



Maple Class newsletter



5th January 2022

Year 5

Independence:

Independence is something which we are always encouraging and developing. To help with this, I would like to ask that in the morning, you drop your child off so that they come into class on their own. As Year 5s 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 with 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 Monday afternoons, indoors, and a Tuesday afternoons, outdoors, this term. This day may be subject to change, but we will give plenty of notice if so.

Forest School:

Forest school will stop until after the Easter break to give the site time to rest. We look forward to revisiting this part of our curriculum then.

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:

The children will continue to be given weekly maths and SPaG home learning via Google Classroom and will be given the whole term's spellings right at the start to learn at home and in school. They will also be expected to read at home on a daily basis and practise their times tables.

Parent helpers:

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

A special request for some resources for our DT unit of work:

If any parents have any of the resources below we would be very grateful if they could be brought into school for us to do our Mayan weaving:

Old CDs you no longer want- scraps of fabric, wool, string, ribbon (grasses and stems if you are including some natural materials) - plastic lids to make flexible needles



Maple Class Curriculum Map

January–February Spring (Term 3)

English – This term we will be continuing with Pie Corbett's Talk for Writing where we will start off with writing our own quest story. This will be alongside reading the class book 'The Legend of Podkin One-Ear by Kieran Larwood. This will be followed by our non-fiction writing where we will write a diary entry as someone from the Mayan Civilisation which we are studying in history. A model text will continue to be used as a stimulus our fiction writing and in grammar, punctuation and spelling, we will continue to use commas accurately in sentences to form clarity and give extra information whilst focussing on the relevant spelling patterns and rules. There will be a focus on making our hand-writing as neat as possible using a new handwriting programme Letter-join. This term we will be looking at Renga poems and the class will perform their Renga to the rest of the school at the end of term.

Maths – We will start this term by looking at area and perimeter of shapes. Then, we will revisit multiplication and division, where we will secure the formal written methods of column multiplication (long and short) and bus stop division whilst interpreting remainders as fractions and decimals. We will then move on to fractions where we will compare and order, identify equivalent, recognise mixed number and improper, add and subtract and multiply proper fractions.

Science – In science this term, we are looking at properties and changes in materials where we will compare and group together everyday materials on the basis of their properties. We will investigate thermal conductors and insulators and see which electrical conductors can make a bulb shine brightest. How some materials dissolve in liquid to form a solution will also be explored and we will finish by looking at irreversible chemical changes.

Humanities – We will be studying the Mayan Civilisation in history this term, where we will find out facts about the Mayans, how they lived their lives and Mayan inventions. We will understand the Maya religion and make comparisons to the faith being studied in RE – Hinduism. We will write a diary entry as someone from the Mayan Civilisation.

PE – PE will be dance in the hall on Monday afternoons and Tag Rugby on the muga outside on Tuesday afternoons. In dance, we will create a dance using a random structure and perform the actions showing quality and control, understand how by changing the dynamics of an action can change the appearance of the performance, use choreographing devices when working with a group, copy and repeat movements in the style of Rock 'n' Roll, work with a partner to copy and repeat actions whilst keeping in time with the music and work collaboratively to create a Rock 'n' Roll group dance. In Tag Rugby, we will develop attacking principles, understanding when to run and when to pass, be able to use the 'forward pass' and 'offside' rules, play games using tagging rules, develop dodging skills to lose a defender, develop drawing defence and understanding when to pass, and finally, apply all the rules and tactics to perform in a tag rugby tournament.

Computing – In our computing lessons this term we will demonstrate our skills at creating and understanding spreadsheets. This will involve using formulae within a spreadsheet to convert measurements of length and distance, using the count tool to answer hypotheses about common letters in use, using a spreadsheet to model a real-life problem, using formulae to calculate area and perimeter of shapes, creating formulae that use text variables and to use a spreadsheet to help plan an event in school.

RE – We will explore Hinduism and teachings and authority. This will involve what sacred texts and other sources say about God, the world and human life. We will also learn about which spiritual pathways to Moksha are written in Hindu scriptures.

DT – This term, our DT topic will be to learn the skill of weaving which links to our history topic of the Mayan civilisation. This will involve looking at the art of Mayan weaving from both ancient and modern times where we will compare and contrast designs and purposes, consider why weaving is/was important to the Mayan peoples in the context of religion, culture, economics and socially, learn how to weave using a simple loom, making prototypes, examining and exploring a range of textiles and discussing and considering their suitability for a woven product and use a range of weaving tools and materials to produce a product. At the end of this unit, we will evaluate and refine our design product, as well as produce an end evaluation that involves carrying out tests.

Music – In music we will look at the exciting, new Charanga programme unit on exploring key and time signatures. We will explore how beats are grouped when we listen to a song or piece of music, we will use the key to determine which note range is being used (major or minor) and we will consider whether the notes put us in a happy mood, or create a sadder atmosphere. Throughout this unit we will look at a range of musical pieces and finish the term with our own performance.

PSHE – This term in PSHE we will compare our hopes and dreams with those of others from different cultures. This will involve thinking about our dream lifestyle for when we grow up, investigating jobs and careers, thinking about our dream job and the steps we need to take to get there, considering how we can help and support others to get to where they want to be and we will consider fund raising and rallying support.

French - Mon corps - our French this term will be identifying parts of the body, learning the days of the week and giving basic character descriptions. We have chosen German as our language of the term, where we will learn to respond to the register and meet and greet one another. We will also have a German lesson at some point this term.

Class Twitter: @mapleclass51