

The Centre – Induction



Friday 18th September 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers

The children have been very busy in the Centre, getting to know our new members and the new systems in the school. If you have any daily messages, these can be emailed to us at the_centre@northmead.surrey.sch.uk

Staffing

Mrs. Stocking – Head of Centre / centre teacher
Mrs. Jeffrey-Hofman – Specialist teacher
Mrs. Eveleigh – Higher Level Teaching Assistant
Mrs. Clifton – Higher Level Teaching Assistant
Mrs. Collingwood – Learning Support assistant
Mrs. Stilwell – Learning support assistant (afternoons)

Behaviour

At Northmead children are taught to be polite, cheerful and respectful. We praise and reward good attitude and behaviour. Our three core rules are: **Ready, Respectful and Safe!** We have carefully considered what this looks like inside, outside and with a range of people. We have a very clear behaviour policy which is explained to and understood by all children. Parents will be notified if their child has been removed from class or if their child is continually causing disruption in lessons.

Maths

Maths is taught in small groups. We are continuing to develop our maths teaching inspired by the Shanghai approaches. In our lessons children are encouraged to physically represent mathematical concepts. Objects and pictures are used to demonstrate and visualise abstract ideas, alongside numbers and symbols. Mathematical concepts are explored in a variety of representations and problem-solving contexts to give pupils a richer and deeper learning experience.

Reading

Daily 1:1 reading, weekly Guided reading sessions and weekly comprehension lessons allow your child to improve both their reading accuracy and their comprehension.

Spelling

Each Thursday the children will take part in a focused spelling lesson using a scheme called 'The Oxford Read Write Inc.' or phonics programmes. Following this, they will complete daily spelling practise tasks. Additionally, some children will take part in interventions focused on phonics, phonological processing or whole word reading.

Writing

All literacy lessons this year are based around friendship in the widest sense of the word. We will cover fiction, non-fiction and poetry units of work, which are built around model texts. In order to prepare for writing tasks, we use Pie Corbett's 'Talk for writing' approach to writing, which allows the children to rehearse vocabulary and language structures before being asked to write independently.

Trips and Visitors

We are hoping to organise some Centre- specific trips this year, for example to Mane Chance Sanctuary to see friendships between animals in action.

Homework

We have adapted the delivery of homework this year to ensure your child is able to work on core skills in a safe way that minimises paperwork and books coming to and from school. We successfully used Google Classroom as a home learning platform last year and are keen to use this to provide homework this year. Your child's login details for Google Classroom will be coming home with your child shortly.

Reading

Your child needs to read 3 times a week to an adult for 10–15 minutes, this should include some discussion and questioning time. We would like you to complete the on-line record sheet **by Monday morning each week**. To complement the physical books, which will be limited due to quarantining, you are very welcome to read home books and have access to a wide library of books using Oxford Owl. The login details are as follows:

Username – northmeadcentre

Password - NorthmeadCentre



Spelling





Each week, children will be set a sheet of daily practise on Google Classroom, in line with the rule they are learning in class. These usually follow a spelling rule. The children will have a weekly test on a Thursday, the results of which will be shared on Google Classroom so you can support your child's progress.

Maths

Your child is expected to learn their multiplication tables. On Google Classroom you will have access to a range of 'home' sheets for your child to use to practise. Children are tested each Wednesday on the table they are currently working on and the score will be shared weekly on Google Classroom. The test consists of 48 questions and they have 4 minutes to complete. If they get three scores of above 46 then they move on to the next table. We encourage using lots of online games and apps including 'Hit The Button' (this is on Top Marks and comes up if you google it) and 'Timestable Rock Stars'. Your child's login details for this will be sent home.



Pupils will be awarded certificates as they pass each tables test. Once children are ready, they will be entered into the star test. If these tests are passed, a star badge can be purchased from the school office at the cost of £1.

 <p>Purple star award x2 x5 x10</p>	 <p>Bronze star award x2 x5 x10 x3 x4</p>
 <p>Silver star award x2 x5 x10 x3 x4 x6 x8 x9</p>	 <p>Gold star award All tables up to 12 x12</p>
 <p>Platinum star award Fractions / Decimals / Percentages</p>	

Topic Homework

Each half term we will provide an open ended project based on an area of the curriculum that we are learning about. **The first project will be set after the October half term break.** Children will be asked to share their projects with their friends so we will ask you to upload photos to Google Classroom which will enable us to show the other children and give the children the opportunity to share their learning with peers.

Homework is an important part of your child's weekly learning and we urge you to set up a clear routine with your child so they can complete homework by the deadline.

Physical Education

PE lessons take place on a **Friday** afternoon and currently children are asked to wear their PE kit into school on a Friday. Children are not allowed to wear earrings during PE so please make sure your child is able to take these out on their own.

Forest Schools

This takes place each **Thursday** afternoon. Children are asked to bring old clothes and wellies into school in a bag so that they can change after lunch.

Music

As we are not allowed to sing or play wind instruments at school currently we are adapting the music curriculum to focus on percussion, rhythm and listening and appraising at the beginning of the year. To compliment this, we can give you free access to a fantastic programme called Charanga where we have loaded several signing courses and lessons to learn keyboard, guitar, fiddle or recorder. Please see login instructions sent home with your child shortly. We hope you enjoy! Details of some extra-curricular opportunities will follow.

If we need to contact you, we will phone, email or talk to you after school.

Please sign up to parent mail which allows you to receive texts and emails. If you have any questions about this, please contact the office.