English

Our class text this half term is 'The Lion and the Unicorn' by Shirley Hughes.

Linked to our history topic, we will be writing a diary entry from the viewpoint of a child evacuated from Manchester during World War II. Our finished diaries will be shared on the school blog.

In the final two weeks we will be rehearsing and performing our winter show, 'Alice in Winter Wonderland'.

Spelling and phonics are taught three times a week. Children are also encouraged to read with an adult regularly throughout the week; you can record any home reading in their green reading records.

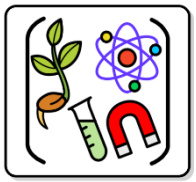


Science

This half term we are learning about states of matter. We will sort materials into solids, liquids and gases, investigate what happens when things are heated and cooled, and find out about evaporation and condensation.

You can help at home by:

- Spotting solids, liquids and gases around the home, such as steam from a kettle, ice melting or washing drying, and talking about what is changing and why.





Maple Class

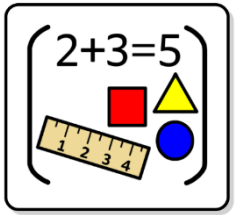
Welcome to our Autumn 2 half termly newsletter, where you can find out what your child is learning and how you can help at home.

Maths

In maths lessons we work in small groups with other children who are working at a similar stage to us. Our maths focus this half term is multiplication and division.

The children will use equal groups, arrays, sharing and grouping to understand how multiplication and division are connected and will solve a range of problems using these ideas.

We will also keep practising quick recall of times tables and the matching division facts.



★ ENHANCED READING FOCUS ★

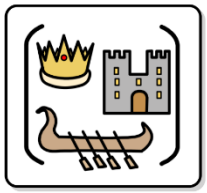
Stories from around the world.

History and Geography

In history, linked to our class text and Remembrance Day, we are learning about World War Two and evacuees. We will place events on a timeline, find out why children were evacuated and how their homes, schooling and family lives changed. We will explore photographs, letters and personal accounts. The pupils have shown a keen interest in how the war may have affected their great grandparents between 1939 and 1945. If you have any family history or stories you would like to share from this time, please email them to our class email account:

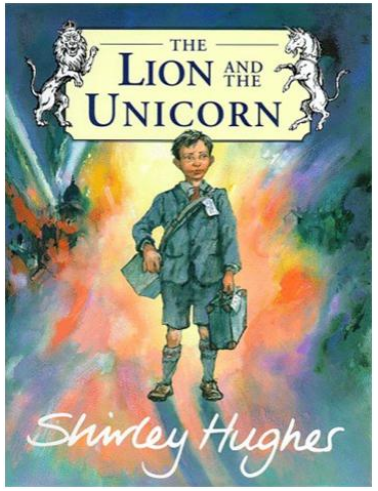
maple@bowkervale.manchester.sch.uk

In geography, we will be exploring countries and continents. We will use maps, atlases and globes to find continents and countries across Europe.









Maple Class – Autumn 2



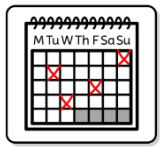
Expectations

Our class has five expectations which everybody is encouraged and supported to follow. They are:

- We look after each other and all equipment.
- We use kind words and comments.
- We follow all instructions from all adults after a reminder.
- We manage our own behaviour – we keep hands, feet and unkind comments to ourselves.
- We keep the centre tidy – we put things away after ourselves.

The children also have their own behaviour targets and social skills targets which they are working on.

Homework is given out on a Friday and is due back the following Wednesday.



Dates for Your Diary

Class dates and events this half term:

- Friday 6th November – Maple Class open evening
- To be confirmed – Heaton Park visit to the Somme memorial
- Thursday 17th December – Class winter performance, 'Alice in Winter Wonderland'

Whole-school dates can be found in the main school newsletter.

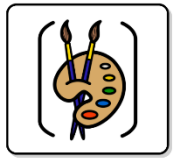
Art, DT and More

In art, we will be creating 3D sculptures of a coat of arms inspired by our class text, 'The Lion and the Unicorn'. We will then use our art skills to make props for our winter performance.

In DT, we will be designing, making and evaluating seasonal gifts, thinking carefully about who they are for and what they need to do.

In computing, we are learning how to share information and ask good questions, alongside our ongoing e-safety learning. In PSHE, we will be talking about respectful communication, managing feelings and staying safe.

In life skills, we will be learning how nutrition supports a healthy brain and getting hands-on with some healthy cooking.





Visits and Visitors

As part of our World War Two learning, we will take a Remembrance and local history visit to the Somme memorial in Heaton Park.

You will be informed in advance with a permission slip to complete.




PE

Our PE days are Monday and Friday.

This half term we are learning gymnastics, linking balances, rolls, jumps and travelling actions into controlled sequences.



Sensory Regulation and Wellbeing

We take children's sensory regulation and wellbeing seriously, because children learn best when they feel calm, safe and understood.

We offer regular sensory circuits, individual and group activities and movement breaks throughout the week. We use the Zones of Regulation to help children recognise and manage their feelings, and every child has their own Thrive plan and behaviour support plan so that support is matched to them.



