

Kindness and Co-operation	Thankfulness	Friendship and Sharing	Respect	Unity	Responsibility
Hope and Peace	Patience and Perseverance	Trust and Honesty	Happiness	Courage	



**MAPLE TREE
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Learning. Equality. Achievement. Friendship.

Newsletter

Friday 7th February 2025

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

This week I want to share with you the great news that we have been recognised as a Good level Modeshift STARS school (bronze award) which is a reflection of the commitment we show towards sustainable travel and the efforts that go into addressing actions on our school travel plan. This award is in recognition of the fact that we have completed areas identified in our previous plan, have carried out surveys and have delivered a number of travel initiatives whilst also supporting others. We are proud of our achievements in this area and will be displaying our accreditation mark around school. I am grateful to Mrs Rowley for spearheading this and gathering the evidence needed to submit our application. I am also to our school community for collectively taking steps, whether large or small, to ensure that we are able to address sustainability within our environment. We look forward to developing further in this area.



I also want to extend my thanks to FoMT for their hard work and efforts in running the school discos at the start of the week. They ran so smoothly and I know that the children really enjoyed themselves. I am grateful to you all for the time and energy that was spent enabling these to happen.

I hope you all have a good weekend.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Tue 11th Feb - Parents evening 4-6pm
 Thur 13th Feb - Parents evening 4-7pm
 Thur 13th Feb - Parent Forum
 Fri 14th Feb – FoMT non-uniform day
 Fri 14th Feb – Last day of half term

HALF TERM

Mon 24th Feb – First day of half term
 Tue 27th Feb – Maths parent workshop—
 6pm
 Thur 6th Mar – World Book Day
 Thur 20th March – Parent forum
 Tue 1st April – Rocksteady concert
 Thur 3rd April – Easter assembly (R+KS1)
 Fri 4th April – Last day of term

Term dates for **2024-2025** can be found [here](#).

Why is school attendance important?

Consistent school attendance is crucial for your child's success in primary school. Being in class every day allows children to fully engage with learning, build strong foundations in key subjects like reading and maths, and participate in enriching activities.

Regular attendance also fosters social and emotional development, helping children build friendships, learn important social skills, and develop a sense of belonging within the school community. Missing even a few days can lead to gaps in learning, making it harder for children to keep up and potentially impacting their confidence and progress.

By prioritising regular school attendance, you're giving your child the best possible chance to thrive academically and socially.

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Music at Maple Tree

The children have all been very creative in music and have been learning lots of new skills and composing pieces of music. Music enriches children's lives and can have many benefits, it can help them focus, relieve stress and boost self-confidence. Across the school everyone has been enjoying music and here are a few things the children will be doing over the coming term.

Elder have been enjoying learning about film music, focusing on soundtracks and how different composition techniques are used. They will be considering the instruments used and why to be able to create a composition and graphic score to perform alongside a film, ensuring the intended feeling is conveyed.



Poplar class have been enjoying the beat and energy of samba and carnival music. They have learnt where the music originated and the main instruments that are used to create the vibrant samba tunes. The children had lots of fun trying to sing different beats in rounds to create syncopation, a rhythm that is played off the natural beat.

In Juniper, they are learning about looping and remixing. The music genre is electronic dance music, where they have been listened to and analysed remixes of original music - The Circle of Life. As well as creating music using body percussion, using repeated beats, they have learnt about looping and layering electronic beats using an online software program. They are really enjoying this unit!



Rowan are learning about pentatonic melodies and composition. They have discussed Chinese New Year and the story behind it and watched the Dragon dance, listening to the accompanying music. The children were enthralled with the stories and techniques used and are keen to begin developing their own compositions to accompany a Dragon Dance.

Fir's unit is Movement in Music. They started by singing nursery rhymes with movements, and are now learning about beat and tempo. The children have been listening to music to determine if the tempo is slow, moderate or fast. We have also been practicing using our bodies to tap along with music and keep a beat.

Yew have been learning about tempo, they have learnt, rehearsed and performed the poem 'Snail and mouse'. They have enjoyed using different voices to create different effects and reciting the poem in canon. They will be listening and responding to pieces of music with fast and slow speeds; learn and perform a rhyme and a song focussing on fast and slow.



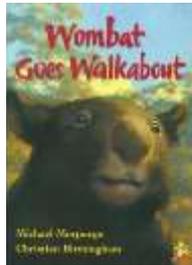
Aspen have begun a new unit all about musical story telling. They enjoyed their introduction to an orchestra as they played the story of Goldilocks, seeing the instruments being played and how they all work together. The class enjoyed using their arms to show the dynamics by opening their arms when it was loud and bringing them together when it was quiet.



