



Year 5 Autumn Newsletter



Dear All,

Welcome back to Maple School and into Year 5. We hope that you have all had a wonderful summer break and feel refreshed for the start of another very busy and exciting year ahead.

In English all KS2 classes are continuing to work from the successful Literacy and Language scheme (written by the authors of the Read, Write Inc. scheme used by the Infants.) Children will also continue a weekly lesson focusing on SPAG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) and comprehension skills, to really heighten the children's skills in these areas.

Regular reading is still really important, so please encourage your children to make full use of the school library, class book corner and books on Bug Club in addition to the scheduled class slots in the library. We will continue with regular Guided Reading sessions so your child will need to ensure their reading books and reading log are in school on the day of their session. If you are looking for inspiration for books that your child could be reading, the English coordinators have placed suggested yearly reading lists on the school website on each class page. Getting your child to read aloud to you at home is still a really important skill; please try and make some time for this each week also.

In Maths we will be working regularly on mental arithmetic, developing skills for faster and more accurate work and regularly practising times tables; Thursday will be our day for the exciting Tables Torture! We know that the children that improve most at this are the children that take home practise sheets; please encourage your child to see Mrs.King, one of our Teaching Assistants, to get as many of these as they wish. Mrs. Herbert will cover all areas of 'Number' and Mrs. Turner will teach 'Shape, Space and Measure' including measures, symmetry, coordinates, 2D and 3D shapes and data interpretation.

Approximately half an hour of **both Maths and English Homestudy** will be sent home each week on a Friday, starting on 14th September and must be completed by the following Wednesday or before. Each pupil will be given a homestudy book for English and the tasks for each week will be clearly indicated. Please do sign the page to confirm that your child has completed the work and write us a short comment if you feel it is appropriate to let us know how your child got on. If there is not space please do send in a note on paper / a post it so we are aware and can take action as necessary.

Maths Homework will now be online through Mathletics; this will be explained to the children and their log-ins given out at the Year 5 Parents' Meeting along with a brief explanation.

We strongly encourage that your child looks at their homestudy as early as possible; this way if they do not understand something then they can come to a member of staff who will be happy to discuss it through with them. If homework is unsatisfactory or not handed in then this will be looked at again in the pupils' own time at school. It is crucial for our records and on-going assessments that books are not lost please. Spellings will be sent home each Thursday for a test the following Thursday, starting this week.

Our Science work this term will include 'the Earth and beyond' and 'properties of objects'. Our DT module will focus on food in the form of biscuits. Year 5's History topics this term are the Anglo Saxons and Vikings. In Geography we are focusing on time zones linking to our science work and towns and cities in the UK, which links nicely with Viking invasions.

RE covers Christianity and Judaism. In Computing, the children will be learning to crack codes and write computer games. Circle Time to discuss PSHE issues will take place regularly, with weekly time given to feedback from Eco and School Council.

PE is on Monday and Wednesday - please make sure that your child's clean Maple P.E. kit is in school on these days and is **labelled**. Please do ensure that your child has warm layers and suitable footwear such as trainers, particularly over the coming Winter months. PE kits should go home regularly for washing.

French will continue once a week on a Tuesday. This will cover basic conversational French and carry on from last year's learning.

Mrs. Herbert will be teaching Monday to Wednesday and Mrs. Turner will teach on a Thursday and Friday. Mrs. Herbert will also cover the mid-morning session on a Thursday whilst Mrs. Turner takes Planning, Preparation and Assessment (PPA) time. Our teaching assistants (TA) who provide fantastic additional class support are Mrs. King and Mrs. Kite.

Please feel at ease to discuss any important pupil issues with us before they become major. If we can't meet immediately we will create a slot for us as early as possible. It is important that we work as a team to enhance the best qualities in each and every pupil in the class.

Many thanks for taking the time to read this and we hope that it helps to keep you more informed about your child's education at Maple School. Our presentation to parents on Thursday 13th September at 2.30pm will provide an opportunity for us to discuss the year ahead, but if there are any concerns about your child in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We are very excited about the year ahead and look forward to working with your children. Thank you in anticipation of your support. Also, don't forget to follow us on Twitter to hear all about what we're getting up to: [MapleSchoolYr5](#).

Mrs Marie Herbert and Mrs Julia Turner