



Maple Class Newsletter

Year 4

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.

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 - LIVING THINGS AND THEIR HABITATS

This unit teaches the children how to group living things together in different ways. They will use classification keys to group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local habitat. Children will recognise how environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

In RE we will be reflecting on the question, 'What do Christians learn from the Creation Story?' They will describe what Christians do because they believe God is Creator and make suggestions about what might be important in the creation story for Christians living today.

HISTORY - THE ANGLO-SAXONS AND SCOTS

In this topic, the children will investigate the kinds of sources of evidence that historians have used to find out about life in Anglo-Saxon Britain. They will learn about the arrival of the Anglo-Saxons and why they came to Britain. The children will research aspects of daily life for the different groups of people living in Britain in the 5th century. They will also learn about the different beliefs of those living in Britain at this time.



GEOGRAPHY - SETTLEMENTS

In lessons this term, the children will identify the different types of settlements and their features. They will revisit and deepen their understanding of OS Maps, looking at symbols and reading four-figure and six-figure grid references. Children will learn why early settlers chose to settle in particular areas and, using OS Maps, explain why and how settlements have developed over time. Finally, groups will plan and conduct a suitable enquiry to find out about change in our local settlement, collecting qualitative data using surveys.

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