East Riding of Yorkshire Council
# Market Weighton Infant School
Princess Road, Market Weighton, York YO43 3EY
Telephone/Fax (01430) 873159
Email mwis@eastriding.gov.uk
Website www.mwis.eriding.net
Headteacher – Mrs Sarah Kay-Wood

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Dear Parents/Carers,

A Welcome Letter from the Foundation Team

A very warm welcome to the start of the new term at Market Weighton Infant School. I hope that you have had a lovely summer and that your child is looking forward to all the new experiences that school will offer them. Starting school is a milestone, not only for your child but also for you. You may be excited or perhaps a little concerned about your child taking these first steps towards independence. At Market Weighton Infant School, we are committed to ensuring that every child has the very best, happiest and smoothest start to their school life and that mums and dads find it as painless as possible too! We are here to help, so please do not hesitate to ask us any questions you may have or to tell us about any worries- however small. If it is not urgent, the best time to speak to your child's teacher is after school when the children have gone home as they will be busy settling all the children into their new routines each morning. Mrs Kay-Wood will be around on the playground or street at drop-off and collection times, so please feel free to approach her with any queries or give us a call and we will endeavour to speak to you as soon as possible.

You may find the following information useful, especially if you are new to our school:

- If your child cries when you leave we will take good care of them. Distraction works wonders! If they won't let you go, you could try the following. Explain that you are going. Lead her or him to the class teacher or teaching assistant, give a cuddle and kiss, then go. We will take good care of them and do our best to cheer them up. They very quickly become involved in what we are doing and we promise you, they will be smiling within 10 minutes. If your child is upset at drop-off, we may give you a reassuring text message once your child is settled. It is just rather upsetting for you while it lasts.
- Make sure you have labelled all their clothes, especially their jumpers, cardigans and shoes as these come off and on a lot.
- Coats sometimes get knocked off pegs and can get trampled on if they don't have a loop inside to hang it on the peg with. So please check your child's and perhaps sew one on if it doesn't have one. Please make sure the coat is named.
- Please remember to send a water bottle full of fresh water (not juice) each day. Your child will be encouraged to drink it and it will come home each night for a wash. Make sure it is named, as we often get a few that are the same.
- Children are provided with free milk up until their fifth birthday which is sent home with them at the end of the day (they can have access to milk or water every lunchtime, whether staying for school dinners or packed lunch).
- If your child brings a packed lunch, please remember that we are a **"nut-free" school**. This means that nuts or products containing nuts must not be sent to school including popular products such as Nutella, peanut butter, and some cereal bars. This is because we have some children with severe nut allergies which is life-threatening should they come into contact with nut products. For this reason, we ask that sweets, buns, and cakes, are **not** sent to school (i.e. for birthday celebrations).
- Fruit is available for the children to eat in their classrooms during the day, but if you want to, you can send in a piece of fruit for your child to eat.

- Most children stay for a hot school dinner or have a sandwich/wrap alternative with salad which is free of charge. These do not need to be pre-booked but are organised on a daily basis. The dinner supervisors are very good at encouraging children to try to eat their meals and drink their water or milk. However, we will let you know if your child is not eating very well.
- Your child will need a school book bag as letters and homework will go inside and it gets stored flat in your child's own drawer throughout the day. Their name is hidden under a flap, so you may like to embellish it with a keyring or ribbon so your child can recognise it easily. Book bags are available from Schoolwear.
- It is really important to check your child's book bag each night so that you do not miss any important notes that have been put in there. For example, a note to say that he or she has received some first aid following a minor injury. However, we will always contact you via the telephone or on the door at home-time for bigger bumps or accidents.
- If you have changed your mobile telephone number over the holidays, please inform the office staff of your up-to-date details. Please remember to send some spare pants in case your child doesn't make it to the toilet in time. These can be kept in his or her PE/drawstring bag. No one is told off for accidents. These things happen – mostly when the children are very involved in play. It will be dealt with in a low-key, matter-of-fact way. We do have some spares in school, but most children prefer their own. Any donations when your child outgrows them will be welcome!
- We ask that children come to school on their PE days already dressed in suitable clothing e.g. t-shirt, shorts or joggers, trainers, and a hoodie. You can purchase t-shirts, shorts, hoodies, and jog pants from Schoolwear.

  **Your child's PE day is the following**:
  **Class 2 / Mrs Randle – Wednesday**
  **Class 3 / Miss Vickers - Tuesday**
  **Class 4 / Miss Leetham – Thursday**

- We are not able to continue with individual communication books that many private nurseries use. This is not logistically possible for staff to manage given the larger child-to-adult ratio and the huge demands of the school day. However, if there are any major problems (such as your child not eating their meals), the class teacher will let you know or we will give you a call. If you have any messages to give to the teacher that will affect the school day, such as a doctor's appointment, please let us know in the morning. Please do not leave important notes in your child's book bag as we do not look through every bag each morning.
- Over the next six weeks we will be completing the Reception Baseline Assessment (RBA) which is a statutory assessment. It provides a snapshot of where pupils are when they arrive at school. It will provide a starting point to measure the progress schools make with their pupils between reception and the end of primary school.

We look forward to working with you and your child over the coming year. Please look out for further communications in the near future. The school will email out a monthly newsletter called the "Infant Info" to keep you up-to-date with all the latest news and events. Letters are published on our website as well as emailed to parents, so if for some reason you don't receive a letter, please check out the website. You will also find lots of information about school life and the school curriculum on our school website. If you are unsure about anything please do not hesitate to talk to your child's teacher.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Randle
Foundation Stage Lead Teacher