Spring term in Yew class

English

In English, we have been looking at the book *Wombat Goes Walkabout* by Michael Morpurgo. We have sequenced the story, using the pictures from the book and created a story map of key events. We then wrote a story mountain to help plan our own version of the story.

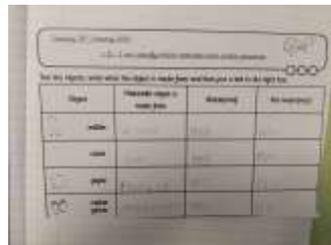


Maths

In maths, we have been learning our number bonds to twenty and how to use a number line to add 2 numbers together. We will also be learning about doubles.

Science

In science, we are looking at everyday materials. We have discussed what they are, how they are used and what properties the materials have. We have been given a mission to find the most suitable material to make an umbrella, to do this we tested different materials to see if they are waterproof.



Design Technology

This term we will be making a hand puppet; to do this we first needed to know about different joining methods. We pinned, stapled and glued some material together and discussed which method will be best to make our puppet.



Art

In art this term we are discovering different ways to use our bodies to create artwork. We have looked at two artists, David Hammons and Heather Hansen, and talked about their method and artwork. We then used chalk pastels to create spirals inspired by nature.



Geography

We are learning about the weather in the UK, we started our learning by identifying the different countries that are in the UK and coloured which country we live in.



ROWAN'S WEEK

ENGLISH

This week in English, Rowan have been investigating the strange creature - The WABUB... We have been using the acronym "I SAW A WABUB" to support our identification of **subordinating conjunctions** and **clauses**. In addition, we have been writing a non-chronological report about Earthquakes.

MATHS

Maths has seen Rowan, focus on multiplication and division with a focus on the 3 and 8 times tables. Rowan have learned new vocabulary: dividend, divisor and quotient & multiplier, multiplicand and product, which they have been using to explain number sentences. Furthermore, Rowan have been using a variety of representations to express multiplication and division calculations developing their mastery.



PE

In P.E. Rowan have been combining shapes, rolls and jumps in sequencing. Rowan have been learning and developing their forward rolls. They have been identifying correct technique and working on their control and the aesthetics of their roll.

ART

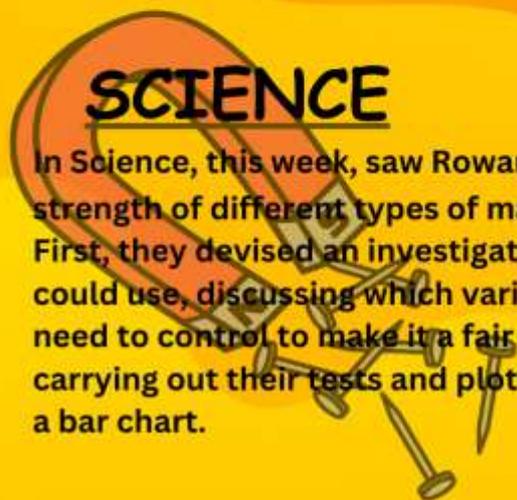
This week in Art, Rowan have been learning about primary, secondary and tertiary colours. They have developed their own colour wheels and experimented making their own colours.

GEOGRAPHY

In Geography, we have learnt about the lines of latitude and their relevance and identified their link to climate zones. The children learned more about hemispheres and were able to plot on a world map them most significant lines of latitude.

SCIENCE

In Science, this week, saw Rowan testing the strength of different types of magnets. First, they devised an investigation that they could use, discussing which variables they would need to control to make it a fair test, before carrying out their tests and plotting their results in a bar chart.



Art and Design

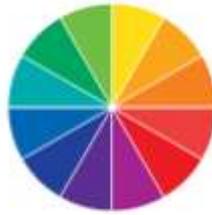
In EYFS we have been using tones and shades of colour during our free choice activities. We continually use a variety of media to express our thoughts and feelings in our work, such as pen, crayon, tissue paper, felt and ribbon. We have also been making some collaborative pieces of work on large rolls of paper. Recently we have learned to look at the finer details of a finished piece when designing our own cakes!



Primary Colors



Primary and Secondary Colors



Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Colors

Year 3 is currently focused on a collage unit which will take inspiration from Henri Matisse's period of "drawing with scissors". As a start of the unit, we have been learning about primary colours and how by mixing these we can create secondary and even tertiary colours. Rowan created their own colour wheels, giving them

further insight to how colours can be blended and also identifying contrasting colours. We plan to use our knowledge and skills to "draw with scissors" ourselves and create a contrasting replica of Ancient Egyptian art by "cutting directly into colour".

Year 6 are learning about 'identity' in art this term. We are learning how to show our identity through a layered collage. We have explored the art of Njideka Akunyili Crosby and Yinka Shonibare.



