



Maple Class Newsletter

Year 3

Autumn 2026

WELCOME BACK!

We hope you and your children had a lovely summer break and that they are excited to get stuck into a new school year. We are so impressed with how the children have settled back into class and know we are going to have lots of fun teaching them this year.

MATHS

To start the year, we will be focusing on place value, partitioning numbers and addition and subtraction techniques. The children will develop a range of strategies including efficient mental methods, jottings and formal written methods to solve addition and subtraction questions.

ENGLISH

Our first English unit is based around the book *The Seed of Doubt* by Irena Brignull. To begin, the children will discuss the importance of being aspirational, dreaming about the future and overcoming obstacles. We will explore the themes of the book through poetry, letter writing and diary entries before writing motivational leaflets for the rest of the school about future aspirations and overcoming the seed of doubt. Linked to our Stone Age topics, we will be writing instructions on how to wash a Woolly Mammoth.

PE

PE is on Tuesdays and Thursdays and we will be starting the year with football and rugby. This will be followed by gymnastics and dance later in the term. Please could children bring in clearly labelled PE kits for these days and ensure they remove earring and tie back long hair. Outdoor kit is needed including trainers.

ART - STORY TELLING THROUGH DRAWING

This term we will be exploring how we can create sequenced images to share and tell stories. We will gather ideas from a range of illustrators and graphic novelists, before creating our own accordion books.

SCIENCE - LIGHT

This unit teaches the children to recognise that they need light in order to see things and that dark is the absence of light. Children will learn that light is reflected from surfaces and about how the sun can help and harm us. They will learn about how shadows are formed and look for patterns in the way that the size of shadows changes.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

In RE we will be reflecting on the question, 'What is it like to follow God?' with a focus on the story of Noah. We will explore the idea of covenant and how this can impact our lives in school and the wider community.

HISTORY - STONE AGE TO IRON AGE

In this topic about prehistoric Britain, year 3 will explore how life changed from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. Through this, they will gain a sense of continuity and change over time, understanding how early humans adapted to their environments, developed new tools and discovered farming. They will investigate how the invention of bronze brought new materials, skills and societal structures to prehistoric Britain and how the arrival of iron led to further change.

GEOGRAPHY

In lessons this term, the children will identify the different types of land use. They will use OS Maps, looking at symbols and reading four-figure and six-figure grid references. Children will learn about land use in our area and use maps to present land use data. The children will suggest ways in which land can be used and developed in our area and identify the land use similarities between other parts of the UK.

FOREST SCHOOL

We are pleased to be continuing Forest School this year and our first session is on Wednesday 16th September. The children will need to bring their forest school kit to school to change into. Please ensure arms and legs are covered to avoid scratches, stings and bites. Children should also bring wellies, walking boots or trainers that can get muddy.

HOMEWORK

This year, children will be expected to complete the following homework tasks:

~ Reading

Please encourage your child to read, preferably daily and record in their planners. Pupils are welcome to write this themselves. Reading diaries and books are required in school every day to monitor reading and for use in guided reading groups. Diary checks and book changes will take place on a Friday each week. Please feel free to read books from home and record these in the planner too.

~ Spellings

Children will bring home a list of spellings to learn on a Monday and will be tested on them at the end of the week. Spellings can be completed on the sheet provided and this sheet is to be kept at home.

~ TTRockstars

Regular times tables practice will increase their confidence and speed of recall. If you have any problems logging in, please let us know. Children will be tested once a week in a speed test on their target times tables.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Best wishes,

Mrs Childs and Mrs Ollerenshaw