



Curriculum Newsletter for Maple Class Spring 2019

Dear Parents/carers,

Here is an outline of the curriculum children in Maple class will be covering over our spring term:

English

During the first half term we will be looking at the story 'The Bear Under the Stairs' by Helen Cooper, where children will be doing the following:

- Reflecting on personal experiences
- Recounting events and retelling a story, by sequencing it in the correct order
- Using the structure of the story to write their own narrative based on The Bear under the Stairs
- Creating a fact sheet for the main character, William, on bears
- Using it as a model to write letters from the main character to the bear and back. Children write their own story of a child who is scared of something that might be in the house
- Writing a comparison between real bears and toy bears by exploring different adjectives to best describe them
- Completing a comprehension booklet around the story of the bear under the stairs

During the second half term we will be looking at the story Yeti and the Bird by Nadia Shireen, where the children will be focusing on the following:

- writing a complete story about a two seemingly different characters
- Using past tense
- Writing in the third person
- Using connectives (adverbs) to sequence
- Using connectives (conjunctions) to write compound sentences (but, and)

We will also be looking at some poetry around Easter and focusing on some comprehension and guided reading activities to prepare ourselves for SATs.

We will be continuing with our No-Nonsense spelling, handwriting and spellings throughout the week.

Maths.

In maths lessons this term the children will be learning to:

- share numbers in to equal groups
- group numbers equally
- divide numbers by two, five and ten
- identify odd and even numbers
- identify 2D and 3D shapes
- . Sort 2D and 3D shapes, based on their properties
- . Create shapes using both 2D and 3D shapes
- . Make equal parts
- . Recognise and find a half, quarter and third
- . Count in fractions
- . Measure length (cm, m)
- . Compare and order lengths

Throughout our maths work we will focus on the children becoming fluent with the above skills, and using their reasoning and problem-solving skills. We will also be completing some SATs past papers to prepare ourselves for the summer term.

Science

This half term we will be focusing on different materials that we use when building houses and why we use certain materials based on their properties. We will also be looking at the story of 'The Three Little Pigs', where the children will be conducting their own experiments to see which materials would be strongest and most durable for ensuring that they can't be blown down.

In the second half term, we will be looking at materials and identifying whether they are dead, alive or have never been born. We will then be moving on to looking at different habitats for animals and plants, which will then move us in to our next term where we will be focusing on animals and plants.

In the afternoon, we will be doing work mainly focusing on our topics 'Our houses and homes' (first half term) and 'Castles' (second half term).

R.E

In R.E. this term the children will be learning about what make churches special places for Christians. They will learn about the external and internal features of churches, why people go to church, and who works in a church. Nearer to the end of the term they will be learning about Easter.

Music

Our first unit of work is called 'Our Land'. The children will explore timbre and texture as they explore descriptive sounds. They will listen to, and perform music inspired by myths. Our second unit is 'Our Bodies'. The children will develop a sense of steady beat using their own bodies.

P.E.

The children will be developing their skipping skills, learning to skip with balance, co-ordination and agility. They will be learning to skip in different ways, take part in skipping circuits and also learn to observe and comment on each other's performances. During gym work the children will be concentrating on their balance and movement work, they will link their movements together into a routine. They will also be having their six week swimming programme.

Art

In art this half term, we will be looking at two different artists and comparing and contrasting their different ways of doing portraits. The artists we will be looking at are Leonardo Da Vinci and Pablo Picasso.

In our second half term we will be focusing on sketching, with a particular focus on our topic around castles. We will be having a go at using catch frames to focus on different parts of castles and then sketch in detail what we can see.

D+T

This half term we will be conducting experiments around the story of the three little pigs to see which house will be able to stay up by making various ones out of different materials and with different structures.

In our second half term, we will then be looking at creating our own castles, by considering what we need to make our castles big, strong, stable and what details we can add to them to make them look as authentic as possible.

History

This half term we will be looking at the topic of our houses and homes, by studying how they have changed over time. We will then be looking in to the Great Fire of London and discussing how different things would be in our present day as the materials used to make houses have changed.

In our second half term we will be looking at the topic of castles where we will look at different castles from around the UK and comparing famous kings and queens from our country.

Geography

In this half term, we will be comparing and contrasting between cities, towns and countryside, and looking at where we live and what is in our local area. We are also planning on doing a local study of Welland being able to link this in with our history with the old and new houses we may be able to see. In our second half term, we will then be looking at the different locations of castles in the UK and thinking about why they were positioned in the places they are. We will also be comparing castles from around the world to see if there are any differences or similarities depending on geographical factors.

P.S.H.E

We will be talking about 'going for our goals' and 'new years resolutions' this term and also focusing on 'fire safety/safety around the home' as part of the work we will be doing on 'The Fire of London' with our topic on 'our houses and homes'.

Computing

The children will be continuing to use a range of different apps on both the iPads and computers. We will also be looking at doing 'algorithms' and how to set devices and debug simple programs.

Thank you for your continued support and if there is anything we can do to help then please do not hesitate to come and see us after school or arrange a meeting.

Kindest Regards,
Miss O'Neill and Mrs Cousins