



Welcome to Maple Class! I hope everyone has had a lovely, relaxing break and you are excited to start our new academic year.

Our theme this term is 'Toys'. We hope that our WOW day will be a trip to Abington Museum to find out all about toys but if we are unable to go, our WOW day will involve your child dressing up as their favourite toy and coming to school with their favourite teddy (a letter detailing our WOW start will be sent out separately). Throughout this term, the children will be looking changes in toys and books within living memory. They will be using their design and technology skills to create their own moving Christmas cards and in art, the children will use the style of Lauren Child to create pictures of themselves and investigate the style of Ernest E. Shepard.

To help us with this unit, it would be lovely if your child could bring in a favourite toy of a parent or grandparent so we can see how toys have changed over time. The toys will be put on display so children can look and if you're happy, touch them. Please could the toy be labelled with a name tag.

In science, the children will be using the toys to find out about materials. They will be using the scientific term 'properties' to describe the different toy materials and investigating which materials can change shape. The children will also be discussing and looking for clues of seasonal changes. To experience these changes, we will be taking a little walk out into the village to pick blackberries and taste them (letter to follow).

In English, Maple Class will begin by discussing and writing about their favourite day during the summer holidays. A great way for the children to share their holiday news with their friends! From there, Year One children will be very focussed on their phonics and applying them in their writing using our RWI writing booklets. Year Two will also continue to revisit and practise their phonics in the morning phonics session. In our English lessons, Year Two will focus on various genres including how to write a recount using either our experience of blackberry picking or (fingers crossed) our trip to the toy museum. We will also be sharing the stories 'But that is My Book!' by Lauren Child, 'Dogger' by Shirley Hughes and 'The Nutcracker' to write a 'Dear Diary' entry, a short story and a letter with instructions. Year One will write about the shared stories to practise applying their phonics.

In maths, Year One will be focussing on numbers to 50. They will be learning how to sort, count and represent objects and numbers, find one more and one less and compare numbers. They will be finding double numbers up to double 10 and they will also be introduced to counting in 2s, 5s and 10s.

In Year Two, the children will be focussing on numbers to 100. They will be counting objects and reading and writing numbers to 100, partitioning numbers in to tens and ones, comparing numbers, counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and drawing dienes to add and subtract.

Children will be finding out about and discussing Judaism, and considering what Christians think God is like. In PSHCE, the children will be learning about physical health and wellbeing and how we keep ourselves safe.

The theme for music this term is 'Hey You!', and in ICT children will be learning about E-safety and movement (algorithms).

This term, PE is on Monday morning and Friday Morning. The children will be outdoors practising throwing and catching, rolling, kicking and bouncing at targets. Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit at school. With the colder months approaching, please ensure you include jogging bottoms and a jumper and please make sure **ALL** kit is labelled. It can very quickly become lost.

The children will have learning logs. They will have a reading activity and spelling activity stuck in every Friday which needs to have been completed/practised for the following Friday when spellings will be tested in school. Children will also receive maths homework and topic homework. Instructions for how and when to complete this homework will be included in their learning log.

Children must bring in a named water bottle that will need to go home either daily to be cleaned. This is to eliminate the sharing of cups.

As ever, we are always available if you have any queries relating to work in the classroom. Your support with your child's learning at home is always appreciated, and we look forward to an exciting start to our new year!

We look forward to working with your children,

Ms. Ovenden, Mrs. Hunter and Mrs. Boyers 😊

*Mrs Ettridge and Ms Manssen*

Shared head teachers