

Home Learning

Please read to and with your child regularly - ideally everyday. This allows them to build their reading fluency and stamina, as well as talk about the book they are reading and ask any questions about unfamiliar vocabulary. It is the single most important thing you can do, to support your child's learning. Please record this in your child's reading record. Year 1 children should continue to review their sounds and tricky words from previous phases, as well as completing their home learning sheets weekly. Reception children will continue to bring home reading books to read at home, developing their blending skills. We will work on Phase 3 phonics this term, and they will bring home sound flashcards and tricky word flashcards in their phoneme pouches. Children will also be given phonics exercises to complete at home.

Dates for the diary

PE days: Monday and Wednesday

Spoken Word festival: Tuesday 6th Jan

Art festival: Thurs 29th Jan

ZooLab visit: Monday 2nd Feb

Safer Internet Day: Tuesday 10th February

Reception & Spring Term 1

Any questions please email:



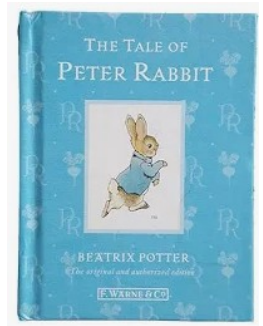
Year One:

maple@penshurst.kent.sch.uk

English

Through our core texts *Here We Are* by Oliver Jeffers, and *The tale of Peter Rabbit* by Beatrix Potter, we will support children's understanding of the world around them while developing their listening, vocabulary and speaking skills. Through shared reading and discussion, children will explore key themes such as belonging, kindness and caring for our world. The Mini Maples will continue to develop their early reading, writing and communication skills. They will be encouraged to express their ideas through drawing, mark-making and early writing linked to the text. Maxi maples will develop their reading comprehension by exploring different types of comprehension questions such as retrieval, summarising and inference. They will build their vocabulary through discussion and close reading, and learn to identify story structure and key ideas. In our writing we will focus on Poetry on a theme, exploring descriptive language and how to express ideas and feelings inspired by the natural world. We will also write *recounts from Personal Experience*, learning to sequence events and write simple sentences about things that have happened to them. They will learn to use time words to support structure. We will finish the term writing *informal letters*. The children will practise writing for a real purpose, learning how to structure a letter, use a friendly tone and communicate clearly with the reader.

Our class texts



Mathematics

This term the mini maples will be deepening their understanding of numbers up to 5, exploring how numbers are made and how they can be represented in different ways. They will also compare mass and capacity using practical, hands-on activities, learning to describe objects as heavier, lighter, full or empty. Towards the end of term, they will explore numbers beyond 5, building confidence in counting, comparing quantities and recognising number patterns. The Maxi maples will strengthen their understanding of numbers, including counting, comparing and representing numbers in different ways. They will develop fluency in addition and subtraction, using practical resources and pictorial representations to support their reasoning and problem-solving skills. Later in the term, pupils will explore 2D and 3D shapes, learn to describe their properties, and begin to work with simple data, such as sorting, tallying and interpreting information.

Science

In Science this term we will learn about animals, including humans, as part of the CUSP science curriculum. Children will identify and name a range of common animals and explore how they can be grouped in different ways. They will learn about the basic parts of the human body, including the senses, and understand how these help us to explore the world around us. Pupils will also begin to learn about how to stay healthy, including the importance of diet, exercise and good hygiene, through practical activities and discussion.

Computing Maple class will learn how to give and follow simple instructions to move a robot or on-screen character, building their understanding of sequencing and problem-solving. Alongside this, they will begin to learn how to use the internet safely, exploring how online behaviour can affect others, how to manage information online, and when to ask a trusted adult for help, supporting them to become responsible and safe digital users.

History Maple class will be learning about significant individuals from the past and present. We will explore the life and achievements of Mary Anning, learning about her important discoveries and how they helped us to understand fossils and pre-historic life. We will also study David Attenborough, finding out how his work has helped people learn about animals, habitats and the natural world. Through these case studies, pupils will develop an understanding of why these individuals are important and how they have made a difference to the world we live in today.

Geography This term we will develop geographical skills through mapping and fieldwork. Children will learn to observe and record features of their local environment, use simple maps, and begin to understand symbols and basic compass directions. We will explore the books *Going on a Bear Hunt* and *Martha Maps it Out*, thinking about how we can make maps of these stories. We will carry out fieldwork activities, ask questions and collect data to describe and compare places, building their awareness of the world around them.

PE

Monday's lesson with focus on Gymnastics, developing balance, coordination and strength through basic gymnastic movements and simple sequences. On Wednesdays, pupils will practise throwing, catching and striking skills while learning about wall and net games. Throughout both units, pupils will learn to use space safely, follow simple rules and work cooperatively, building confidence and enjoyment in physical activity.



RE We will explore the question *What is the good news that Jesus brings?* Children will learn about Jesus' teachings, focusing on stories that show kindness, forgiveness and love. Through discussion, storytelling and reflection, pupils will begin to understand why Christians believe Jesus' message is "good news" and how these teachings can influence the way people live their lives today.



Art The whole school will take part in an Arts Festival. More details will follow!

DT We will explore food and nutrition, learning where food comes from and thinking about the importance of a healthy and balanced diet. We will develop practical skills such as cutting, peeling and mixing safely, and will design and make Rainbow wraps, Crudités and Vegetable kebabs. The children will also evaluate their finished products, talking about what they like and how their food could be improved.

PSHE

We will focus on *Safety* and *The Changing Body*, with children learning how to keep themselves safe in everyday situations, including at home, in school and when out and about. They will also begin to understand how their bodies change as they grow, learning about personal hygiene and the importance of taking care of their bodies, helping them to develop confidence and healthy habits.

Music Our Music unit, *In the Groove*, will allow the children to listen to and explore different styles of music, including blues, baroque, latin, bhangra, folk and funk. They will learn to recognise changes in tempo, rhythm and pitch. We will sing songs, clap rhythms and move to music, developing their confidence in performing and their ability to respond to and enjoy a range of musical styles.