



## Spring 2023

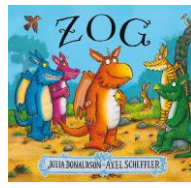
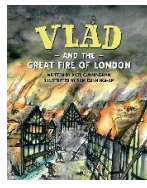
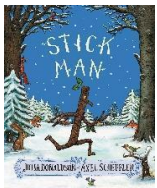
## Maple Class Newsletter

**Happy New Year and welcome to the Spring newsletter for Maple Class.** Whether busy or quiet, we hope that all our families had a lovely Christmas break and managed to recharge the batteries even if just a little! We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our families who kindly contributed towards the Maple Class Christmas Gifts. It was extremely generous of you and we have already begun to explore the new books and look forward to getting active with the 'Tap It' games.

Maple Class teaching arrangements will remain the same as last term, but we also like to extend a warm welcome to Mr Coombes who joins Maple Class, from Elmswell Primary School, for a short placement until the February half term break.

We are available for quick messages in the morning and afternoon. If you need to speak to us in more depth, please contact the office who will pass on a message, and we will be in contact as soon as we can.

Our topic this term is '**Furious Fire**' and below are some of the books we will be using and enjoying in class.



### Weekly home work expectations:

- Weekly maths homework sheet. Handed out on a Friday and to be back by the following Wednesday.
- 10 minutes of daily reading. (practice book a minimum of 5 times per week)
- 15 minutes of times table practise using The White Rose Maths App and / or Times Table Rockstars (split into smaller chunks during the week)
- 10 minutes of The White Rose maths App and / or Numbots (not times tables)

Subject	How to help your child
<p><b>English -</b> Teaching units this term will include familiar stories such as <i>Stickman</i>, non-fiction texts (diary entries, non-chronological report and letters) focusing on the events of the Great Fire of London and seasonal poetry for Winter and Spring. The children will continue to develop their stamina, to write for longer periods using a wide range of vocabulary, including verbs, nouns, adjectives and adverbs. The children will be assessed at least once a term on reading and writing all the common exception words. Guided reading in class will be a mixture of one to one and whole class reading. Within our whole class sessions, we will also answer comprehension questions on what we have read.</p>	<p>Daily reading with your child – this makes so much difference to their fluency and confidence. <b>Please sign their reading log every time you hear your child read, so they can get a ticket for the weekly reading raffle.</b> Books will be changed on Monday's and as per our letter, most children will bring home both a reading for practice and a reading for pleasure book. The children's reading logs also contain a login to 'Letterjoin' to allow them to practise their handwriting at home. <b>Please continue to practise Common Exception Words at home, as discussed at parents evening. They should be able to read and spell many of these in their independent writing by the end of year 2.</b></p>
<p><b>Maths –</b> After finishing off our addition and subtraction units, our main focus this term will be multiplication and division and fractions. This will include: using grouping, sharing and arrays to represent number sentences, as well as finding fractions of lengths, shapes, sets of objects or quantities and equivalent fractions (e.g. 1/2 is equivalent to 2/4). A particular focus throughout all our maths learning will be on how drawing the calculations can help us solve them.  Time will also be spent on polishing our arithmetic skills by practising various strategies to improve our accuracy and speed. This term geometry, measurement and time will be woven in at suitable times across the school day.</p>	<p>The end of year 2 expectation is that all children should be able to remember and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables.</p> <p>All children have their own login for Times Table Rock Stars and Numbots which is at the front of their reading log. The 'free' White Rose 1 Minute Maths App will help your child to build greater number confidence and fluency. <b>Please see above for our homework expectations in Maple.</b> Telling the time and money are life skills which are useful if talked about at home too.</p> <p>Board games, cards games and a wide range of number games are all helpful to promote maths skills and problem solving.</p>

