



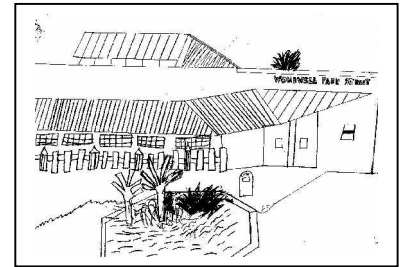
## BRONZE

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Dear Parents and Carers of *The Perfect Penguins*,

### Spring Term 2010

I hope you find the contents of this letter useful when talking to your child about what they are learning this term. Although this is not an exhaustive list, it should give you some ideas on how to support your child's learning at home so that they make even faster progress. Please feel free to ask the class teacher if you need any further information or help.

**English:** We will be learning how to write effective stories, poetry and simple instructions. We will continue to work on punctuation, spelling and the use of effective vocabulary.

- At home, you could help by looking for examples of how instructions are used, such as in games, cookery books and appliances. Notice the vocabulary used and the way the writing is laid out.
- Make sure that your child is reading regularly at home. They should bring a new book home on a regular basis, at least once a week. If they are not doing this, please remind them as they are responsible for choosing and changing their own books. Listen to you child read at least twice a week but also let them read independently, both out loud and in their head. Ask them to tell you what it is they have just read.

**Spelling:** We will be working very hard to improve our spelling through daily sessions in which the children will work in small groups, focusing on a particular spelling pattern.

- At home, please help your child to learn any spellings that are sent home as part of their spelling group work and continue to learn words from the Key Words List (leaflets available from main entrance).

**Maths:** We are learning to collect and sort data in different ways, identify fractions of shapes and numbers and recognise symmetry. We will continue to develop our mental skills by increasing recall of key number facts, such as pairs of numbers that total 20 / 100 and learning to add and subtract small numbers in our heads. We will continue to practise and secure knowledge of the 2, 5, 10 and 3 times tables, and begin to learn the 4 times table.

- At home, practise addition and subtraction with pairs of small numbers.
- Encourage your child to notice numbers in different places (on road signs, food packaging etc) and ask them to read the number to you. Ask questions, such as 'is that larger or smaller than \_\_\_?' 'What number would come just before that one?'
- Practise times table facts starting with 2's and moving on as your child is secure. When your child knows the times table by heart, they should be able to recall facts to answer random questions within 5 seconds.

Science: We will be finding out how we can help plants to grow well and investigating electrical circuits.

- At home, help your child to notice things that need electricity to work.
- Look in your garden/local park for new signs of plant growth as spring arrives.

ICT: We are learning how to use simple databases and we will be working with Mr Fisher to manipulate sound using a range of music programs. If you are interested in developing your own ICT skills generally please let me know as it may be possible to set up opportunities after school for you to use our facilities.

Topic: This term the children have been involved in choosing our class topic by thinking about the things they are most interested in finding out more about. The chosen topic will be 'What is Life Like Under the Sea?'

- At home, any information you can find about animal and plant life under the sea will be of great benefit to your child's knowledge and understanding.
- If you have any books, pictures or photographs that relate to this topic, your child is welcome to bring them in to show to the other children.

### Other Information

- Mrs Dodson has moved on to work with another class so Mrs Clayton will now work in Class 3 full time.
- Our PE days are Monday and Tuesday. Please make sure children have black shorts, white t-shirt and pumps, black/navy tracksuit and trainers in line with the school policy. There will be one indoor and one outdoor lesson, but this will be flexible depending on weather. No jewellery to be worn, especially on these days. If your child has earrings, please make sure that they are removed before school on PE days.
- Your child is responsible for changing their own reading book and can change it first thing on a morning as they come into school or during our daily guided reading session. This can be done as often as needed, but please encourage your child to finish the book before changing it for another one.
- Homework will be sent out on a Friday and will be based around the learning that has taken place in the week. Most homework tasks will ask your child to produce something that shows what they have learnt over the last week, this could range from a piece of writing to making a model. We feel this approach will be more interesting for the children and will encourage them to talk to you at home about their learning. In addition to this, please help your child to learn any spellings that are sent home, practise the times table that they are currently working on and encourage them to read on a daily basis.
- *Please* could I remind you that your child needs to have a pair of black pumps to wear indoors. There are still a large number of children without these.
- There have been a large number of items of clothing going missing over the last term. Please could you check at home to see if your child has mistakenly brought home something that belongs to someone else. The following items are of particular interest as these have been reported to me as missing...
  - *A Blue bag with red and white stripes and a character logo*
  - *An Adidas tracksuit*
  - *Black Umbro 3/4 jogging bottoms*
  - *A white England shirt*
- Please check that your child's name is written clearly in every item of clothing which they bring to school, as this helps us to identify any items which are left lying around at the end of each day.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all of the children in Class 3 for their hard work since December, and also to the parents for their support. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with your children and have been so impressed with their hard work and enthusiasm. I am only sorry that I cannot see the year through until the end! I am sure the children will love the topics for the rest of the year and continue to work just as hard. Goodbye and good luck to everyone!!

Mrs Vaughton x



Hello! My name is Mr Petitt and I will be teaching the Perfect Penguins from now until the summer holidays. I qualified at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne in 2008 and taught in Newcastle for a while before moving to Yorkshire where I have been teaching for the last year. I will be running an after school club and accompanying school teams to events. I am very much looking forward to teaching year 3, doing some really exciting work and getting some fantastic end of year results.

We will be holding parent drop-in sessions on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January straight after school for anyone who would like to meet Mr Petitt and introduce themselves, or to ask any final questions to Mrs Vaughton before she leaves at the end of the week.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S Vaughton and Mr L Petitt  
Class Teachers