



# **Welcome to Maple class**

**Teacher: Miss Bull**  
**Teaching Assistant: Mrs Dalzell**

**'To live, love and  
learn in a caring  
Christian  
community.'**

# Time to reflect...

*Lets take a moment to reflect on the unique qualities of your child and our pupils.*



Sign of the cross.

**Dear God,**

**Please take our children into your arms as they face the new school year.**

**Help them to live, love and learn in a caring Christian community.**

**Teach them the ability to grow and follow your path.**

**Provide them with the resilience needed to tackle the challenges they may face.**

**Support them as they learn a range of new skills and let us appreciate their individual talents and successes.**

**Give us the patience we need to support and love our children.**

**Above all, thank you for the joy they bring to our daily lives.**

**Amen.**



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# In Maple class

- Our mission statement is at the heart of all we do.
  - Children are encouraged to become more independent learners whilst developing their resilience. In all lessons, children are encouraged to select the challenges they wish to complete (tricky, trickier, trickiest).
- Individuals are encouraged to take on roles and responsibilities (own drawers, monitor roles around the classroom, helping younger children, school council and participation in lunch time/after school clubs).



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# How can you help your child?

- Hearing and supporting them as they read challenging books.
- Asking questions when your child is reading (understanding the text (comprehension) is as important as being able to decode the words.
- Encouraging a love of reading and reading for pleasure.
- Telling the time on an analogue and digital clock.
- Supporting their recall of times tables and corresponding division facts (**Starting point- 2's, 5's and 10's. Year 3- 3's, 4's and 8's. Year 4- All facts up to 12x12**).
- Support whilst promoting independence (model examples for your child, then encourage them to have a go independently).
- Discussing the school day to find out what your child learnt.



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# Key dates for the term

- Autumn parent consultations will be held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 4-7pm and Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 4-7pm. Please book your slot using our online system (the letter for this will explain in further detail).
- Half term (Pupils finish school on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October and return on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November).
- End of term (Pupils finish school on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December and return on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> January).
- Key dates can all be found on our school website. These are updated regularly.



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# Home learning

- English and maths activities are sent home with your child on a Friday. These alternate weekly. Please encourage your child to hand their homework in on a Thursday.
- Pupils are expected to read every night. Ideally to a grown up. Please encourage your child to fill out their reading record regularly. Please also add your own comments regularly.
- Please also encourage your child to practise the times table they are working on (please do not worry about filling the times tables cards in. These will be filled in by myself and Mrs Dalzell).
- An RE homework task linked to class learning will be sent home every half term.



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# Mathematics in Maple class

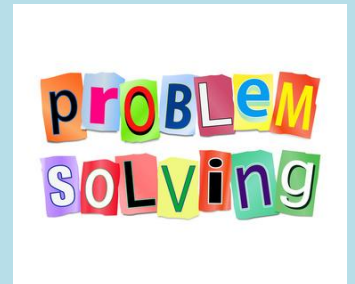
- Maths will be taught by Miss Roper, Mr Dove and myself.
- Children are split into sets for maths. Although this is the case, there will be plenty of opportunities for challenge across the board!

Expectation examples:

- Develop a secure understanding of place value
- Become fluent with a range of mathematical strategies and methods for  $+$ ,  $\times$ ,  $-$  and  $\div$
- Develop mastery within mathematics
- Tell and write the time from an analogue clock or digital clock. Know the time from a 12 hour and 24 hour clock.
- Recognise angles and turns.
- Become fluent with multiplication and division facts for all times tables by the end of Year 4.



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# Writing in Maple class

- Pupils receive a daily English lesson.
- Grammar skills are covered during all of these lessons and a single grammar lesson is taught in Maple class once a week.
- Pupils will focus on a range of fiction and non-fiction genres throughout their English topics.
- Pupils are expected to write using cursive script. Once they consistently write in this style, they are able to write in pen (they will receive a pen licence). Cursive handwriting is encouraged across the curriculum in all lessons.



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# Reading in Maple class

- Phonics will be incorporated into day-to-day teaching. Some children will continue to receive phonics sessions in small groups.
- Every child will read with us each week during guided reading sessions.
- Pupils are welcome to take a reading book home from the library. They are advised to take books from the shelf assigned to their colour until they become a free reader (a specific shelf is assigned to free readers).
- Please take a copy of the recommended reads for Year 3 and 4 pupils.

**Point of interest:** E-books and audio books are available from Hertfordshire Libraries online if you are a member. If not, it is really easy to sign up.



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# Intervention

- Across the school, a range of children will be receiving extra support. This ongoing intervention will cover a range of skills.
- Letters will be sent home to the parents of those children that will receive intervention.
- If you have specific questions relating to this, then please do not hesitate to speak to myself or Miss Cassidy Jones.



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# Assessment in Maple class

- Assessment is ongoing across LKS2. Children are encouraged to complete a traffic light at the end of every lesson to tell us how they feel about their learning. They are also encouraged to complete an AFL (assessment for learning question).
- Marking is also used to assess children's understanding of the tasks and questions are regularly asked to move the children forward in their learning.
- Bench marking takes place every half term (this determines the colour books children can read).
- Salford reading assessments take place twice a year (this is to give children a reading and comprehension age).
- A schonell spelling test is completed at the beginning of the year and at the end of the year (to help us to map out progression from the beginning of the year to the end).
- Assessment weeks are held at the end of every half term. During this time, children complete a number paper, a problem solving paper, a reading paper and an RE assessment.
- Foundation topics are assessed through teacher assessment.
- Children complete a piece of writing for their writing portfolio every half term. They are encouraged to draft a piece of work, make their corrections based on their marking and then write the piece of work up in neat.



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# **“That’s not how they taught it in my day...”**

- Many mathematical and reading strategies, and curriculum expectations have been changed and modified over recent years.
- If ever you have any questions about the teaching methods used, please ask! We are here to help you.



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# Any Questions?



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