<p><b>Science</b> – This term our learning will focus on materials and everyday uses for materials. Our investigations will include exploring the properties of materials and how some everyday materials can change shape. As well as, comparing the suitability of everyday materials for different purposes and trying to identify what properties a material needs for a particular purpose and testing materials before making our choice.</p> <p><b>Plants and seasonal change</b> will be woven in across the year. The children will observe changes across the months, describe weather associated with the months and how the day length varies. Mulberry the bear looks forward to joining some of our families this term for a ‘sleepover’.</p>	<p>Please use the knowledge organisers to discuss key vocabulary connected to this term’s science learning. Discussions at home around why particular materials have been used for various objects in and around the house would be really beneficial.</p> <p>When out and about please talk to your child about the wild plants, flowers, trees and animals which are visible.</p> <p>Ask them to describe what the weather is like today. Use a thermometer to take daily temperature readings or maybe make a water gauge to measure rainfall. Do they know which month and season we are currently in?</p>
<p><b>RE</b> – Islam - during the first half of the term the children will consider the question “<b>How do some Muslims show Allah is compassionate and merciful?</b>” Christianity - after half term we will move on to explore “<b>What are the best symbols of Jesus’ death and resurrection at Easter?</b>”</p>	<p>While ‘Let’s celebrate’ is a great series to discover and learn about different faiths and cultures.  <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/lets-celebrate">https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/lets-celebrate</a></p>
<p><b>Music</b> – This term we will be learning about the orchestra and its different sections. Along with this, we will also be developing our understanding of how music can represent stories, resulting in creating our own compositions.</p>	<p>Are there any instruments you can recognise and name? What do they sound like? How do they sound different? Listen to different genres of music, how do they sound different? How does music make you feel?</p>
<p><b>History</b> – This term we will be learning about the Great Fire of London. We will identify how life in the 17th Century is different to now, the events of the Great Fire of London and also learn about Samuel Pepys. We are in the process of arranging a workshop linked to our historical topic. More details to follow shortly.</p>	<p>At home, you could create information posters / leaflets or a timeline to show the events of the Great Fire of London. Could you create a biography of Samuel Pepys?</p> <p><a href="http://www.fireoflondon.org.uk/game/">http://www.fireoflondon.org.uk/game/</a> is a great learning game.</p>
<p><b>Geography</b> – This term we will be identifying the UK, its countries and capital cities. We will learn about the different country flags, human and physical features and also positional language.</p>	<p>Can you find any create maps to show different human and physical features, then use positional language to direct to the different features?</p>
<p><b>PE</b> – This term, we will be focusing on gymnastics, fitness and dance. Gymnastics will take place on Friday afternoons with Mr Goldsmith or fitness with Mrs Oldfield and dance on alternate Tuesday afternoons with Miss Moore.</p>	<p>Please show your child how to tie their shoe laces and <u>ensure that your child comes to school in their PE kit every Friday</u>. Earrings and watches need to be removed.</p>
<p><b>Art</b> – We will learn all about colours, how we can create different shades and use these skills to create pieces of artwork linked to the Great Fire of London. We will also learn about Monet.</p>	<p>At home, you could create your own artwork using different mediums (collage, painting, drawing), representing the Great Fire of London.</p>
<p><b>DT</b> – ‘Making Fire Engines’ will be our design unit this term. We will explore modern fire engines and their features, before exploring, designing, creating and evaluating our own using wheels, axles and chassis. We also hope to take a little look at 17th century fire engines as part of our ‘Great Fire of London’ learning, as well as designing and building our very own houses to recreate ‘Pudding Lane’</p>	<p>The children might like to keep an eye out for any recyclable packaging which might be useful for their fire engines (bodies, wheels or axles) or houses.</p> <p>We are investigating the possibility of the fire brigade visiting us in school.</p>
<p><b>Computing – Digital Music.</b>  Over the term, the children will use ‘Chrome Music Labs’ to create music. We will listen to a variety of pieces of music and consider how music can make us think and feel. Our learning will also get us to compare creating music digitally and non-digitally and look at patterns and purposefully create our music. We will also have two dedicated online safety lessons.</p>	<p>Please support your child by helping them practise signing ‘on and off’ their own Rattlesden google chrome accounts. Login details are contained within their ‘reading, spelling and times table record’.</p> <p>‘Chrome Music Labs’ is a free website which your child can access at home to experiment and start playing music. <a href="https://musiclab.chromeexperiments.com/">https://musiclab.chromeexperiments.com/</a></p> <p>Talk to your child about keeping safe when online and discuss what apps they are accessing.</p>
<p><b>PSHE</b> – This term we will be focusing on ‘What jobs do people do?’ and ‘What helps us to stay safe?’. This will include learning about different jobs, money in the wider world, aiming high and aspirations, along with staying safe online, in everyday situations and outside.</p>	<p>This will be taught by Miss Moore on alternate Tuesday afternoons.</p> <p>Lots of discussion for home as well as school.</p>