the child's next steps in learning. They form the basis for the end of year as-assessment.

### HOMEWORK

Homework is important to help children's learning at home as well as school. To enable us to communicate each child has a combined homework and reading diary. The expectation is that this is brought to school everyday and handed in to the class teacher. Children will also be provided with a homework book in which to complete written homework. I will set homework on a Friday and it is due back the following Thursday. Maths homework may be set online on our Active Learning page.

The recommended time to spend on homework is:

Year 5 - 2.5 hours per week, roughly half an hour every weekday night.

Homework will include:

Reading Share and enjoy a book together every day for 10 minutes

Learn weekly spellings and word meanings

Maths activity – 1-2 pieces a week

Big Talk Homework once a fortnight

Grammar activity alternating with topic based homework

Blooms Project related to curriculum (three times a year)

Children are expected to read with an adult at least **three** times a week. This should be recorded in the reading diary. Children will receive rewards if the reading record is completed. Further guidance is included on the next page.

#### Helping your child-

You can have a big impact on your child's learning. One way you can assist your child is to encourage them to complete their homework and to complete the reading homework with them. Also, simply asking what they learned today and listening to them talk about their work helps them to remember learning from the day. If you would like advice about helping your child please don't hesitate to make an appointment to see me.

	<i>AUTUMN</i>	<i>SPRING</i>	<i>SUMMER</i>
<b>TOPIC</b>	Space	Stone Age to Iron Age Britain	The Mayans

The table above shows our main topics for the year and our aim is to link as much of our work to those topics as possible (across all subjects). A full topic map will be sent out at the beginning of each term.

### READING

Please listen to your child read at least three times a week, and share your own reading material with them. Record any reading in their reading record book with your signature.

Children should read fluently and expressively and show a good understanding of what has been read. Ask children questions about what they have read. For example:

Do you like the book?

What do you think might happen next?

How do you think the character is feeling?

### WRITING AND SPELLING

Children should write independently using appropriate, interesting language, and correct punctuation. Stories should be a logical sequence of events with a clear beginning middle and end. Capital letters should be used appropriately and sentences punctuated correctly with full stops.

Children should attempt to spell most words by applying spelling rules or by phonically sounding them out.

In class we teach the children spelling rules or 'sounds'. They will be expected to use these when attempting new words.

### HANDWRITING

All children are expected to follow the agreed school handwriting style and use cursive handwriting. Children start off using pencil and have to earn a pen licence to write in pen. I would like your help in encouraging the children to practise their handwriting and foster a sense of pride in their work. I expect a high standard of work in their homework books and your positive encouragement of this at home would be greatly appreciated.