

Maple Class Newsletter – Spring 1

Our topic this half term is: The Roman Invasion of Britain.

Staffing in Maple Class:

Teacher: Mrs Rees (Mon, Tues, Wed)

Mrs Hurst (Thurs, Fri)

LSA: Mrs Pickwell (Mon – Fri, all day)





English:

Reading

This term we will be reading 'Romans on the rampage' by Jeremy Strong. We will use this text to develop our comprehension skills, mainly retrieval and inference. We will begin to write more detailed answers, referring back to the text.

Reading books can be changed as and when the children have finished their book, please encourage your children to let us know so we can help them choose a new book.

As a school, we will be continuing our new reward system. **Children will need to have read on 4 separate days (in one week) for staff to update the register towards their reward** (this will be checked daily but also on a Friday morning).

Week 1				
Day 1 ✓ Read 	Day 2 ✓ Read 	Day 3 ✓ Read 	Day 4 ✓ Read 	= staff update register in school
Note - These do not need to be consecutive days, just four separate days within the week				
End of Week 3				
If the above is repeated for three consecutive weeks = child wins a prize				
End of Week 6				
If repeated for a further three consecutive weeks = child wins an additional reward				

Writing

This term, our English work will predominately be based around stories relating to The Romans. We begin with looking at script writing using a version of Shakespear's Julius Caesar.

We will then move on to use other fiction and picture books to learn about story settings. We will learn how an author creates and describes a setting for a story.

The children will learn to include speech, adverbs and develop their use of paragraphs. They will also be focusing on uplevelling their vocabulary and will be encouraged to use adventurous word choices.

As well as this, the class will work on weekly spellings and phonics through short lessons.

Maths:

This half term we will be focusing on:

- Addition and Subtraction

We will continue to work with practical resources and equipment in order for children to become secure in a concept, before moving on to written and mental methods.

The children extend their understanding by using their knowledge in a range of situations and problems.

The class will continue to be split into their separate year groups to allow them to follow their own curriculum and work in smaller groups.

Science

During this unit of work, we will learn to compare and group materials according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases. We will learn that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled and be able to identify and name these processes as melting, freezing, evaporating or condensing. Children will work scientifically to plan and conduct investigations involving melting and evaporation. We will learn to associate the rate of evaporation with temperature.

Important Dates:

- Tuesday 6th February – Safer Internet Day
- Wednesday 7th February – Express yourself Day
- Friday 16th February – Last day of half term
- Tuesday 27th February – Back to school

PE is every Monday and Wednesday.

History – The Roman Invasion of Britain

Maple will begin by learning about the beginning of Rome, the ruling systems over the years and the spread of the Roman Empire. They will learn about Britian before the invasion and then about the Roman invasion of Britian. Throughout this topic, they will investigate the strengths of the Roman Army, the changes the invasion resulted in and what life was like for the people of that time. They will finish out topic by learning about Boudicca and what happened to Colchester at that time!

Art

The children will be introduced to the genre of still life as an old art form and also one which is still enjoyed by many contemporary artists. They will revisit and develop their drawing (and looking) skills using observational drawing of physical objects, and then go on to explore a project by working in collage. Along the way children will consolidate and develop their understanding of how to use line, shape, colour, texture, form and composition to make their work.

Computing

Maple class will be learning to understand the need to be thoughtful when working on a collaborative document, use comments to suggest changes to a document and understand how to resolve comments. They will also plan a survey for Microsoft Form with a range of different questions types that will provide different types of answer, e.g. text, multiple choice or numerical values. Working collaboratively to solve tasks is an important skill that will be practised throughout this topic!

PE

Kiera from RAD will be delivering PE lessons on hockey.

Religious Education: 'How do religious groups contribute to society'

Through a social lens, we will be learning about Christian and Hindu values and where they come from. The class will then explore how these values link to charity work and impact our community.

Christian Value: Our first value this term is perseverance, through assemblies the children will begin to explore its meaning and value. Please see the worship newsletter for additional information.

in this genre and play along on glockenspiels.

PSHCE

This term is about 'safe and unsafe'. We will be exploring different scenarios and discussing how we might feel and the best way to behave and keep ourselves safe.

French

We will be learning about the four seasons this half term. We will learn the French names for the seasons and we will learn to describe the seasons. This will result in the children being able to discuss the seasons in short sentences and describe the weather in each.