



Year 1

Newsletter

Summer 2019

Dear All,

I hope you have all had a lovely holiday. Here are a few details about the term ahead.

Our Science topic this term is 'Plants.' We will be exploring plants and trees that grow in the local area. The children will become familiar with the common names of flowers and trees and have a go at planting seeds and observing and recording how they grow.

In Design and Technology the children will be designing and making a 3D playground structure. In Geography we will be learning about the local area and developing simple mapping skills. In our History lessons we will be looking at a range of houses and homes and comparing homes from the past.

In R.E. we will be learning about special religious books and stories. If your child has a **special book** that they would like to share with the class, please could they bring it in **as soon as possible**, as we will start the topic by talking about books that are special to them.

Children will continue to have Read Write Inc lessons every day. In class we will be reinforcing the skills learnt in further English activities and through guided reading sessions. Please support your child's individual reading at home through short, daily reading sessions and continue to use their reading diary as before. It is important that you write in the reading diaries what your child is reading at home so that we can see the books your child is reading without our support and find out how they are doing, to help inform our assessments. Don't forget to look at and use our recommended Reading List on the Year 1 page of the website.

Children will continue to take home spellings to learn on a **Friday**, which will be either common words for Year One or spelling patterns based around the Read Write Inc book the children have been reading in school. These spellings will then be checked on the following **Friday**. Thank you for your continued support with helping your child with their spellings.

Every **Wednesday** we will continue to 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 Thursday - even if they want to keep the book for another week as it will then be "renewed" using the computerised system.

Phonics Screening Check for all Year 1 children

The phonics screening check is a statutory assessment for all children in Year 1. It will take place during the week beginning 10th June. The children will read a mix of 40 real and nonsense words (alien words).

How Can I Help My Child at Home?

- Recap Set 1,2,3 sounds (see class pg on website) and encourage your child to spot these sounds ('special friends') when reading unfamiliar words.
- Read as much as possible to and with your child.
- Encourage and praise – get them to have a 'good guess'.
- If your child is struggling to read a word, help them by encouraging them to say each sound in the word from left to right.

Our work in Maths continues to include lots of oral work and number games to help the children's learning, especially their mental skills. We will be exploring multiplication and division- using repeated addition and arrays, equal/ unequal groups and remainders and scaling. We will be learning how to tell the time to the half and quarter hour on analogue and digital clocks.

Exploration of fractions will involve sharing equal/ unequal groups/ shapes. We will also be continuing to revisit place value by estimating, ordering and comparing. Mental maths skills will continue to be developed through the use of our weekly 'Big Maths' timed challenge which will enhance the speed of recall of the number bonds.

Optional Maths homework is sent home each week on Fridays and is due back by the following Thursday. Homework tasks will include worksheet and online activities. They are designed to consolidate work covered in our class Maths lessons.

P.E. takes place on **Wednesday and Thursday**. We hope to be using the field for athletics/games activities and the children will need a pair of **trainers** for this. Please also ensure that your child has a **pair of socks** in their P.E bag if they wear tights to school. Please make sure that all items of clothing are clearly named. As the weather warms up and children take their jumpers off outside it can be extremely difficult to get your jumpers/cardigans back to you if they have not been named!

Please also remember to bring in a named water bottle. Children should take these home every day to be re-filled for the following morning.

Birthdays will continue to be celebrated in class and the children can bring in cards and one present they have received. **Show and Tell** will continue to happen on **Thursdays**. Please see the rota attached.

Finally, notices and messages from us will be placed on the windows or sent via parent mail/ brought home by the children. Also, please remember to look out on the school website <http://www.maple.herts.sch.uk/> and our twitter account @MapleSchoolYr1 for class updates.

Mrs Garland will continue teaching the class on a Friday with Miss Buckley the main class teaching assistant here every day apart from Tuesday.

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 ahead and, hopefully, some warm weather! Thank you for your continued help and support.

Mrs Hitchcock, Mrs Garland and Miss Buckley.

Don't forget:

- **Open Evening: Wed 1st May 5.30pm to 7.30pm**
- **Year 1 Class Assembly: Thurs 16th May 9.00am**
- **Infant Sports Day: Mon 15th July 9.15am**

