

# Airports

## Our Lower School theme to start the new year!



7<sup>th</sup> September 2009

Dear Parents of children in Year 3 and Year 4,

I hope you have all had a super summer holiday and are ready for a fresh new year. I would like to welcome our new Year 3 parents and look forward to meeting you all soon. This letter outlines the mini unit we will be covering this week and the ways in which you might want to support your child at home.

Our Learning Unit this week is Airports and we will be carrying out a variety of activities which will introduce the key skills we will be continuing to develop throughout the year. For example, later in the week we will be designing a new flight pack for Marchwood Airways. This will involve group discussion and provide opportunity to develop speaking and listening rules within the class. Below are some of the other activities we will be doing this week.

Designing a new tail fin for an aeroplane

Making their own passport *(Perhaps you could look at your own passport with your child and look at the information included)*

Designing a new airport for Marchwood *(If you have flown recently you could discuss the types of things you remember seeing at the airport.)*

Choosing items to take on a holiday of their choice

As well as this, each class will be settling into the new routines for the year and getting to know each other. Each year 3 child will be given a new school book bag and water bottle with their name and class clearly labelled. All Year 3 and 4 children will be given a homework diary which has their timetable on the back. This will let you know which days they will need their PE kit in school but as a general rule it is far better if children bring their PE kit every Monday and take it home for washing every Friday; that way it is always available. The homework diary can also be used as a means of communication between parents and teachers. Your child will also record their homework instructions in this book so needs to be in their book bag every day.

At the end of the week your child will meet their new English and Maths teacher before starting a full timetable next week. Once we have started English groups we will be monitoring their reading and sending home an appropriate reading book for them to share with you at home. Every child will be given a reading diary in which you can write a comment about the book you have shared. The books are colour coded and the children will then be able to swap their book by themselves.

In Lower School we have Spelling Groups each Monday and these will begin shortly once the children have settled in and English teachers have got to know them better. We follow a phonics program in Lower School and children are given a list of appropriate spellings to practise in their Spelling Log book each week and a pink homework book where they put their words into sentences. These are both checked weekly by English teachers.

I hope your child has a great week meeting their new teacher and getting to know and make friends with the other children in their class. If you have any questions or concerns please pop in or leave a message at the office.

Yours sincerely

Miss Sarah Boddington  
(Lower School Manager)