

Maple Class – Lower School

Notable news

Maple class have enjoyed a very busy Autumn term! We have celebrated several special days throughout the term: World Mental Health day, Children in Need, Halloween and also Remembrance day.

The swimming pool reopened this term! Maple class pupils have enjoyed their weekly swimming lessons with Victoria, singing songs together, kicking their legs and improving their confidence in the water.

We also enjoyed a visit from the therapy dog, Misty. Pupils sat next to her and stroked her fur. Some pupils even shared a story with Misty, who was a very good listener!

We've also been getting excited for Christmas! We can't wait for our parents to visit for our Merit assembly to see our lovely decorations!



Communication

In phonics we have been working on our Phase 2 sounds. Pupils enjoy learning a new sound each week and completing activities linked to that sound – they particularly enjoy our picture hunts around the classroom!

Our pupils thoroughly enjoy our weekly visit to the school library. We get to explore lots of different books and share stories with an adult. We also like choosing stories in our class library to look through independently or read with an adult.



Cognition

This term we have been developing our knowledge of **number**. We have worked on ordering numbers as well as understanding their value. We enjoyed rolling the dice and counting out the correct amount of cubes to match the number of dots shown. We have also looked at **time**. We organised pictures into 'day' and 'night' and sequenced our daily routine. Then we sequenced the numbers around an analogue clock.

We learned about 'Ourselves' and explored our facial features as well as our senses. We enjoyed playing 'What's in the box?' – pupils had to put their hand into the box then use a core word board to guess what they thought was inside!

This half term we have been learning about forces. We started by looking at **push** and **pull** - we went on a walk around the school to see what we could push and pull. We have also explored **twist**, where we got to explore lots of wind-up toys!



Life Skills and Personal Development

Pupils have been developing their cooking skills this term. They have been spreading butter and jam to make sandwiches; chopping fruit to make smoothies; and mixing ingredients to make cakes. Their favourite part is tasting the final product!

In computing and PSHE we have been working on taking turns through playing games and making choices in the Interactive Learning Room.

Pupils also enjoyed a visit to the local park with Sycamore class. We hope to have more community visits as the weather improves next year!



Upcoming Events

- Wednesday 18th December - Lower School Merit Assembly/classroom activities
- Wednesday 18th December - Christmas Grotto
- Friday 20th December – End of Term (Early finish for pupils)
- Tuesday 7th January – Start of Spring Term

Next half term our topic will be 'People Who Help Us'. We would welcome any visitors to school to share information with our pupils about their jobs, so please get in contact if you are able to offer any support with this.

Thank you to all our Maple class pupils for a fantastic Autumn term! We hope you all have a fantastic Christmas holiday, and we look forward to welcoming you back in the New Year!

From the Maple class team

Kerry, Andrea, Eliza and Tanya

