



# Maple Class newsletter

7<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Year 5



Dear Families,

Maple Class are finding their feet and settling into life as a Year 5. We have already made a fantastic start to the academic year and are looking forward to all that is to come in this new term. There are lots of exciting things planned and I am delighted to have already had the pleasure of teaching most of the class previously. The accompanying curriculum map will help you to know what the children will be focusing on and help to support their learning at home. If you are not already following the class on Twitter please do as it's a great way to keep updated with what the children are learning and read various positive comments. Our class's Twitter address is at the bottom of the letter.

Here are a few things for you to note about Year 5:

## Independence:

Independence is something which we are always encouraging and developing. Due to the current situation, the children will now be leaving you at the gates on arrival in the mornings and walking down to their classroom on their own. As the upper part of the school now, they need to be organising themselves, ready to start the day.

## Reading records:

Each child has a new reading record book. Please ensure they write in this each night when they read – one or two sentences to summarise what they've read is perfect. This does not mean that they do not get to read with you as it is still so important that your child has the opportunity to read to an adult each evening and that discussion of their book, the characters and events in the story take place.

## PE:

We will be having PE on a Tuesday afternoons (indoor) and Thursday afternoons (outdoor). These days may be subject to change but we will give plenty of notice if so.

## Snack:

Please send in a snack with your child to eat at break time as we do not provide the children with a snack now that they are in Key Stage 2. As we are a healthy school, the snack they bring in must be a piece of fruit or a vegetable and please remember that we are a nut-free school.

## Homework:

There will be slight change to homework this term. All children will be expected to practise weekly spellings which they will be given the first full week of term and tested on on Fridays. Alongside these spellings, there will be a handwriting sheet which can be used for both spelling and handwriting practise. These do not need to be returned to school by the children but do need to be completed at home. In addition to this, the children will be expected to read daily as aforementioned, either alone or to somebody else and write a short summary of what they have read in their reading contact book. I will check the reading contact books regularly. The children will also receive a piece of maths homework each week on a Thursday and will be expected to complete and return this to school the following Wednesday. Any children who have not returned their completed homework, will be given the opportunity to do it in school as it will be marked on the Friday. The children will be given homework folders which they put their maths homework tasks into, there will be no homework books this year.



# Maple Class Curriculum Map

*September– Autumn (Term 1)*



**English** – Exciting times are ahead as we kick-off the school year with Pie Corbett’s Talk for Writing! Our first fiction piece will be wishing tale and will use the model text *The King of the Horses*. This will encompass looking at the grammatical features required to engage the reader and we will hone our handwriting style whilst working towards using accurate spellings and engaging vocabulary. Towards the end of term, we will write a non-chronological report about a local river. Our reading lessons will surround various recommended reads which encompass ‘wishing’ themes to support our writing whilst our daily class story book will be ‘Brightstorm’ by Vashti Hardy.

**Maths** – We will start the term by looking at number and place value where we will read, write, order and compare numbers to at least 1 000 000 and determine the value of each digit, count forwards or backwards in steps of powers of 10 for any given number up to 1 000 000, interpret negative numbers in context, count forwards and backwards with positive and negative whole numbers through zero, round any number up to 1000000 to the nearest 10, 100, 1000, 10 000 and 100 000, solve number problems and practical problems that involve all of the above and read Roman numerals to 1000 (M) and recognise years written in Roman numerals.

**Science** – Our science topic this term is Animals, including humans. Throughout this unit we will look at changes as humans develop to old age, foetal development, growth and change and human timelines all of which will adhere to the current RSE guidelines to be age appropriate. Parent permission letters will be coming home shortly regarding teaching about changes to our bodies during puberty.

**Topic (Geography)** – What better topic to start the new school year off but the ‘United Kingdom’ where we will identify key geographical features, locate counties, know towns and cities and the difference between them, look at topography and the hills and mountains and also gather information to write a non-chronological report about one of our local rivers

**PE** – Tuesday will be indoor PE which will be fitness where we will understand the various components of fitness and how to test them, we will learn to choose the best place for a running event and how to maintain speed and understand what maximum effort looks and feels like and how to achieve it, taking into consideration speed, balance, co-ordination, agility, strength and stamina. Outside, we will be learning skills and practising them through the game of basketball.

**Computing** – We will start the year off with coding where we will create storyboards to represent programs and algorithms, design and write a program that simulates a physical system, review the use of number variables in 2Code, create a playable and competitive game to combine the use of variables. If/else statements and Repeats to achieve the desired effect in code, read code so it can be adapted, personalised and improved and explore the launch command and use buttons within a program that launch other programs or open websites.

**RE** – Christianity and looking at the teachings and authority are our first topic. This will involve the exploration of what sacred texts and other sources say about God, the world and human life and consider why the gospel is such good news for Christians.

**DT** – We will be cooking this term and creating some national dishes from the UK. This will involve us considering what is locally available foodstuff and a country’s identity. We will consider how healthy various dishes are. We will consider health and safety issues in a kitchen setting before making a cottage pie, to name but one dish, where we will learn to peel, chop, grate and mash various ingredients, learn to follow a recipe accurately, evaluate and consider substitute ingredients to either improve or make our dish healthier. We will also study how certain foods are grown, harvested and processed.

**Primary Languages** – This term we will be revisiting French and will be recapping meeting, greeting and introducing ourselves, discussing objects and their colours, giving and hearing classroom instructions and revisiting numbers 1-20, saying how old we are and parts of our bodies and days of the week and using adjectives to describe ourselves.

**PSHE** – This term’s focus is ‘Being Me IN My World’ where we will explore how to positively face new challenges, learn to understand rights and responsibilities not only in our country but as a member of our school, learn to modify our own behaviour and understand how rewards and consequences feel, understand how our behaviour can impact on others and consider how democracy and having a voice benefits the school community as well as know how to participate in this.

**Class Twitter: @mapleclass51**