

# Maple Class Newsletter

April 2016

Welcome back Maple class!

We hope you had a good break over the Easter holidays. Our topic this half term is In the Garden. As the flowers and trees start to germinate on our school grounds we will be going outdoors to investigate and identify different species of plant and animal life we have at our school. This term we will be working hard on our spellings. Year 2 children are expected to read and spell all the words in the Support for Spelling pack. Year ones are expected to spell common exception words listed in the Spelling pack objectives and be able to spell the days of the week. Please practise these at home where ever you are and in any spare moment as practise makes all the difference!

Our school topic for this half term is: In the Garden  
Our enquiry question is: How does your garden grow?

## English

We will be closely linking our English and topic together by writing instructions and explanations for growing plants and how to care for butterflies, frogs and Sea Monkeys! Did you ever wonder how a zebra got its stripes? We will be looking into myth creation stories and creating some imaginative ones of our own.

## Maths

We will be interpreting and sorting data in graphs, to ask and answer questions.

We will be using calculation strategies to find relationships between addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will be continuing to tell the time with greater accuracy.

## Topic

We will be growing sunflower seeds to observe and find out what plants need to grow. We will be comparing live habitats and life cycles of frogs, butterflies and sea monkeys finding out what they eat and how they stay alive. Children will use their art and designing skills to plant and create their very own shoe box miniature garden.

## PE

This half term we will be mastering basic movements including running, jumping, throwing and catching, as well as developing balance, agility and co-ordination, to begin to apply these in a range of activities. Children will need their long jogging bottoms, sweatshirts and trainers, as the weather gets finer for us to go outdoors.

## PSHE, RE and Music

In PSHE we will be focusing on our Core Value of Safety. We will be learning ways in which to keep safe at home and at school. In RE we will be learning about the values of Buddhist beliefs. We will have a go at meditation and mindfulness too! Children will be playing a range of tuned and untuned musical instruments to learn about pulse, rhythm, and pitch.

## How to Support at Home

Keep practising spellings! We are checking for correct spelling of these words in the children's written work at school. Keep practising telling the time everywhere you go to the hour, half hour and to 15 minutes.

## Reminders

More books have been changed last half term which is great news for our Class Reading Tree. Please read regularly at home and remember to get your books out of your book bags in the mornings and place in the books to be changed box in the classroom.

## Class Dates

Year 2 Writing Cafe Mon  
18<sup>th</sup> April 9.05- 10.15am

Year 1 Maths Cafe Mon  
25<sup>th</sup> April 9.05- 10.15am

Class assembly Fri 29<sup>th</sup>  
April 9.10am

# Work Examples – Fluency and Reasoning with Number

Each half term we are sharing with you some work from the class that demonstrates the new National expectations. This half term we are demonstrating some of the thinking required by children about numbers. To support at home, you could use this activity beginning with a

Connie

Daisy  $8+4=12$

$$24 \div 2 = 12$$

$$24 - 12 = 12$$

Hannah  
2 digit  
number

Kayleigh  
 $14 - 2 = 12$

LUKE

$$3 \times 4$$

Sophie

$$15 - 3 = 12$$

Macy

$$20 - 8 = 12$$

Shawn

$$8 + 4 = 12$$

max

$$10 + 2$$

charlie

you can  
count  
up in

2s to  
get to

Ameia

$6 \times 2$   
if you  
have 12 = 6

Anna

$$12 \div 2 = 6$$

count 6

times in 2s  
to get to 12

Riley  
even  
number

William

$$10 + 1 + 1 = 10 + 2 = 12$$

Ryan P

We can split 12 into  
half and we get 6 + 6