

## Maple Class Newsletter - Spring Term 1

### Half Term Topic:



We have had an amazing first term together in Maple Class. I hope you all enjoy the Christmas holiday and I look forward to welcoming the class back on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January.

### Our curriculum for the next half term is as follows:

English: We will be looking at the non-fiction text 'Scott the Antarctic'. We will work towards writing a diary entry in role as a famous explorer of Antarctica (linking to our Geography learning). In lessons, we will be exploring different language techniques both in the chosen text and our own writing.

We will also have weekly grammar, handwriting and reading sessions to further support the children's literacy skills. Children have a reading book and a reading diary to take home. Please send these into school each time they have read so I am able to read their reading diary, allocate stamps (for prizes) and change their books.

Maths: We will begin by learning methods in multiplication and division, before moving on to learning more about fractions, decimals and percentages. All learning is linked to the real-world for the children as we aim to teach maths with a practical approach that links to problems the children will come across in their lives.

**Further practice on TTRS would be really beneficial during this half term as it will help your child's multiplication and division fluency and will therefore help them to identify patterns within their times tables.**

Science: This half term we will focus on light where we will learn about states of matter, exploring solids, liquids and gases, the water cycle and even investigating reversible and irreversible changes of materials through practical exploration in the forest! **We will be in the forest on a Thursday afternoon;** please come to school dressed in school uniform on Thursdays, with forest clothing in a bag. This should include: layers of (old) clothing, thick or multiple pairs of socks, wellies/walking boots, waterproof trousers, a waterproof jacket, a hat, scarf and gloves.

RE: This half term our RE focus will be based on Jesus. We will be thinking about different ways that Jesus has changed and improved our lives. We will also learn different religious stories where Jesus has changed the lives of others.

PE: This half term, we will focus on *Creative Games*, developing our skills and tactics in both attacking and defending to play tactical games. Our PE day for this half-term will be **Wednesday** (lessons may be indoor or outdoor depending on the weather). Please send your child to school wearing their PE kit and school jumper on Wednesdays. **Children who are going Swimming on a Wednesday should come to school in the school uniform with their Swimming kit in a bag.**

Computing: We will begin the half term by focusing on effective searching. Children will learn how to locate information on the search results page and how to assess whether an information source is true or reliable.

Geography: In *Geography* this half term we will be learning about Antarctica. We will learn about its position on the Earth and use this information to understand Antarctica's weather and climate. We will

then look at the changing climate in Antarctica and consider what this means for the future of the continent (and its impact on the wider world).

Art: This half term in Art we will learn about Landscapes. Focusing on the artist David Hockney, children will learn how to use viewfinders to look closely at details in drawings and paintings, and learn about what perspective is and how to use it within their artwork.

Music: This half term, we will explore feelings as we play by listening, talking about, rehearsing and playing various songs.

PSHE: We will focus on Keeping Myself Safe, where we will begin by exploring habits and bullying, leading onto learning and peer pressure, drugs and smoking.