

Autumn Term 2026 Newsletter

Maple Class

Welcome back to the Autumn Term and welcome to Maple class; I hope you have all enjoyed the summer break and are feeling rested and enthusiastic about the term ahead.

We have got lots of lovely activities planned for Maple class and I am very excited to see all the children again. Our learning challenge question for this term is 'How did Britain change between the beginning of the Stone Age and the end of the Iron Age?'

In English the texts we will be focussing on are 'The Stone Age Boy' by Satoshi Kitamura and 'The Boy with the Bronze Axe' by Kathleen Fidler. We will write character descriptions, diary entries and instructions. These books also link to the work that children will be exploring in their history lessons this term.

Please see the key objectives below:

History Years 3/4 Knowledge Organiser

Main Learning: Chronology – Beginning of the Stone Age to the end of the Iron Age

Key knowledge	Vocabulary	
Know how Britain changed from the Stone Age to the end of the Iron Age	hunter-gatherer	Mainly living by hunting, fishing and gathering wild fruit
Know the significance of the invention of the wheel	settlement	A small number of people living together
Know the significance of the discovery of iron ore	Iron Age fort	A settlement built on a hill so that it was easier to defend against enemies
Know some of the key differences between the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages	Skara Brae	The archaeological site found on the Orkney Islands in Scotland
Know about the significance of the creation of Iron Age forts	Stonehenge	A famous Stone Age monument in Wiltshire
Know what is meant by hunter-gatherer	archaeologists	People who discover our history by looking at artefacts that have been found



Science

In Science we are going to be learning about 'Electricity'. Our Learning Challenge question is 'What is electricity and why is it so important in our lives?' After half term our learning question is 'What are the main type of rocks on our Earth?' and we will look at a text called 'The street beneath my feet' by Charlotte Guillain to support this.

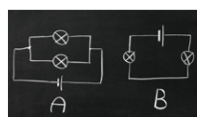
Please see the key objectives below:

Science Years 3/4 Knowledge Organiser

Main Learning: Electricity

Key knowledge
Know what electricity is and why it so important in our lives
Know about common appliances that run on electricity
Know how to construct a simple series electrical circuit
Identify and name the basic parts of the circuit, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers
Know that a switch breaks and closes a circuit
Know about some common conductors and insulators

Vocabulary	
circuit	Is a completed path through which an electrical current flows
conductor	Is an object or type of material that allows the flow of an electrical current
insulator	Is a material whose internal electric charges do not flow freely
battery	Is a device that stores chemical energy and makes it available in an electrical form
cells	An electrical cell is a device that is used to generate electricity
appliance	Is a device that uses electricity to perform a function



Science Years 3/4 Knowledge Organiser

Main Learning: Rocks

Key knowledge
Know that the Earth is made up of different types of rock
Know how fossils are formed
Know what soil is
Know the difference between igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks
Group together different rocks according to different attributes
Know that some crystals are extremely rare and valuable

Vocabulary	
sedimentary	Formed when sand, mud and pebbles get laid down in layers. Over time, these layers are squashed under <i>more and more</i> layers
metamorphic	When a rock experiences heat and pressure, it becomes a metamorphic rock
igneous	Formed when magma cools and solidifies. It may do this above or below the Earth's surface
crystals	These are a special kind of solid material where the molecules fit together in a repeating pattern
fossil	A fossil is the preserved remains or traces of a dead organism
soil	Consists of a mix of organic material (decayed plants and animals) and broken bits of rocks and minerals



Reading

Reading is an essential part of children's educational development, and we expect children to read every day. They have the freedom to choose their own book from our collection (children are advised to read their book band level but are not limited to this, as we promote a passion for reading based on their interests). Each child has a reading diary to record each time they have read; this can be written by an adult or the child.

Maths

In Maths we are using the White Rose maths scheme. This term we will be covering place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, and Area. Each morning Maple class complete short activities to practise their times tables which is an essential skill for all their maths learning. In the Summer Term, Year 4 children will be completing a Multiplication Tables Check (MTC), to test their knowledge and recall of their times tables. Mathletics is an excellent curriculum resource which we would encourage you to utilise at home with the children to complement work being taught in the classroom. Each child will have their own username and password to access Mathletics (this can be found in the back of your child's school diary).

PE

The children will have P.E every Thursday and swimming lessons every Friday so they must come dressed in their PE kits on both days. They will be outside, where possible, so please make sure they are dressed appropriately for all weather conditions.

Spellings

The children will have a weekly spelling test on a Friday. They will spend some time learning the spellings in school but extra practise at home always results in better scores!

Finally, don't forget to check our class Blog to see what we get up to and If you have any concerns or worries, please feel free to catch me either first thing in the morning or at the end of the school day.

Thank you for your continued support.

L. Hammond