

MAPLE TREE CLASS SPRING TERM CURRICULUM NEWS

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, I would like to thank you all for the lovely gifts I received at Christmas. I hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable time. It is lovely to see all the children back safe and well and are ready for a very busy term ahead.

This spring term, Maple Class will still be carrying on with our topic 'Modern History' but still also linking it with 'Power and Governance'. Our class will then move on to a topic based around 'Natural Disasters'. The topic will have strong humanities focus but will also allow opportunities to explore all other areas of the curriculum.

Date for your diary: Tuesday 4th - Friday 7th March - Storey Arms

Routines

P.E./Games - P.E./Games will be taught weekly, every **Friday**. Please ensure your child comes into school with their **full P.E. kit on** and suitable footwear must be worn.

Stationery - No stationery will be needed from home, as school will provide all the equipment.

Water Bottles - Please provide your child with a labelled water bottle. Water bottles should be taken home at the end of each day, washed and then returned the following day. Water only please!

Bags - Due to limited peg space, please could your child not bring a bag to school (unless a kit is required for an after-school club).

Weather - As ever our weather is unpredictable, please ensure that your child wears appropriate clothing for both warm, cold and wet conditions. Layers of clothing are ideal, so that children can adapt to changes in the temperature.

Homework - We have made some changes to the way we set homework this year (see the School Newsletter for details). The Maple Class Homework Grid (see below) details the activities pupils must and could do.

At a minimum, for pupils to make progress, they should be completing the 'Must Do' activities set out on the class Homework Grid. These activities have been pared down to ensure they are manageable for pupils and families whilst ensuring the maximum impact on progress.

For those pupils who want an extra challenge and want to push themselves to be their best, they can choose to complete a range of other activities from the Homework Grid. Pupils do not have to do these 'extra' activities. However, for each activity that is completed, pupils will be rewarded with a Gold Star and can stand in our Achievers Assembly if they would like to, where they will become Homework Heroes.

In addition to the above, on occasions when teachers feel pupils need a little extra practice of a particular skill that has been taught in class, ad-hoc targeted homework activities may be sent home with pupils to help them revise their learning.

The Homework Grid will go 'live' once we start this new topic.

If you have any concerns or queries during the term, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your support,

Mrs Hallett-Jones

MUST DO'S	EXTRA - HEALTH & WELLBEING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily practise of tables already learnt / learn those not already known daily. • Read/ share a book every day with an adult. • Weekly spelling practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our school rules are based on respect. Produce a poster about RESPECT to include – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is respect? - Why we should be respectful? - How to be respectful • Discuss healthy ways of coping when things are difficult. • Talk about your understanding that there are things we cannot control. Discuss about the importance of physical and mental health during these times. • Find out about the role of humanitarian aid for natural disasters. Explore an aid organisation and create an information booklet or leaflet about them. • Talk about how to keep myself safe in a variety of situations. Discuss “What if...” scenarios at home. • Reflect on our own feelings after watching footage of a natural disaster.
EXTRA - SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	EXTRA - HUMANITIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find out how buildings in high-risk areas are adapted to be earthquake-proof. • Come up with an invention that will help houses stay stable during an earthquake. • To create a seismograph - https://www.sciencebuddies.org/stem-activities/make-a-seismograph • Create a small model volcano - https://www.sciencefun.org/kidszone/experiments/how-to-make-a-volcano/ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research countries or areas that are identified as high risk for natural disasters. Create a presentation about precautions taken to minimise risk. • Create a presentation about a famous natural disaster and the impact it had. • Write a persuasive piece explaining why humanitarian aid should be given when a natural disaster happens. • Watch news reports of a past natural disaster – this can be on Newsround. Take notes and discuss it with someone at home. • Read the following story openers. Choose one of them and continue the story – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was the worst storm the country had ever seen. - This couldn't be happening!
EXTRA - MATHS & NUMERACY	EXTRA - CREATIVE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survival Kit Budgeting Task - Create your own emergency survival kit within a £500 budget, choosing essential items from a catalogue of survival gear - https://ukpreppingshop.co.uk/collections/survival-gear/survival-kits/ • Calculate the approximate cost of replacing all of your belongings if they were destroyed by a natural disaster. You can focus on just one room. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore a variety of artwork inspired by natural disasters and create a piece of your own, while choosing your own medium. • Design an awareness poster for what to do if caught in a natural disaster. • Design a survival kit for people living at risk areas. • Use your body to represent the journey that a volcano makes from the rumblings deep in the earth to the eruption and the aftermath. • Act out a news report of a natural disaster you have researched.

The above homework activities link to our term's topic and science work. If you complete any of the EXTRA activities, we would love to see your work in school. You could take a photo, make a video or bring your work into school to show the rest of the class. For each EXTRA activity you complete you will earn a 