



Maples Newsletter

Autumn
2017

BEHAVIOUR

It's good to be green!



Your child is aiming to show good 'green' behaviour at all times. Please ask your child if they have been green all week and help them to reflect on how they could improve the following week if necessary.

Things to remember:

- PE kits Tuesday and Friday
- Book bags and reading books every day

Homework Expectations:

Homework will be handed in on Monday to be brought back by Monday. Children will be given a piece of maths, literacy (either SPaG, writing or reading comprehension) and spellings to be practised. Spelling tests will take place on the following Monday.

As part of our topic we ask children to complete various projects. We usually give children a broad range of activities to choose from but they are more than welcome to come up with their own ideas. We encourage children to be as creative as possible so some adult help might be



Literacy

Our topic for the autumn term is 'Were the Romans really that rotten?' Children will have the chance to learn historical facts about one of the most influential civilisations of all times as well as the legacy they left to all of us. Children will also have the chance to learn writing skills that link closely to our topic: e-mail writing (asking for advice in order to create our own museum exhibition), news reports, fact files and brochures. We will also look at two class novels 'Escape from Pompeii' and William Shakespeare's 'Julius Caesar'. We are carrying on with Read, Write Inc to practise our spellings and we have daily guided reading sessions in the afternoon. We will focus on art and designing skills in the afternoons, in order to create our own Roman museum at the end of the term.

Numeracy

Our numeracy focus for the term will be place value, the 4 operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division), area and perimeter and statistics. During our lessons we will focus on fluency (the ability to solve calculations accurately and efficiently), reasoning and problems solving. We will also have a big focus on using more concrete (hands on), pictorial (use of visual representations) and abstract (formal written calculations) approaches during lessons so children can gain mastery in mathematics. It would really be beneficial that the children learnt their times tables by heart, as this is an essential skill that can be useful in a range of mathematical tasks. Children have got logins for Times Tables Rockstar which they can access online and it is also a fun way to learn times tables.

Science

Our science topic is 'Get sorted!' – Our focus will be to identify, compare and classify a variety of materials according to both their properties and their uses. We will revise solids, liquids or gases, and changes of state that take place when materials are heated or cooled. We will have plenty of opportunities to carry out practical investigations to compare different types of solids, liquids and gases.

RE

Our RE topic is 'What do Muslims believe about a good life?' – Children will begin by exploring what it means to lead a good life. Children will learn about the importance of the Qur'an to Muslims in their everyday lives. They will then learn about how the Qur'an helps Muslims to make the right choices in life through its teachings and stories. Pupils will also link these to the Bible and its teachings as well as our school Christian values.

CELEBRATING CHILDREN'S WORK

We value children's achievements extremely highly and always display the children's creativity and hard work in class. Please feel free to pop in at home time to see your child's achievements.