

Dear Parents and Carers,

What an amazing term we had last term. I can't wait to get stuck into this one. We have lots planned as always as a class and whole school. Hopefully this newsletter will answer any questions you might have about the term coming up. If not as always please do not hesitate to talk to me either on the gates in the morning or after school or via the office and I will get back to you as soon as possible. Likewise if you have any concerns regarding your child or want any further support please get in contact.

Attached is a short summary of children's progress to date which has been informed by my teacher assessment of work completed in class. We can discuss these further at parent meetings in a few weeks if you wish. If a child is expected (EXS), they are on track to reach age related expectations by the end of the academic year. If they are emerging or working towards (WTS) it means they will be working towards meeting age related expectations at the end of the academic year. If a child is greater depth (GDS) it means they are working above age related expectations and are likely to achieve that at the end of the year.

Please find us on X (formerly known as Twitter) to see what we get up to. I post pupils' work and in the moment photos of what we get up to on our class page so please follow us @MapleWSM. Additionally reception parents, please check Tapestry on a regular basis as this will be frequently updated during the week with your child's learning

Ensure you check your emails regularly as this is our main means of contact for any notices, reminders or events throughout the term which there are many planned this term like Parents evening, World Book Day, International Maths day and Celebration of learning to name a few.

Many thanks, Miss Farmer

Things to remember

- **Daily-** water bottle, healthy snack (fruit/vegetable or a small plain biscuit), warm coat, reading books, reading record.
- **P.E - STILL** Tuesday and Friday. Our P.E day has not changed all year however several children regularly forget to bring in their P.E kit. If children do not have their P.E kit it may result in them missing their P.E lesson. Please ensure P.E kit is brought to school in another bag. Ensure clothes are appropriate for the weather as we may be indoors or outside. Please be reminded we have a P.E kit uniform (plain white or blue t-shirt, black or navy shorts or jogging bottoms, black or navy plain jumper). P.E kit can be left in their lockers at the beginning of the week.
- **Homework** - will be sent home on a Friday and needs to be returned by the following Thursday so new homework can be given.
- **Reading-** To promote good progress and enjoyment for reading it is recommended that your child reads regularly. We **expect** children to read **at least 4 times a week**. Many children are reading regularly and have made significant progress, well done!
- **Start of the day-** Children are expected to be on the playground in line with their teacher by 8:45am.
- **Parents evening-** has been scheduled for Tuesday 5th and Thursday 7th March. I have many scheduled for an appointment. If you have not yet done so please check your emails to find out how to book an appointment.
- Later on this term, we will be inviting reception children's Grandparents in to share their experiences of when they were children to support the children's learning linked to our big question 'what was life like once upon a time?'. A letter will be sent home soon with more information.
- **World Book Day-** Thursday 7th March. Children are invited to dress up as a book character. Parents are invited to join us for a 'Read with Me' session between 2:30pm-3pm.



Maple Class Newsletter



Spring 2
Miss Farmer
and
Miss Collin



EYFS Curriculum this term

This term our **Big Question** is "What was life like once upon a time?" We link this learning to the past as well as fairytales. We begin by looking at images from the past and comparing them to our lives now. We will have some focus sessions on food and toys. We then move onto looking at what it was like being an evacuee. To support our learning each week we will have a linked book. They are Little Red Riding Hood, The Day the War Came, Dogger and Old Bear, Grandma's house and Alfie and Grandma, The Little Red Hen, Goldilocks and the Three Bears and finally The Three Little Pigs.

In **Maths** we follow the White Rose sequence of learning. This term we will complete 'Building 9 & 10' as well as exploring 3D shapes and patterns.

We had great fun using the different technology in our environment last term. In **Technology** this term we will be learning how to stay safe when using our devices and going online. We will identify possible risks which may occur when using our devices and ways we can solve them. We will learn to access some games safely on our devices in school.

The children did phenomenally well last term learning all of their set 1 sounds which means this term in **Phonics** we begin learning set 2 sounds which are special friends which contain 2 or 3 letters to make the sound (phoneme). We are also encouraging children to use 'Fred in your head' when reading to say the sounds in their head and the word aloud to develop reading fluency and automaticity. The children read daily in our reading session where they build up their fluency and comprehension.

In **Literacy** we will focus on developing our sentence writing with greater independence. With lots of modelling from adults, the children will learn what makes a successful sentence. We will be using the characters in fairytales as our stimulus.

Handwriting continues to be a big focus. We are ensuring letters are formed correctly, on the line and at the right starting point. To best prepare children for joining later on in school, we are modelling and learning letters with a lead on hook at the end.

To support our **R.E** this term we are introducing 2 puppets, Tom and Tessa, who share their experiences being a Christian especially around the time of Easter. Our focus is 'Salvation' where we will learn about the events leading up to Easter and the significance of the cross and candle in Christianity. We begin focusing on Pancake Day and what it represents for Christians before we make and try our own pancakes.

In **PSED** we will be learning about being healthy. We will be learning how not only food and drink can keep us healthy but help us grow and that we need plenty of exercise, enough sleep and a good cleaning routine.

Expressive Arts and Design

In **Art** we begin with manipulating and painting clay before moving on to learning about the style of the artist Andy Goldsworthy and having a go at using natural resources to create our own piece of art.

The children absolutely love **Music** and enjoy finding the beat and performing their songs to the rest of the class. This term the unit is called 'Our World'. We will be using instruments as well as creating sound patterns with our hands and bodies.

Our value this term is

forgiveness.

Year 1 and 2 Curriculum this term

The children are doing incredibly well in their writing and are using many great features without needing to be reminded. In **Literacy** this term we begin by writing a narrative inspired by George and The Dragon before moving onto non-fiction where the children will write a non chronological report.

In **Maths**, we will complete learning about money before moving on to length and height and mass and capacity (including temperature for year 2 pupils).

This term the children have a **History** unit where we will learn about the Tudors. We learn about the famous King, King Henry VIII, about life during the Tudor times and some of the significant changes which happened during the Tudor Period.

In **Science** we will be learning about plants. The children will learn about plants in our school environment, seeds and bulbs, investigate what plants need to grow healthily and explore the journey of plants we eat.

Our **Art** focus is about Landscape and Symmetry, studying the Art of Turner and Constable to create their own Landscape Art. At the end of the term the children will also use sculpting to show symmetry in art.

In **R.E** the children continue to learn about Thankfulness and Gratitude with a focus on Judaism.

This term's **Music** lessons link with the genre Reggae. The children will listen to a range of Reggae songs, learn the lyrics to a reggae style song as well as compose their own reggae style to go with the song to build into the song for our final piece.

In **P.E.**, on Tuesdays the children will learn to develop their skills required in Net and Wall games building on skills needed for volleyball and tennis. On Fridays the children will develop their attacking and defending skills required for invasion games.

The children will be exploring strong structures in **Design and Technology**. Then the children will design and make their own structure: a chair for baby bear.

PSHE this term focuses on Healthy Me. The children will learn about keeping themselves healthy. We will learn about using medicine safely, the importance of relaxing, having a healthy balanced diet and we will make our own healthy snacks.

I will be reading I Was a Rat by Phillip Pullman to the whole class, where we sit and listen to the story for our enjoyment. In our whole class reading sessions children have the opportunity to develop their reading fluency and comprehension skills. They will answer a range of questions about the texts, pick apart author vocabulary choices and make links with other texts we may have read before. Some texts this term include The Star In The Forest, Journey and The Ice Bear.



