



# P.P.S. Maple Class

April 2019  
Summer Term

## Roman Britain/ Dragons Den

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the Summer term. We trust you had an enjoyable Easter break and are ready for the term ahead. We will be starting the term by learning about the Roman invasion of Britain and will then spend the second half of the term being entrepreneurs; designing and making products collaboratively.

In Science, we will be learning about food chains and webs and the role of producers, predators and prey within ecosystems. The children will have opportunities to ask their own questions and design their own experiments to answer them. We will then move on to exploring classification and using classification keys. After half term, we will construct electrical circuits and learn about the role of each part of a circuit.

Our P.E. lessons will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays for Maple Explorers and Tuesdays and Wednesdays for Maple Investigators. In P.E., the children will hone their striking and fielding skills through the contexts of stoolball and cricket, and develop their agility, speed and co-ordination in their athletics lessons.

Computing lessons will focus on collecting and presenting data, using spreadsheets and

presentation software. The children will also be word processing their literacy work and showing their understanding of our topic work using Publisher and Powerpoint.

This term in history and geography we will begin with a focus on modern and ancient Rome, creating a 3D terrain map of Italy, including volcanoes and tectonic boundaries. We will place key events from the formation of the Roman empire on a timeline before exploring the invasion of the Celts and Picts. We will also be making many cross-curricular links with literacy as we learn about Roman myths and legends.

Art lessons will focus on improving the children's mastery of art and design techniques. They will learn to sketch people in action using observational sketching grids and will design and make their own mosaic patterns.

In Design and Technology children will design, make and evaluate Roman shields, jewellery and a variety of Roman food for a banquet at the end of the half term. They will also be working in groups to design new, innovative products and present them, with design briefs, to a panel as part of our Dragons Den topic after half term.

This is just an outline of what the children will be exploring during this topic. We are using these newsletters to give you information about your child's education as this will replace the foundation subjects comments on the annual report.



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Our R.E. lessons will look at Pentecost and its significance for Christians. Through discussion and explorations of Bible texts, the children will learn about the Christian belief that the holy spirit's appearance was the beginning of the church. After half term, we will consolidate and extend our learning on Hinduism with a religious project.

This term in French the children will learn how to tell the time to the nearest hour and to name and describe animals in response to a French song. After half term, the children will learn weather phrases, names and dates and learn to say and write a sequence of numbers.

In Maths we will be using a range of strategies to convert fractions to decimals and developing our understanding of tenths and hundredths. We will be learning to solve problems involving money, including decimal notation, and moving on to units on time and geometry after half term.

During our English lessons, we will be writing as journalists, drafting and presenting news reports about the Roman invasion of Britain. We will then use high quality non-fiction key texts to inspire our own non-chronological report writing about an aspect of Roman life. After half term, we will plan and write our own Roman myths and then write persuasively about our product designs.

English and Maths will continue to be taught daily and will, wherever possible, be linked to

the topic to give the children's learning cross-curricular context.

It goes without saying that we always value the support you give your children at home and the work you do with them to consolidate their learning. We continue to have a heavy focus on reading in school and believe enjoyment of reading is of primary importance. It would be helpful, if you could listen to your child read regularly at home and record this in their Reading Records.

Maths homework tasks will now be assigned weekly on Prodigy. Spellings will follow the National Curriculum spelling patterns and weekly lists will also include two words from the Year 4 statutory list. Times tables and spellings will be tested every week.

Lastly, we would welcome any volunteer parents who are able to listen to children read during the week. Please let one of us know if you feel you may be able to support us with this.

We look forward to sharing the children's learning with you over the coming weeks.

Rachel Harris and Amie Langham  
Maple Class Teachers