

Curriculum Newsletter

Maple Class

Spring Term



As authors, we will be working with the book *A First Book of Dinosaurs* by Simon Mole to inspire us to respond to illustrations, write poetry, information texts, letters and writing in role. Grammatically in Year 1 we will be learning to use conjunctions to link sentences together and in Year 2 we will be learning use expanded noun phrases to describe and specify.

As mathematicians, Year 1s will be learning about place value (within 50), addition and subtraction (within 20) and measuring length, height, mass and volume.

Year 2s will be learning about money, multiplication and division and measuring length, height, mass, capacity and temperature.



As engineers, we will be exploring structures. We will research how to make structures stronger, stiffer and more stable. We will be designing and making our own bridges out of paper and cardboard.

As computer engineers we will be learning about instructions and algorithms, becoming 'Lego builders' using an online Lego model on Purple Mash. Children will extend their use of algorithms to include the direction keys, to navigate through mazes. We will complete our learning as computer engineers this term by finding out how to add characters, backgrounds and sound effects to an animated story.



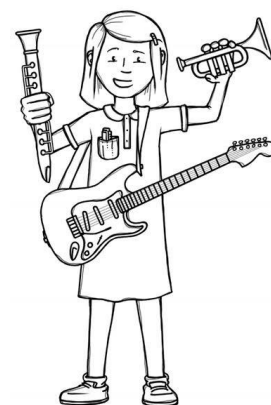
As artists we will be learning how to create colours by mixing paints. The paintings of Joseph Turner will inspire us to create our own seascapes. The year 1s will be learning to create mood through paintings and will be able to name the primary and secondary colours. Year 2s will also be able to mix paint to create all the secondary colours and will be able to predict outcomes when mixing paints.



As geographers, we will be exploring the question “why do we love being beside the sea so much” We will be researching the main physical and human features of seaside environments. We will be discussing pollution and how this affects the environment, and we will be visiting the seaside to complete our field work.



We begin this half term by looking at dynamics and tempo. Children will use their bodies and instruments to listen and respond to pieces of classical music that represent animals. They will learn and perform a song as a class and compose a short section of music as a group, with a focus on dynamics and tempo. After half term our focus will be on timbre and rhythmic patterns. Through fairy tales, children will be introduced to the concept of timbre; learning that different sounds can represent characters and key moments in a story. They will explore clapping along to the syllables of words and phrases before creating rhythmic patterns to tell a familiar fairy tale.





During our philosopher RE lessons this half term, we are looking at rules and routines in different religions. This will include The Ten Commandments, the Jewish Shabbat, The Five Pillars of Islam and The Five Ks of Sikhism. After half term, our focus will be on beginnings and endings. This will include the Sikh festival of Vaisakhi, religious naming ceremonies and the Christian festival of Easter.

As philosophers in PSHE, we will be delving into thought-provoking discussions around the themes of safety, rights and respect. The children will explore the importance of keeping safe in various aspects of their lives, including identifying safe secrets (including surprises) and unsafe secrets. They will learn about the importance of telling someone they trust about a secret which makes them feel unsafe or uncomfortable. Children will learn to understand their rights and learn the value of respect for themselves and others, including a focus on getting on with others, saving money and looking after the environment.

As athletes, we will be focusing on cognitive and creative skills in PE, exploring areas such as balance. We will be developing our knowledge of a range of invasion games and will also be learning to use a bat and ball as part of a focus on multiskills.



As scientists, we will be exploring the strength of materials, linked to our work on bridges as engineers. We will then be learning about weather types and patterns and how we can measure weather. When it gets a little warmer we will be growing seeds and discovering the best way of growing them. We will also be learning about the structure of a plant and identifying what a plant needs to stay alive, linked to our second visit of the year to Shillingford Farm.

As readers, in Year 1 we will be continuing to learn phase 5 GPCs (Grapheme-phoneme correspondence). We will be segmenting and blending these sounds in our reading and using what we have learnt to write words down. In Year 2 we will be focusing on our different strands of reading comprehension: sequencing, prediction, inference, retrieval, vocabulary, comparison and relationship with a variety of texts. Class reader texts will be the series 'Beaver Towers' by Nigel Hinton.



As historians the children are on an exciting journey exploring the significance of history makers who have left an indelible mark on the world. From the daring plot of Guy Fawkes to the compassionate contributions of Mary Seacole and Edith Cavell and the pivotal role played by Rosa Parks in the civil rights movement. Our young historians will gain an insight into some of the diverse stories that have shaped our world, and reflect on why people from the past are remembered today.