

May 2020

Dear Year 6

My name is Miss Sarson and I teach Maths at Ivybridge Community College. I grew up in Potters Bar in Hertfordshire but moved down to Plymouth to study Maths at University. I have a sister who is younger, taller and stronger than me. She inspired my 'Basketball Carousel' because she is a competitive basketball player and one of my favourite things to do is to support her in her matches all over the country. When I was growing up, some of my favourite things to do included family trips to Legoland and this inspired me to create the theme park task for you.

When I was designing my theme park I started with the 'Rollercoaster of Maths Puzzles'. I designed the shape of my rollercoaster to look like a mathematical symbol, I wonder if it's one you've come across already? I have always enjoyed solving puzzles including Sudokus, Countdown Challenges, Kenkens and Cross Numbers. I sometimes get my classes to try some of these puzzles too! It is a challenging time at the moment, but I am enjoying spending some more time reading because one of my favourite things to do is to get lost in a book; this inspired my Reading Maze in my theme park. I am currently reading 'Midnight for Charlie Bone' by Jenny Nimmo. It was recommended to me because I really enjoyed Harry Potter and Charlie Bone and some of his friends have powers. I also love swimming, going to the beach and being in the sea (when it's not too cold) so I created an 'Under the Sea' themed log flume ride. I love burgers and pancakes, although not together, so I included a pancake stand and a Burger Café in my theme park. My favourite topping on my pancakes is strawberries and cream but there are lots of different options and combinations at my theme park stand if you prefer other toppings! My 'Piano Ferris Wheel' reminds me of practising again and again in order to perfect the music I play. Finally, I have always loved giraffes, so I designed my Drop Tower around them. Giraffes are able to learn to stand on their spindly legs within 30 minutes of being born and their spots are like human fingerprints, no two giraffes have the same pattern. They also seem to be highly skilled at pulling funny faces in photographs.

If I were a science experiment, I think it would involve turquoise flames as I really like the colour and I don't enjoy being cold. I really enjoy rollercoaster rides so I think my science experiment would need lots of surprise moments: bangs, bright lights and colour changes that take my breath away like rollercoasters do. I think my experiment would also need to be challenging, requiring calculations in order to unlock the final product because I really enjoy tasks and puzzles that make me think and use my brain.

I have really loved designing my theme park with Miss Smith and Mx Barry. We are all really looking forward to meeting you soon and we hope you have as much fun designing your theme park, writing to us and trying out some of Mx Barry's experiments as we did! I am looking forward to seeing your theme parks and learning all about you.

Yours faithfully

Miss Sarson