



**West Dean Church of England Primary School**  
West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ  
Telephone: 01243 811247    Headteacher: Mr C Williams



**We do our best in all we do, with God's love.**  
**'Love one another. As I have loved you, so must you love one another.'**  
John 13



## Maple Class - Autumn 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Maple Class. I hope you all had a lovely relaxing summer and I look forward to getting to know you and your child over the course of this exciting year. This letter outlines some of the things that will be happening in Maple Class.

For the first half term our topic will be 'Sea the Light' where we will learn about Grace Darling, lighthouses and the differences between the Victorian Era and our own. We hope to have lots of fun as well as ensuring the children are happy and settled. When we reach the second half of the Autumn Term our topic will be 'Sparks Fly' where we will explore what started the Great Fire of London and learn how to stay safe around fire. We will finish the term off by learning about 'Celebrations around the world'. To find out more exciting details please read the Maple Curriculum grid attached.



### Reading

Your child will have a 'Home/School Diary' in which you can find notes about their reading, comments and letters. The children will participate in a guided reading group ('Book Club') every week. Additionally, we will continue to send home our phonics reading books. The children will get one to two books, once a week on a Tuesday. Please ensure that your child reads their books three times before the following week as this reading scheme runs alongside our in class phonics teaching.

Additionally, the children earn a cube every time they read at home. When our class reading jar is full, the class will be rewarded with a lovely treat!

### Targets / Next steps



The children will have a target book to take home once new targets have been set. These targets will be taken directly from the Year Two curriculum expectations and be specific to your child and their next steps. They are reviewed every half term or sooner. Please support your child with these targets at home; working on them **once a week** or more would be beneficial as it really helps to reinforce what they learn in school.



### Spelling

Phonics sessions will continue on a daily basis, during which the children will be practising sounds and tricky words that match their home reading books. The children will take part in handwriting every Monday when they will practise writing the Year 2 spelling words. I have also attached a copy of the Year 1 and 2 common exception words to the home/school diary for use at home. Emile Spelling will be introduced later in the school year. Additional information will be provided closer to the time.

## Maths / Multiplication Tables



Over the Autumn Term, I will begin to introduce our Maths Matters Challenges for those children who are ready. Maths Matters is a system of mental maths challenges, which are designed to support the children's arithmetic skills. Please ensure their Maths Matters books 'live' in the book bags and support your child in working towards these challenges **every week**. These quick mental maths skills are vital in supporting all other areas of maths. Maths Matters will take place on a **Friday Morning**. TT rockstars will be introduced at the beginning of the summer term.



## Homework

We hope that you will enjoy working at home with your child: reading, working on targets and supporting Maths Matters. In addition to this, I will set occasional homework to support our topic learning.

## Google Classroom



Please make sure you have signed into the Maple Google Classroom 2024. This is where I will share any important information and little snippets of life in Maple Class. To sign in please use your child's email and password and then you will find a link to join the Maple 2024 classroom. If you need any support in doing this, please contact the office or myself. Maples will learn their log in to use during Computing lessons in school.



## Show & Tell

'Show and Tell' will take place each **Thursday** for every child. A separate timetable has been sent out and is available on Google Classroom. Please bring in one small item or photo to share with the class.



## Forest School

Forest School will take place later in the year. Maple class will be allocated a half a term slot and I will send out additional information closer to the time.

## Anything else...

Additionally, all children need to have a named water bottle in school. They can fill this up from the tap in Maple Class. Children are welcome to leave their water bottle in school if they do not want to bring it home each day.

Please feel free to talk to me on the playground if you have any questions or queries: your support and comments are greatly appreciated. The classroom will be open for a short time after school on a **Wednesday**, should you wish to come and look at your child's work.

As mentioned in the information letter from Mr Williams, you are able to contact Mrs Reynolds using the following email address. We will respond as soon as possible within our working hours.

[jreynolds@westdean.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:jreynolds@westdean.w-sussex.sch.uk)

We are very much looking forward to the Autumn Term as Marvellous Maples!

