MANOR GREEN
SCHOOL

Excellence for All

Elizabeth Hawkes Way
Maidenhead
Berkshire
SL6 3EQ
Tel: 01628 513800 Fax: 01628 513808
Email: office@manorgreenschool.co.uk
www.manorgreenschool.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs Joolz Scarlett, BA (QTS), NPQSL

4 September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

We all hope that you had a fantastic summer break and would like to welcome   to Dahl class.

We have an exciting year ahead of us with lots of new challenges. Please find attached a new timetable. You will see that rather than having Maths and English, Dahl class will be following a brand new concept cross-curriculum. This will incorporate English, Maths, Science, Cooking, Life skills, Social skills and communication all rolled into one.

This year we will be focusing on:

• **Key life skills** including cooking and cleaning. We will be going into detail about how to keep floors and surfaces clean as well as windows. The pupils will have the chance to use vacuum cleaners, mops and to use cleaning products safely. Anything they can do at home will benefit them (and the family!)

• **Phonics:** We will be focusing on the children's individual reading skills and targets. We will be sending some more information home individually about what can be done at home to support their in-class phonics work.

• **Communication**. This is tailored to the individual and will be detailed in their ACE plans. However, the main focus for Dahl is on verbal communication. Some will have the support of communication books or devices. We will be focusing on purposeful, clear communication, speaking in grammatically correct sentences. Where this may not be possible at this time, we will be focusing on key words in order to be understood.

• **Social skills**. The children will be required to work with others throughout the day as well as to play with them during more unstructured times of the day. We will be modelling this play as well as incorporating specific social lessons where it is more necessary.

• **Sequencing**. This will be a core aspect of everything we will be studying this term. This focuses the children on the process and ordering their thinking during tasks. This will support them in every aspect of daily life, especially when looking after themselves.

• **Asking and answering questions**. We will be reading a range of books, both fiction and non-fiction and we will be focussing on the children's comprehension skills.

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- **Independence**. This is the most important focus for Dahl this year. The children are growing up and should be expected to do a great deal for themselves and be given responsibility. Each student in the class will be given responsibilities and be trusted to carry out tasks independently. In addition, they will be expected to complete work independently with increasing frequency.

We will be reading George's Marvellous Medicine and Fantastic Mr Fox this term.

We would like to ask for your support and cooperation in all aspects of the curriculum. This may occasionally include sending something in to help your child. At the moment we are asking for any donations of Tupperware or containers as well as equipment such as baking dishes and scales etc. for the children to use when they are cooking. Anything that can be donated would be much appreciated.

What can you do at home?

- Read daily with your child – this has multiple benefits including modelling the correct speech patterns, fostering an enjoyment of books and will improve listening and attention skills.

- Practice the key words, both spelling and reading. They may also be writing them if this is one of their targets.

- Read their home-school communication book everyday. As well as reading, if you have any concerns or comments, please write them in the book as soon as they occur. Feel free to come into school if you have anything you would like to discuss; simply e-mail victoria.tofts@manogreenschool.co.uk.

Ensure you are familiar with their ACE targets and use opportunities at home to work towards these, particularly with reference to life skills and independence. The ACE plan will be sent home by the end of the week – please let me know via e-mail if you would like to meet about this in more detail.

We hope this year will be very successful!

Kind Regards

Dahl Class Team
Tory, Helen, Hollie, Arpita, Carol, Katalin