



Maple Class Curriculum Newsletter - Spring 2016

Dear Parents

Here is an outline of the curriculum children in Maple Class will be covering this term. The topic for this term is 'How does your garden grow?'

English

Fiction:

- . traditional stories, including those with a twist
- . composing poems on a theme such as plants and gardens
- . writing recounts of fictional events.

Non-fiction:

- . alphabetically ordered texts and explanations, including ordering these and writing definitions
- . using non-fiction books to find out about how plants grow and change
- . writing recounts of real experienced events.

Maths

The main themes this term will be:

- . counting in 1s, 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s
- . recognising and ordering numbers
- . place value to 100 and beyond
- . addition and subtraction - including strategies such as, putting the largest number first, doubling and halving, and number bonds to 10 and 20 to aid mental calculations.
- . the relationship between addition and subtraction
- . division as halving, grouping and sharing
- . naming and sorting 2D and 3D shapes
- . comparing weights and using non-standard and standard units of measure.

Science

During Science we will be learning about seasonal changes. The children will find out facts about the Sun and observe its apparent movement across the sky. We will investigate how shadows change during the day, discuss the four seasons and the varied day length. We will also describe the weather associated with each season and the changes this brings.

The children will learn about plants as living things which grow and change. They will have opportunities to plant seeds and carry out investigations with plants. They will find out about plants in their immediate environment and how these are similar and different from each other.

Computing

Our focus this term will be on programming. The children will learn what algorithms are, how to create and debug simple programs, and about the common uses of information technology beyond our school. The children will learn about e-safety in lessons and assemblies.

PE

Tuesdays from 12th Jan - 23rd Feb - Swimming, Year 2 children will need their swimming kits and a towel.

Fridays - Our PE unit will be 'Skip to the Beat', where the children will further develop their skipping skills, performing skipping moves with agility, balance and co-ordination.

RE

Beliefs about God as the "Creator" will be explored through the Creation story. The children will learn about the life of Moses and the 10 commandments. This term we will also be learning about Passover, the Sedar plate and the story of Easter.

Geography

The children will take an enquiry based approach and carry out fieldwork in the local area to answer the question 'How can we make our local area safer?' They will be carrying out surveys, looking at parking and considering issues surrounding road safety for pedestrians and cyclists.

History

The children will be thinking about how ways in which we get or grow our food have changed over time, including farming and shopping, and they will make comparisons thinking about similarities and differences. They will consider how far our food has travelled and where different types of food come from.

Art

The children will explore line, shape, colour and texture in natural forms. They will be encouraged to make careful observations of natural objects, including plants and use these drawings as the basis for working with textiles.

Music

During this term, the children will learn to recognise different ways sounds are made and changed. They will also learn the names of and how to play a variety of classroom instruments. We will be singing songs about our science topic of plants and how things grow and change.

D & T

Sensational salads - The children will learn about different types of salads (fruit and root), how to prepare salads safely, and will design and make their own salads considering their preferences and how to present food attractively. They will also evaluate their salads.

PSHE

Going for Goals - This theme provides opportunities for the children to reflect on themselves as individuals, particularly their strengths as learners and how they learn most effectively.

Good to be me - This will extend their understanding of core feelings and develop a broader vocabulary of feelings.

E-safety - Developing pupils' understanding of how to be safe on the internet.

French

The children will practise naming colours, numbers to 10 and have simple conversations about themselves. We will introduce new vocabulary about plants through our topic of "growth".

How to help your child:-

- Please continue with reading every day, and with spelling and maths homework.
- Talk to your child about plants in your home and garden, and encourage them to take some responsibility for looking after these.
- Plant some seeds / seedlings, e.g. for vegetables, and talk about how these grow and how to look after them.
- Visit a garden centre to look at varieties of plants and the range of plants available.
- Talk about which parts of plants we eat.
- Encourage your child to say whole sentences correctly to help with their "writing voice"

Parents' evenings will be held on Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd March 2016.