Best wishes,

Mrs Reynolds and Mrs Pearmaine



## Maple Class - Learning Overview – Autumn Term 2024 Topic – ‘Sea the Light’, ‘Sparks Fly’ & Celebrations Around the World

English	Maths	Science	PSHE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phonics</li> <li>Guided Reading</li> <li>Handwriting &amp; Spelling - Yr 2 tricky words</li> <li>Lighthouse writing - write a setting description to describe a lighthouse sat on a rocky sea from video stimulus</li> <li>Seaside/Lighthouse Poetry - design, write and perform our own poems</li> <li>Write our own version of a story based on the book ‘The Lighthouse Keeper’s Lunch’</li> <li>Read <i>Vlad and the Great Fire of London</i> and create diary entries for Boxton</li> <li>Create a celebrations poster for a different country/ religion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Place Value - Count in steps of 2,3, 5 from 0 and 10 from any number &amp; recognise the value of each digit in a two -digit number. Compare and order numbers from 0 to 100</li> <li>Addition and Subtraction to 100 adding two digit numbers and ones, two digit number and tens, two two-digit numbers and three one digit numbers</li> <li>Shape - Identifying the properties of 2D and 3D shapes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate and perform a simple test to find out the best ratio of water to sand for a sandcastle</li> <li>Use observations and ideas to answer questions about</li> <li>Identify the suitability of everyday materials when building and testing our own boats</li> <li>Compare the suitability of everyday materials when burning down our Tudor Houses</li> <li>Explore how objects can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss jobs people do to protect others</li> <li>Research the fire brigade and think about how they risk their lives to protect people and places</li> <li>Visit from the Fire Brigade</li> <li>Transition into a new classroom and settling in</li> <li>Family and relationships - explore feelings, friendships and how everyone is different</li> <li>Health and wellbeing - learn about the importance of sleep and relaxation, why we wash our hands and the people who help keep us healthy</li> </ul>
Drama & French	PE	RE	Computing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lifeguard role play - act out Grace Darling’s lifeguard rescue story</li> <li>Freezeframe scenes from ‘Vlad and the Great Fire of London’</li> <li>Listen and learn how to say colours in French</li> <li>Superheroes - Create a superhero and learn how to present it in French</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gymnastics - Developing balance, agility and coordination using small and large apparatus</li> <li>Dance - create fire dances using simple movement patterns</li> <li>Dance - Create nativity scene dances by sequencing movements</li> <li>SCS Coaching - Team games and outdoor sports</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding Christianity</li> <li>Christianity - ‘What do Christians believe God is like?’</li> <li>Explore why Christians celebrate Christmas</li> <li>Judaism - ‘Why is learning to do good deeds so important to Jewish people?’</li> <li>Discussing ‘The Big Story Frieze.’</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Computer systems and networks - IT all around us.</li> <li>Creating Media - Digital photography</li> <li>Controlling a floor robot - create and debug simple programs</li> <li>Use technology to create a lighthouse fact file</li> <li>Use technology to learn about the life of Grace Darling</li> <li>Use technology safely and respectfully</li> </ul>

Art & DT	Music	History	Geography
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Cooking - Design and make a healthy snack/meal for 'The Lighthouse Keeper'</li> <li>● Explore the work of landscape graffiti artist Joe Webster</li> <li>● Create our own coastal artwork inspired by Joe Webster</li> <li>● Develop art techniques using colour and texture</li> <li>● Build our own pulley system to deliver items based on 'The Lighthouse Keepers Lunch'</li> <li>● Great Fire of London Silhouette Skyline</li> <li>● Mixed Media Fire pictures</li> <li>● Explore how Steven Spazuk uses fire to create portrait art</li> <li>● Use charcoal to create our own portraits inspired by Steven Spazuk</li> <li>● Design and make traditional Christmas/Winter cards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Trains - create music inspired by train travel looking at volume/dynamics speed/tempo</li> <li>● Learn a simple rhythm pattern and perform it with tempo and volume change.</li> <li>● Listen to and analyse four pieces of music inspired by travel/vehicles.</li> <li>● Orawa - describes a huge river. Listen to music and imagine the journey of the river through Europe</li> <li>● Improvise and compose, structuring short musical ideas to form a larger piece.</li> <li>● Sing, play and perform composed pieces for an audience.</li> <li>● Explore how to play different notes on a recorder</li> <li>● Learn to play the song London's Burning on recorders</li> <li>● Play the melody on a tuned percussion instrument.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Learn about the life of Grace Darling</li> <li>● Explore the differences between Grace Darling's life in the Victorian era is different to our own</li> <li>● Use primary resources to explore how Grace Darling became famous</li> <li>● Explore how the work of Grace Darling has influenced lifeboat crews today</li> <li>● Learn about the significance of the Great Fire of London</li> <li>● Create a timeline to show the events of the Great Fire of London in chronological order</li> <li>● Explore how firefighters have changed through the ages.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Name and locate the seven continents and five oceans</li> <li>● Name and locate the four countries, capital cities &amp; surrounding seas of the UK</li> <li>● Using Google Earth to create a map for a journey we will go on</li> <li>● Use compass directions and a map to follow a route.</li> <li>● Grid references: plot where the Great Fire took place in London</li> <li>● Discover different celebrations around the world.</li> </ul>