

Maple Class Newsletter – Autumn (1)

Welcome back, we hope you all had a wonderful summer break. We can't wait for the Autumn term ahead and the exciting learning we have planned in Maple class. Our topic this term is 'Stone Age to Iron Age'.

Staffing in Maple Class:

Teacher: Mrs Mucklow (Mon, Tues, Wed)

Mrs Tolhurst (Thurs, Fri)

LSAs: Mrs Pickwell and Mr Osborne with Mrs Wright covering PP time.

English: Reading

In Maple, we have daily, whole class reading lessons in which we focus not only on our word reading fluency but also our comprehension. We will look closely at the author's vocabulary, thinking about what words they have chosen and why. We also work on retrieving information from the text, ensuring we understand what we are reading. Then, we will progress to inferring and predicting ideas, using what we know about the characters and plot to help us make sense and 'read between the lines'.

We have chosen the text "Rumaysa" by Radiya Hafiza to support our reading lessons for the first half term. It is a fantastic take on the classic 'Rapunzel' tale with a modern, cultural twist. We will explore the rich vocabulary and author techniques used to create description, plot and emotion. Children will have opportunities to read aloud in these sessions to boost confidence and fluency.

Each week, children will read individually at least once to an adult – this will be recorded in their reading record. **Please also read at least 4 times per week at home to support their progress and write this in their reading records. Reading records are checked every Friday and the children are rewarded with a prize if they read 4 times or more in one week. These will be given out on the following Monday.**

English: Writing

Our writing lessons will incorporate both fiction and non-fiction genres. Initially, we will focus on writing a traditional tale where we will be using "Rapunzel" to capture our imagination. We will learn how to use expanded noun phrases, adverbs and emotional language to build a greater variety of vocabulary and grammar skills in our sentences.

As we move further into the Autumn term, we shall be producing a recount text based on our exciting trip we have planned to 'Wyvernwood' as a whole school.

Finally, using our increased knowledge of mythical and traditional story characters and vocabulary, we shall be producing poetry in the style of riddles.

Maths:

This term we will be focusing on:

- Place Value
- Area and measure
- Addition and Subtraction

The children will be developing and extending the learning already completed in their previous year. We will begin with using equipment to understand our concepts before moving on to pictorial representations. When we are secure with the concept we develop problem solving and reasoning skills, explaining our answers and applying our knowledge to a range of situations.

The class will often be split into their separate year groups to allow them to follow their own curriculum and work in smaller groups. This will include supporting and extending children when required.

Science

Our work in science this half term is all about 'Light'. We will start by understanding the difference between natural and man-made sources of light. Then, we will explore how light travels and how shadows are created and can change size. This unit provides some great opportunities for scientific enquiries.

All our lessons aim to be practical, investigative and 'hands on' allowing the children to develop their own ideas and try out concepts for themselves, asking and answering questions and using their findings to draw conclusions all with the aim of facilitating their sense of curiosity and wonder.

Important information:

PE is every Monday and Tuesday. Children should come to school in the appropriate clothing and earrings must be removed in order to take part.

KS2 children are not provided with a fruit snack during the day. The children may bring in their own healthy snack, we suggest a piece of fresh fruit or vegetable. Children who have a fruit or vegetable snack, are given a ticket for our fruit raffle where there could win a prize in Celebration assembly! **Please remember that grapes must be cut in half.**

KS2 children are released at 3.25pm and we shall be exciting through the side gate.

Topic work – The Stone Age

History

We will be studying the Stone Age through to the Iron Age. We will be looking at the different periods (Paleolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic) during the Stone Age and will look at how land use, houses and transportation changed during these periods.

We will then look at how people lived in the Bronze and Iron ages in Britain. Throughout the topic we will look at timelines and talk about what prehistoric Britain looked like.

Art- Storytelling through drawing

We will be exploring how we can tell stories through drawing. We will learn that we can add text to drawings to add meaning. We will study the illustrator Laura Carlin and graphic novelist Shaun Tan and use their work as inspiration. We will learn to sequence drawings to help viewers respond to our stories.

Through our sketch books we will explore line, shape, colour and composition to develop powerful imagery. We hope to then use word and images to produce a graphic novel style artwork about the Stone Age.

Computing

We will be using Scratch to further our understanding of programming. The children will be given the opportunity to explain what a variable is and create variables to keep and display scores. Children will use sensing blocks and if statements to control game actions and have a chance to combine variables. They will also learn to debug code and evaluate games by explaining what worked well and what could be improved.

PE

We will be working with Mr Osborne, our sports coach, on a Monday by playing Tag Rugby and learning all the skills involved in the game. On Tuesdays, we will be continuing with Born To Move lessons which will also be with Mr Osborne.

Music

This term's music is based on 'Let your spirit Fly' an R&B song for children by Joanna Mangona. We will be listening to the song identifying the structure and instruments we can hear. We will also become accomplished at finding the beat of a song, identifying the tempo and repeating rhythms. This will all be done with either our voices or on glockenspiels. We will learn to sing the song and perform parts of the accompaniment with glockenspiels.

PSHE

In this subject we will be concentrating on "Me and My Relationships". We will learn how to be respectful and appreciative of the views of others as well as how we should treat others and hope to be treated ourselves by special people in our lives.

French

We will be recapping our basic French skills before moving on to topic words.

RE

RE will focus on understanding the Christian Faith and where Christian beliefs originate from. We will be exploring the role of the Bible in guiding Christians. This will include studying the similarities and differences between the Old and New Testaments as well as important parables.

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

