

Maple Class Newsletter

April 2017

Welcome back after the half term!

A long time ago when this planet was new, it all looked quite different to me and to you, and long before humans had started to dream, some very strange creatures appeared on the scene...

This term will be all about dinosaurs! We have a busy and exciting half term lined up starting with Science Week where we will be testing, observing asking questions and carrying out exciting experiments based on what we discover about different dinosaurs.

We will continue to focus on improving our spellings this half term. By the end of Year 1 the national expectation of spellings is to accurately spell the days of the week and to spell most of the common exception words. For Year 2 the expectation is to be able to read and spell all the words in the support for spelling pack. We have been working on the spellings we send home each half term in school, if your child has been practising them at home as well they should be well on their way to achieving these expectations. Any practise you do at home will make a significant difference.

Our school topic for this half term is: Dinosaurs

Our enquiry question is: If you could be a dinosaur which one would you be?

English

We will be learning and reading lots of poems about dinosaurs. Maple Class already have some eager dinosaur enthusiasts and using the facts we learn we will be writing different dinosaur profiles in a non-chronological report for our role-play museum. At the end of the term we will be creating dinosaur short stories.

Maths

We will be learning to read measurements on a scale in counting in 2s, 5s, and 10s and solving fraction problems to find fractions of amounts. Do certain dinosaurs remind you of different shapes? We will be describing the properties of 2D and 3D shapes.

Topic

In topic we will be learning lots of facts about dinosaurs- what types of food they eat and what they might have needed to survive. As a part of science week we will carry out different experiments and tests on materials to imagine which would be the strongest, the longest and the most waterproof. Afterwards we will be making our own dinosaur model out of air dry clay and designing a mini museum dinosaur diorama using what we have learnt.

PE

We will be focusing on using the climbing frame and different equipment in gymnastics this half term. We will be concentrating on improving our balance, partner work and co-ordination working at high and low levels during floor work and then transfer these skills using the apparatus.

PSHE, Philosophy and RE

In PSHE, we will be learning about our health and wellbeing by learning how healthy eating and exercise can keep us well. We will be thinking about our relationships with our friends and families and how positive and negative behaviours can affect these relationships. In RE we will be learning about Judaism and Buddhism by comparing these faiths with Christianity.

How to Support at Home

Keep practising spellings at home!
Use a dictionary or spell checker once you have had a go at sounding it out and seeing if it looks right.
Children should be reading regularly as a part of their homework. Please encourage books to be changed in the mornings.
Thank you

Reminders

Forest Schools is every Monday. As the weather can be unpredictable, all children will need to bring in wellies and a coat with a hood (preferably waterproof).
Remember Maths Seeds is an excellent resource to consolidate learning at home.

Class Dates

Maple Class assembly
Fri 28th April 9.05am

Y2 Writing café
Mon 24th April 9.05 –
10am

Y1 Maths Café
Mon 8th May 9.05 – 10am