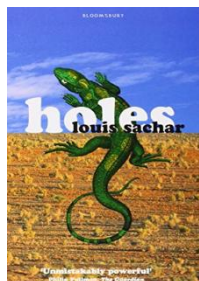




Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back for our final term! I hope you all had a wonderful Easter break and that the children feel rested and ready for the half term ahead! We have lots of exciting learning and events coming up and we are looking forward to getting stuck in with Maple Class.



In English, we will be finishing the final chapters of Wolf Brother before beginning our new class text, Holes by Louis Sachar. This text will be the focus of our reading sessions and the inspiration for some of our writing. Our narrative writing will focus on traditional tales with Hansel and Gretel as our inspiration and our non-fiction writing will focus on biographies. We will also continue to develop our spelling, punctuation and grammar skills through our Spell it Out approach.

In Maths this half term, we will be consolidating our work on percentages before moving onto ratio, statistics, angles and algebra. We will apply these skills to arithmetic problems as well as reasoning and problem-solving tasks to deepen our understanding. KIRFs will be handed out in the first week so children can work on their recall of these.



In Geography, we will be planning and carrying out an independent fieldwork enquiry. We will develop an enquiry question, explore data collection methods and determine the most effective method for our enquiry before mapping local routes to carry out our study. We will then complete our study, collecting data before returning to school to analyse it. Finally, we will digitally process our data and use this in a presentation of our findings to the class.

In Science this term, we will be studying living things and their habitats. Over this topic, we study the work of Carl Linnaeus and consider how to classify living things, including plants, into groups based on their common characteristics. We learn about and use a range of classifying keys, including Linnaeus' most complex classification system of evolutionary taxonomy, and consider why it is more effective. We also will be using these classification systems to identify trees and invertebrates in our local area.



In PSHE this half term, we will be starting our **Growing Up** topic in which we discuss the changes we go through during puberty as well as peer pressure, positive body image, self-esteem and relationships. I have attached an **overview** to the email for your consideration in case you would like to discuss any of these aspects with your children prior to us beginning our sessions or in case the children have any questions they would like to discuss at home with you after. If you have any questions or concerns you would like to discuss with me, please just let me know.

PE this half term will continue to be **Thursday** and **Friday** afternoons. We will be working on netball skills on Thursdays and preparing for sports day this half term with an athletics unit on Fridays. As mentioned in my email, Maple Class swimming will be starting **after** May half term. I will send out further information regarding these sessions nearer the time.

SATs

As you are aware, the children will be completing their SATs tests this half term. The tests will take place from Monday 11th May – Thursday 14th May.

On these mornings, the children are invited into school at 8.30am to have breakfast together in the school hall. The gate will be open for them at this time and they should come straight through to the hall through the glass doors on the top playground with all of their things. We will be providing bacon sandwiches for breakfast but there will also be toast available. If your child does not want to have breakfast at school, they are welcome to have breakfast at home instead but should still come into school at 8.30am on these days. If you have any issues with this timeframe, please just let me know as soon as possible.

Your child may have mentioned that they are welcome to bring a small 'mascot' into school with them for their assessments. This should be an appropriate, small toy or item (no bigger than the size of their hand) and must not be electronic or anything that could cause a distraction such as something that makes noise or flashes etc. They must also not contain any sort of recording ability.

If your child is poorly on one of the assessment days, please let us know as early as possible as we will need to apply for a timetable variation and organise an appropriate, alternative time and location for them to complete their assessments when they return to school as stipulated by the Department for Education.

I always do my very best to make sure that this week is as fun and enjoyable as possible and that they do not experience stress or anxiety other than a normal bit of nerves. However, if you feel your child is becoming stressed or anxious and you would like us to support them further with this, please get in touch.

If you have any questions regarding any of the information in this newsletter or would like to discuss anything further, please just let me know.

Kind regards,

Miss Munns 😊