Year 4 have started a sculpture project, looking at food. We have been looking at different artists who have sculptured food and discussed what they are trying to portray through the materials and textures they have used. Artists we have explored are Claes Oldenburg and Lucia Hierro textile's creations. The class is going to create a class picnic of food from the different sculptures that they create over the coming weeks.

Year 1 have been looking at different ways to make art, we started the term using different parts of our body, such as our whole arm and different parts of our hands and looked at work created by David Hammons and Heather Hansen. We developed this by creating spiral shapes using chalk pastels. We tried different ways to use the pastels before creating our art work.



Headteacher Awards

This week the awards are for... ..taking responsibility for themselves!



Fir: Jahnel	Yew: Lexi	Aspen: Tommy
Rowan: Kimberly	Poplar: Finley	Juniper: Amelia
Elder: Joka	Well done to you all!	★

This week's House Winners



Congratulations!

Weekly totals:

Buzzards 267	Robins 253
Doves 219	Ravens 246
Kingfishers 158	Swallows 167

Celebrations and Weekly Wins!

stars of the Week!

For amazing work in Design Technology this week!

Yew: Harry

Aspen: Layla

Rowan: Callum

Poplar: Karol

Juniper: Emi

Elder: Alfie W

Attendance Awards

Week beginning 3rd February 2025

The best attendance award is presented to:

Juniper class this week !

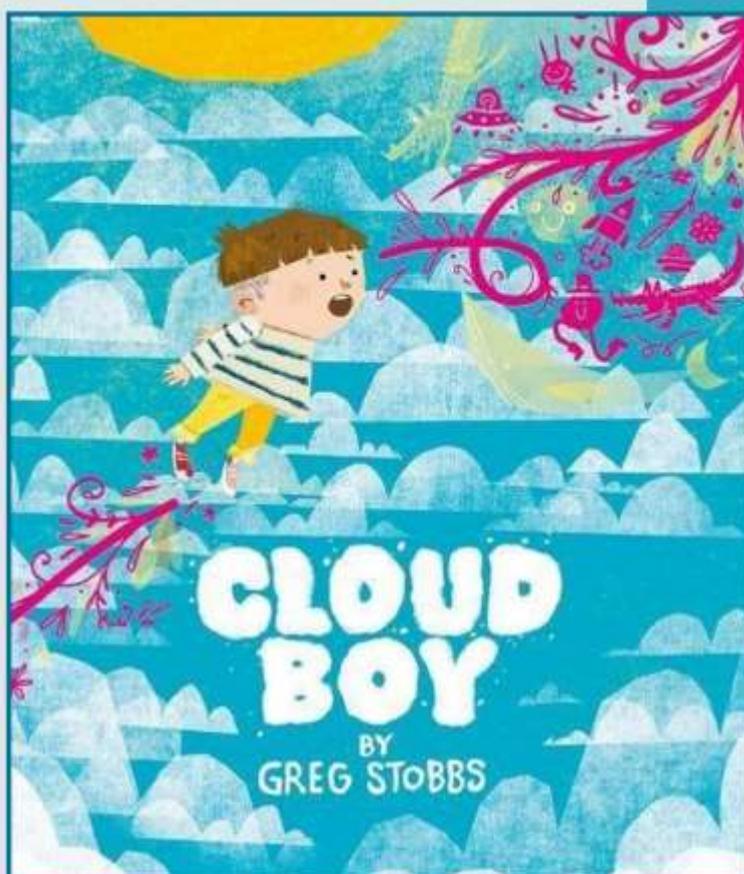
Mulberries 91%	Fir (YR) 95%
Yew (Y1) 96%	Aspen (Y2) 96%
Rowan (Y3) 96%	Poplar (Y4) 97%
Juniper (Y5) 98% ★	Elder (Y6) 95%

AUTHOR VISIT WITH GREG STOBBS

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

Friday 28th
February

Please support the running of these events by preordering a book. Use the QR code below:



To avoid delivery costs, add your copy to the basket and choose 'in-store delivery' then proceed to check out. In the optional notes box, please write the name of your child, their class name and school name then pay as usual. This will mean you avoid paying postage. We will send all the books to Maple Tree Primary School and your child will receive their book at the event. If you have any questions, please email us on nextpagebooks@outlook.com.



Love Yourself Day

FRIDAY 14TH FEBRUARY

We think you're fantastic as you are,
come to school in what you love!

NON UNIFORM DAY

£1 DONATION

Sweet cones will be available to buy at the
end of the day from the playground and
the hall.

Sponsored by



Sponsored by





MOTHER'S & OTHERS TEA TOWEL SALE



*£5 for a personalised tea
towel to bring home
already wrapped!*

Scan below to pre-order yours by 20th Feb



Tea Towel Groupings:

Mulberries & Fir

Yew, Aspen and Rowan

Poplar, Juniper and Elder