



Maple | Curriculum Newsletter Autumn 1

English: *There's a boy in the girls' bathroom*

Linked to our inquiry question for this half term, the children will be reading the Louis Sachar story 'There's a boy in the girls' bathroom'. They will consider their thoughts about the main question based on what they read, as well as through writing tasks such as diary writing, a balanced argument and a letter. This will lead to the children writing their own short narrative linked to this.

Through this unit the children will be recapping grammar and punctuation from the previous year, including fronted adverbials, expanded noun phrases and punctuating speech directly. They will also be learning how modal verbs can be used to indicate degrees of possibility.

Reading:

The children will be focusing on the skills of prediction, inference and making comparisons across the text. They will also take part in discussions about our class story as we read.

We also ask that children read at home daily and record their reading in their reading record, which they will hand in each day.

Spelling: We will begin by teaching children to use the first 3 or 4 letters of a word to check spelling or meaning in a dictionary. We will then go on to spell words ending in **-cious** or **-tious**. Root words which end in **-ce** usually have the spelling **-cious**.

Computing: *'We are game bloggers'*

The children will learn to communicate responsibly and effectively through creating their own blogs and commenting on each others' blogs. They will focus on doing this safely, using our school 'SMART' rules, and respectfully. This will be an opportunity to express their thoughts and feelings.

Design Technology:

This unit will focus on the chef Heston Blumenthal, and in particular we will be looking at how he has adapted recipes to make them vegetarian or vegan. The children will then learn more about how people express their thoughts and beliefs through the food they eat, and design their own vegetarian or vegan meals. They will then develop their culinary skills and cook their meals using the new skills they have learnt.

Art:

The children will be learning about the art form expressionism, and in particular, the artist Edvard Munch. They will learn to evaluate how emotion is expressed through art, focussing on the main art skills of line, colour, texture and shape. Then they will use this to express themselves through mark making, colour mixing and finally creating their own masterpiece.

Music:

The children will learn how people express themselves through music. They will improvise and compose music, listen with attention to detail and appreciate and understand high quality live and recorded music.

They will focus in particular on the song 'The Fresh Prince of Bel Air', as well as other rap and hip-hop songs.

How do people express themselves?

"Children have the right to an education that should develop each child's personality, talents and abilities to the fullest."

Article 29—United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)



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Home Learning

Children will be set homework via an online learning platform called Seesaw. The children will stick their logins into their Reading Records (along with all other logins).

This half term the children will be set a project linked to our inquiry question, which they will have a number of weeks to complete. Details will be sent home in their home learning books.

Throughout the term, children will also be given spelling, grammar and reading tasks to enhance and embed their learning, as well rehearsal of their times tables, using Times Table Rockstars.

This home learning will be given out every **Friday** and is due back in school the following **Wednesday**. Please help your child to remember this.

Please see Mrs Hunt or Mrs Lennon (on a Friday) if you need to use the Kindles/computers to complete your home learning during break or lunch.

The following subjects will be taught discretely:

Maths - Place Value - This term in maths we will be exploring the place value of numbers to 1,000,000, counting forwards and backwards in steps of powers of 10 and rounding any number up to 1,000,000 to the nearest 10, 100, 1,000, 10,000 and 100,000. As always, we will be teaching these concepts through a range of fluency, reasoning and problem-solving tasks.

RE - In RE this term, we will look at Sikhism, with the theme: belief into action, where we will think about the 'Big Question': How far would a Sikh go for his/her religion?

French - During this half term, children will be continuing to learn French. They will extend their language around food and healthy eating.

Jigsaw - The children will be following the PHSE programme of study, Jigsaw. This half term the focus is 'Being me in my World', focussing on understanding their place in the class, school and global community.

P.E - The children will be focussing on their movement skills on a Monday and Wednesday afternoon.

Children who have recently had their ears pierced should cover them with tape, but once they have healed they must not wear earrings for any PE lessons.

Dates for your diary:

- 13th September 3.30 Meet the Teacher
- 14th October - Poetry Assembly
- 20th October - Maple 1 Trip