



P.P.S. Maple Class

April 2022
Summer Term

The Mediterranean/ Amelia Earhart

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 with a **geographical** focus study on the Mediterranean and will then spend the second half of the term exploring **historical** accounts of the aviator Amelia Earhart.

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 Mondays and Tuesdays. In **P.E.**, the children will hone their balance, flexibility and co-ordination through gymnastics sequences and routines 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.

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.

They will also present opportunities for the children to program and use Micro Bits. The children will be word processing their literacy work and showing their understanding of our topic work using Publisher and Powerpoint. Later in the term, the children will have the chance to design small products using Computer Aided Design and print these on a 3D printer.

This term in **history** and **geography** we will begin with a focus on the Mediterranean area of Europe; learning about its physical and human geography and revisiting our learning on grid references and atlas work. Then, we will use primary and secondary sources to discuss what happened to the historical aviator Amelia Earhart. We will explore and critique different theories and draw conclusions based on evidence. We will also be making many cross-curricular links with literacy as we learn about diary writing and discussion texts.

Art and design lessons will focus on improving the children's mastery of art and design techniques. They will learn to sketch landscapes using observational sketching grids and will design and make their own textile flags using sewing techniques.

In **Design and Technology** children will design, make and evaluate garden lanterns and a variety of Greek food for a banquet at the end of the half term. They will also be working in groups to design new, innovative products based on flight after half-term.



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Our **RE** lessons will look at Pentecost and its significance for Christians. We will seek to explore and answer the question: "After Jesus left, what was the impact of Pentecost?" 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 will focus on the question: "Why do Hindus collect good karma?"

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. We will

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continue to learn and consolidate times table facts, and this learning is always enhanced by practice using Times Table Rockstars at home.

During our **English** lessons, we will be writing as travel agents, creating persuasive leaflets about visiting different countries. We will be using our trip to Ford Recycling Centre to inspire some explanation writing and, after half-term, will write diaries from the perspective of Amelia Earhart. We will then use high quality non-fiction key texts to inspire our own non-chronological report writing.

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*.

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

Rachel Harris
Maple Class Teacher