

Maple Class Newsletter – Summer 2

Our topic this half term is: **Extreme Earth**

Staffing in Maple Class:

Teacher: Mrs Mucklow(Mon, Tues, Wed)

Mrs Hurst (Thurs, Fri)

LSA: Mrs Pickwell, Mrs Greenwood and Mrs Page.





English:

Our English units will first continue to link with our class book 'The Firework Maker's Daughter' by Philip Pullman as well as our Science topic of 'Plants'. We will also be introducing the book 'Ratty's Big Adventure' by Lara Hawthorne as a 'hook' for writing about the creatures inhabiting a volcano crater.

Reading

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 reward system. **Children will need to have read on 4 separate days (in one week)** (this will be checked on a Friday morning).

Week 1				
Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	= staff update register in school
✓ Read	✓ Read	✓ Read	✓ Read	
				
Note - These <i>do not</i> need to be consecutive days, just four separate days within the week				

Writing

This half term we are focusing on writing non-fiction texts including explanation texts about how the pollination process occurs in flowering plants. We will also be using information collected about the animals of Mount Bosavi to write information texts.

During both of these units we will continue to develop the complexity of our sentences by using a variety of conjunctions and punctuation. In our explanation writing we will use factual and formal language to explain how a process works in chronological detail.

We will focus on organising our writing into paragraphs around a theme and using more formal language to explain our findings.

Maths:

This half term we will be focusing on:

- Decimals
- Position and Direction
- Statistics
- Time
- Money

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.

Please encourage your child to practise their times tables on TT Rockstars regularly, particularly with the year 4 multiplication check coming up in June.

Science

We will be studying **Plants and Animals Including Humans.**

After completing our learning about the life cycle of flowering plants, we will move onto exploring that animals, including humans, need the right types and amount of nutrition. Linked to this, we will gain an understanding of why humans and some other animals have skeletons and muscles for support, protection and movement.

Reading Challenge In Maple

If children successfully read four or more times in one week, then they will earn a reward from our prize raffle box which will be awarded the following Monday.

Important Dates:

PE is every Monday and Friday.

W/C 8th June – Year 4 Multiplication check.

16th June - Consortium Sports Day (Selected children)

17th June – Class Photos (and year 6)

19th June - Fingringhoe Sports Day – all children

6th July – Maple Class Trip – Beth Chatto Gardens

Geography – Volcanoes and Earthquakes

We will be continuing our investigation of the Californian region of North America. We will be looking further into the human and physical geography of the area. This will include the impact of earthquakes in the region.

Design Technology – Food - Dips

Children will learn basic food preparation techniques and ways of combining components to create simple food products for a particular purpose, i.e. *designing a healthy dip for a party*. They will develop their designing skills by using their own experiences and evaluating existing products to develop ideas. Through discussion, they will develop criteria for their design proposals and suggest ways to proceed. They will develop their making skills by learning to combine components according to taste, appearance, texture and aroma to create a product that contributes to a healthy diet. Through this activity, children will also develop an awareness of health and safety and learn that the quality of the product depends on how well it is made and presented.

Computing – Website design

We will be using Microsoft Sway to design our own website. The children will be learning to build this and to add photos and content. This will focus on a book review.

PE

On Mondays, Maple will learn Rounders with Mr. Osborne. On Fridays they will have Orienteering with Mrs Hurst.

We will be outside for both sessions so please ensure children are dressed appropriately including wearing a sun hat and sun cream when suitable.

Music –

Our music learning will focus on the song 'Blackbird' by The Beatles. We will look at the Civil Rights undertones to this song and compare it to other well-known songs by The Beatles. We will then use glockenspiels to compose our own accompaniments to the song where we think carefully about rhythm.

PSHCE –

This half term we will be using the SCARF scheme to learn about relationships and growing and changing, including puberty. More information will follow regarding the content of this unit.

French – Vegetables

In this unit, Maple will learn 10 common vegetables in their plural form and with their definite articles. They will learn the basic transactional language required to take part in a role-play activity based on buying different quantities of vegetables from a market stall.

Religious Education:

In RE, we move onto our unit of 'What does Sacrifice mean?' We will look at this in a philosophical way, thinking about what the word 'sacrifice' means not only to Christians, but also Muslim and Jewish people while linking these views to the ideas of altruism and Humanism.

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