



# Maple Class newsletter



12th<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Year 5

Dear Families,

Maple Class were amazing during the further period of lockdown and settling back into school life before Easter. We are now back and raring to get on with our learning and there are some exciting topics to be covered this term.

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

## Reading records:

Each child has a 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 Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. This day 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 (re-named Home Learning):

The children will be given homework in Google Classroom from now on. It will consist of maths and a SPaG activity. Full instructions will be attached to each activity. These activities are in addition to reading, spellings and Times Tables Rock Stars.

## Parent helpers:

Please let me know if you are keen to come in to listen to children read during the school day. Any volunteers would be greatly appreciated.

**Class Twitter: @mapleclass51**



## Maple Class Curriculum Map

*April–May Summer 1 (Term 5)*



**English** – This term we will be reading the class text ‘Why the Whales Came’ by Michael Morpurgo and we will be writing our own ‘warning’ stories. Towards the end of the term, we will be using the picture book ‘The Island’ by Armin Greder, an incredibly powerful fable, which contextualises the ancient and yet painfully modern story of acceptance of those who may seem different to another society. We will bring the story alive through drama and literacy opportunities.

**Maths** – We will start this term by solving word problems around decimal numbers which will involve adding, subtracting and finding missing numbers. We then move onto geometry and will be looking at properties of shape where we will identify 3-D shapes from 2-D representations, use the properties of rectangles to deduce related facts, find missing lengths and distinguish between regular and irregular polygons. We will continue to complete arithmetic tests weekly to hone in on our skills.

**Science** – We will continue being scientists looking at Living Things and Their Habitats where we will describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals, describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird and describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals. We will research the life cycles of a contrasting bird, insect, amphibian and plant and record life cycles in the form of annotated scientific illustrations and make observations, as a natural scientist would, recording data and reporting findings as well as learn about some famous naturalists.

**Topic** – We have another geography topic this term – Coastlines- and will learn about what different types of coasts are around the world. We will be introduced to different coastal features and their locations before considering how and why these features may change over time. We will also explore the coastal processes of transportation, through longshore drift, and erosion, through solution, abrasion, attrition and hydraulic action. Understanding of these processes will enable us to have a more in depth understanding of how coastal features are formed and in particular, the formation of caves, arches, stacks and stumps. Additionally, we will learn about the impact human activity can have on different coastlines through the use of two different case studies.

**PE** – On Wednesday, our indoor PE will be learning Yoga. Thursday PE is outside and we will start the term with rounders and then move on to netball. In rounders, we will learn to pass a ball in different ways (overarm and under), learn to field and take part in competitive games with increased understanding of tactics and composition. In netball, we will apply basic skills for attacking and defending.

**Computing** – This term, we will revisit online safety and then be looking at coding where we will design, write and debug programs that accomplish specific goals, including controlling or simulating physical systems and solve problems by decomposing them into smaller parts. We will learn about sequence, selection and repetition in programs, work with variables and various forms of input and output, use logical reasoning to explain how some simple algorithms work and learn how to detect and correct errors in algorithms and programs. Around online safety, we will revisit ways to use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly, recognise acceptable/unacceptable behaviour and identify a range of ways to report concerns about content and contact.

**RE** – Our topic this term is Christianity and we will be looking at what the significance of the ‘Eucharist’ is to Christians. This will involve focussing on the Christian concept of ‘Salvation’. We will consider what people are thankful for and how they show thankfulness as well as the difference between ‘thanksgiving’ and being ‘thankful’. The Last Supper will be explored and how the disciples felt to be there. We will also look at a Eucharist or Holy Communion service in an Anglican church.

**Art/DT** – This term we have some exciting things going on as we will be making kites in DT as well as doing botanical type sketches in art (part of our science topic when we dissect flowering plants). We will apply our understanding of how to strengthen, stiffen and reinforce more complex structures and use a range of tools, equipment, materials and components as well as evaluate and compare existing products and consider our own and others’ ideas to improve our kites. The botanical drawing will involve using water colour pencils to create line and tone.

**Music** – This term our music topic is Old School Hip Hop where we will be exploring The Fresh Prince from Bel-Air.

**MFL** – Mon corps - our French this term will be identifying parts of the body, learning the days of the week and giving basic character descriptions.

**PSHE** – Our topic this term is relationships where we will compare different types of friendships and the feelings associated with them. We will also learn how to stay safe when using technology to communicate with our friends, including how to stand up for ourselves, negotiate and to resist peer pressure. Additionally, we will learn strategies to manage our feelings and the pressures we may face to use technology in ways that may be risky or cause harm to ourselves or others.