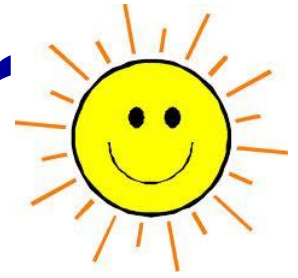




Year 2 Newsletter Summer 2017



Dear All,

We hope you have all had an enjoyable Easter break! Many thanks too for your help and support in our successful Special Events Week. Please look on the school website to see the photos from the week. www.maple.herts.sch.uk or using our twitter account, @MapleSchoolYr2,

Teaching arrangements continue as they were in the Spring Term:

Mrs de la Croix will be teaching the class on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.

Mrs Sykes will be teaching on Wednesday afternoons, Thursday and Friday.

Miss Wynne is our Year 2 Teaching Assistant and she will be in the class every day except for Wednesday afternoons when Mrs Melvin will be with us.

This term in Maths we will continue to include lots of oral work and number games to help the children's learning -their fluency in number skills is very important. We shall primarily be working on multiplication and division, addition and subtraction skills, fractions, telling the time and measuring.

On Tuesdays, Maths lessons will continue to focus on the children's mental and oral skills including the recall of number facts and timetable facts (2's, 5's and 10s with extension to 3's, 4's, 6's, 7s and 8's for those ready for a challenge!). The children also take part in a 'Big Maths- Beat that' test- where they are encouraged to beat their own score each week.

Weekly Maths homework, sent home on Fridays to be returned by the following Friday, will continue to reinforce work covered in class that week- if you require any further details of maths work covered please speak to us.

The teaching of reading, spelling and writing appropriate to the children's ability, will continue to take place within our daily English / Read write Inc. lessons. In addition to this daily Literacy session the children will read in a small ability group within the class once a week.

Please continue to support your child's individual reading at home and use the Reading Diary as before - recording any books that your child is reading. Your child is encouraged to change their own school reading book as needed (We will try to remind them to do so too!). Some week's the children's reading will be 'online' using 'Bugclub', let us know if you have any problems with this arrangement.

We will continue to set an optional piece of SPAG homework every week which will link to what we have covered in class that week. As before, it will come home on a Friday, to be returned by the following Friday.

The children will be given spellings to learn at home. The spelling books need to be in school on **Fridays** and the children will be tested on **Fridays**. The words are based around the phonics the children have been learning in school. Additionally, as a challenge for the children in Mrs de la Croix's and Mrs Syke's group, a set of 6 extra 'common exception spellings' will be sent home alongside the usual weekly spellings. It is essential the children are learning to spell these words confidently this year.

Other areas of study this term will include:

Science:

We will be growing vegetables and hopefully harvesting the produce ready for making soup later on in the term. We will also be looking at how we grow.

To support our Habitats topic we will be visiting the Epping Forest Field Centre on the 5th June. More details will follow nearer the time.

Computing:

We will be recording data from our habitats topic in Science using IT skills and also using email to Communicate with others.

ICT will also be used as an integral part of the teaching and learning across the curriculum.

Geography: We will be comparing the physical, environmental and human features of the British Isles to other islands around the world- focusing in particular on the Isle of Coll <http://visitcoll.co.uk/>.

Design and Technology: Making a healthy vegetable soup

Music: We will be learning some Scottish songs in connection with our English and geography work.

R.E:

We will be looking at the different Religious leaders in the five main faiths and their roles.

P.E: Tuesday afternoons- Co-ordination (throwing) and Agility skills in hopping, jumping and running, Tuesday mornings- Fitness circuit activities, Thursdays- Bat & ball skills and Striking & fielding and of course we will be continuing with our daily run.

For our three weekly P.E lessons, please make sure that all items of P.E clothing are clearly named. We will be using the field for athletics/games activities and the children will need appropriate trainers (a spare pair of ankle socks would also be advisable).

Every **Friday** we visit the school Library and the children can choose a book, either fiction or non-fiction, to take home. Please can the children bring the book back to school on the following Friday- even if they want to keep the book for another week as it will then be "renewed" using the computerised system.

In order that the children can have regular drinks of water we like each child to have a named bottle with a 'sports' style top in school every day please. This is particularly important as we are doing so much outdoor P.E. this term.

Don't forget we will be celebrating the children's birthdays in the classroom, on the actual day, or on the Monday if their birthday falls at the weekend. Please can they bring in 1 or 2 cards and one present they have received to show the class.

Throughout the Spring Term and Easter holidays our Barnaby bears continued to enjoy lots of travels (thank you again!) and we are hoping that they will continue to do so and add to the displays and diaries in the classroom. To support the development of geographical vocabulary it would be helpful if the children could use appropriate words to describe the landscape and weather in any places they visit with the bears. If possible it is best that the bears travel out of St Albans so that comparisons can be made and places located on the maps!

As you will be aware from our Parent's meeting in the Spring Term, the results of your child's standardised scores from the SATs tests (Reading and Maths) and the Teacher assessment statements for Reading, Writing and Maths will be reported for each child at the end of this term with their annual written report. Therefore, this half term we shall be undertaking the SAT's tests and a range of other assessment tasks with the children. However, there is no set "testing" week and things will be organized in a way that, we hope, is comfortable and "friendly" for the children!

Finally, notices and messages from us will be placed on the windows or sent via parent mail/ brought home by the children. Also, don't forget our twitter page, [@MapleSchoolYr2](#). If you have any questions or queries please come and see us. If we cannot speak there and then we will arrange a mutually convenient time. We are looking forward to the busy term and, hopefully, some fine weather!

We thank you for your continued help and support.

Mrs de la Croix, Mrs Sykes and Miss Wynne

For further details about the Year 2 curriculum follow this link :-

http://www.maple.herts.sch.uk/documents/curriculum_overview/year_2%20curriculum_overview.pdf

Dates for the diary:

Open Evening on Wednesday 26th April: 5.30-7.30pm

Y2 Class Assembly : Friday 26th May

Visit to Epping Forest Field Centre: Monday 5th June

Half-term holiday: 29thMay - 2nd June

Occasional Day: Friday 28th April

Bank Holiday (school closed): Monday 1st May

End of term: Friday 21st July