



Dear Parents and Friends,

We hope that you enjoyed a relaxing summer break. Welcome to our new children and parents. There will be a lot going on this term, and this letter outlines some of the things that will be happening in Apple Class.

This term we will be following a range of mini topics starting with 'The Dot' based on the book by Peter Reynolds. Linked to this, we will be having our own 'dot day' on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September; further details to follow. We are planning to make Smartie cookies during this topic: please let us know if your child has any allergies. See additional attachment for further planned learning.

Please make sure that your child has a named pair of trainers and/or wellies for playtimes.

Hall time will be on a **Monday** and **Friday**. All children should have their full P.E. kit in school all week. They will be sent home at half term. Please ensure that all items are named as they often seem to get muddled up! Long hair should always be tied back, please. **Small, plain stud** earrings may be worn, but please ensure they are removed for PE days, sports days etc.

'Show and Tell' will take place each **Wednesday** afternoon: please send in small and special items only for showing please. Animal groups will take it in turns, starting with Hedgehogs on 11<sup>th</sup> September. See additional attachment for further details and dates for each group.

Your child will bring their book bag home every day-please check it for any letters or comments we have made in their home/school diary. We would like to encourage you to share a book every day with your child-just 5 or 10 minutes a day will be very valuable. There are some helpful hints to support this inside the home/school diary. Each child will also have a phonics pack containing the sounds they are learning. Please practise these little and often.

Once a week as part of Book Club, your child will be given the opportunity to choose a book from our school library. This is intended to be a book for you to share with your child and not one they should be expected to read independently. These books may be kept at home and returned on the day your child visits the library. There will be a note in the home/school diary informing you of your day.

Throughout the year, when we feel they are ready, Year 1 children begin 'Maths Matters Challenges'. Their Maths Matters book will come home, which will enable you to practise number skills with your child and to support their progress and achievements.

**We would like to inform you that we will be available in the Pavilion from 2.30-2.50 pm on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September to answer any questions about life in Apple Class and to explain our new approach to teaching phonics. We would like to encourage Reception and Year 1 parents to attend.**

If you are available to come into school, either on a regular basis or occasionally, to help with a variety of activities, please let us know.

Please feel free to come and see us if you wish to discuss anything: your comments and support are greatly appreciated. After school is a good time to do this, particularly on a Wednesday. We're sure this term will be both an exciting and enjoyable one for all of us.

Best wishes,

Laura Plackett and Alison Chilton



**Apple Class    Autumn Term: 2019**

<b>Communication and Language, Literacy (English)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Writing for real purposes</li><li>• Ongoing phonics/spelling, grammar and reading</li><li>• Speaking and Listening (Show and Tell)</li><li>• Non-fiction texts</li><li>• Texts: The Dot/Pumpkin Soup/One Year with Kipper</li></ul>	<b>Mathematics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Number: counting, recognition, place value, addition and subtraction</li><li>• Geometry: Shape</li><li>• Money</li><li>• Maths Matters Challenges (Yr1)</li></ul>	<b>Physical Development</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Using a range of apparatus to explore gymnastic skills (mats, benches, tables)</li><li>• Working as a team</li><li>• Games skills</li><li>• Circle games</li><li>• Handwriting/fine motor activities</li><li>• Safe use of equipment and bodies (warm up/cool down)</li></ul>
<b>Understanding the World (Science, History, Geography, RE, Computing)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Harvest and Christmas</li><li>• Castles-visit to Portchester Castle</li><li>• Healthy diets</li><li>• Investigating seeds/vegetables</li><li>• Making soup</li><li>• The four seasons</li><li>• Animal migration</li><li>• Special books and buildings</li></ul>	<b>Expressive Art and Design (Art, Design Technology, Music)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Exploring mark making/printing</li><li>• Making Harvest crowns</li><li>• Designing and making castles</li><li>• Singing with Mrs Johnson</li><li>• Christmas Production</li><li>• Making Christmas gifts</li></ul>	<b>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Settling into school</li><li>• Sharing celebrations</li><li>• Star of the Week</li><li>• Class Helper duties</li><li>• Making friends/ playing alongside others/resolving disagreements</li></ul>