



YEAR 5/6 NEWSLETTER



WELCOME BACK

We hope you enjoyed the school holidays with your children. May we extend to you a warm welcome to the new school year! We are so excited to have everyone back in class and are looking forward to a fantastic year.

Year 5/6 are challenging years and will require your child to work at their maximum. There will be a high expectation that children complete all of their homework through the year. However, these activities are a consolidation of their learning. This will support your child and allow them to practice the skills we have been working on in class. We will always ensure that the homework set is based around a topic or concept already taught with the focus being on ensuring the children consolidate their learning. As with previous years, as soon as it is possible, we will endeavor to offer a variety of educational clubs to support your child's learning. For your child to achieve the best possible end of year outcomes, we welcome your support in ensuring your child attends these clubs.

As a school, we continue to utilise Class Dojo as an amazing tool for communicating with home and school and supporting your children's learning. We will continue to use this as a resource to communicate between home and school. Whilst we aim to reply to messages as soon as we can, this is not always possible. Please be mindful that staff have their families to go home to and spend time with and will not be expected to reply or check messages outside of working hours which are between 8:00am and 5:00pm, Monday-Friday.

If something is particularly important, please contact the school office, as staff may not check our messages until the children have gone home due to teaching commitments. Thank you for your continued support in using Dojo to support our children's learning.

Please keep an eye on the school website to see our knowledge mat uploaded each term as well as a copy of this newsletter: www.mapplewellsprimary.co.uk Any important information or letters will be shared with you over Class Dojo or sent directly to your emails that you provided our office team with. Moreover, please keep an eye out for our weekly school newsletter in the 'Key Dates' section.

Reading

At Mapplewells, we strongly believe that reading every day is essential to enable children to become fluent readers and to foster a love of reading.

By practising reading with you every day, the children are supported by this at home -as well as in school - to have every opportunity from the very beginning to 'learn to read' so that they can 'read to learn'. This prepares our children academically, socially and emotionally for now and in the future.

It is incredibly important that you listen to your child read every day and note this in their pupil organiser. It is an expectation that your child reads **at least 3 times a week**. We are so proud of how well our children read at school and love hearing about new books they are reading at home.

This term, at the end of every school day, we aim to share a story or poem with the class. Encouraging a love of reading and curiosity surrounding new vocabulary. This term's book is 'The Secret Message'. It would be great if you could ask your children to share their new learning with you and encourage them to retell what has happened so far.



English

The Year 5 and 6 English topics (which will usually link closely with our curriculum enquiry) are as follows:

Year 5

- Historical fiction narrative
- Newspaper report
- Recount
- Structured grammar poem

Year 6

- Letter
- Historical fiction narrative
- Poem
- Diary entry

Each year group will be unpinning the writing genres with their curriculum knowledge and carefully chosen texts.

Alongside these areas, the children will continue their development with their grammatical features, punctuation and spelling.

Mathematics

The Year 5 children's hard work with their times tables last year will really support their learning throughout the year. This term, Year 5 will be progressing their understanding of Place Value and The Four Operations. Times tables will however still be important as ever.



The nature of Maths in Year 6 is that we must be somewhat flexible, filling in gaps where needed. Fluency of number facts and times tables, and associated division facts, is key. Here is a complete list of the core objectives covered by Year 6 children throughout the Autumn term:

- Place Value – numbers up to 10,000,000
- Rounding
- Negative and decimal numbers
- Number – addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
- Fractions, decimals and percentages

Learning for Life

As always, the children's learning for life lessons will be an important part of our curriculum. Our various aspects of this education will link closely with our enquiry as we are keen to promote understanding and compassion for those living through WW1. Children will learn about respect for themselves and the importance of healthy relationships and friendships.

Science

In Science, the children will be working to develop their understanding of 'Properties of Materials' and Forces' in Year 5. Whilst in Year 6, the children's learning will be around 'Electricity' and 'Light'.

Curriculum Enquiry

Our knowledge-based curriculum will involve the children studying an enquiry question per term, with learning in history, geography, art and English based around this. The children will investigate the question, "How does war change the world?" This history topic will look at significant events of World War I and consider the significant people and places that were involved in those conflicts. This curriculum enquiry will include many special events such as different workshops, work to showcase during Remembrance Day / Remembrance Sunday and Christmas Carol concert where we raise money for the Royal British Legion.

Physical Education

The first areas are Tag Rugby and Health Related Exercise. This is followed by Basketball and an Orienteering unit. The children will be focusing specifically on using tactics to support their ability to win competitive activities. PE will take place on Tuesday and Friday afternoons. Please ensure the correct PE kit is worn for these days. See our uniform policy for further information – this includes wearing jewelry which is not permitted.



Art

Art will be delivered through our knowledge-based curriculum and there will be a big focus on the children being able to explain the style of art used and how it was influenced by its creator. We will closely be following the work of modern English artist Anthony Gormley who has achieved international recognition for his sculptures such as Angel of the North.



Other subjects will be covered throughout the term too such as computing, RE, Music and wider understanding of the world and topical issues.

Finally, if there are any issues, you wish to speak with us about please see us and if the issue cannot be dealt with there and then, we will arrange a convenient time for us to meet.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and we look forward to seeing you all throughout the year.

The Year 5/6 Team.

