



Maplefields Newsletter

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome to the Christmas Edition of our newsletter. I am sure you will all agree that through the many different articles and pictures from all classes and subjects it is clearly evident that it has been an amazing term.

Our new students have settled in really well through their transition and all of them have added to the spirit and ethos within Maplefields. The pictures especially capture so many happy smiling faces learning socially and academically.

The Christmas performance was again a huge success and well done to all the students and staff who worked so hard to achieve such a fantastic end result.

What was an absolute pleasure to see was the record number of parents and carers attending the performance this year and I know the children showcasing their talents to their loved ones made them feel incredibly proud of themselves.

As you know one of our key drivers is focussed around developing healthy relationships and this has been at the forefront of classroom lessons, key times, activities, and a vast number of trips since September.

The developing of healthy relationships is so vital to the first two terms of any academic year and I think this year we have been very successful in achieving this outcome.

There is not much more for me to say as the edition speaks for itself, but on behalf of the school trustee's and staff I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our children, parents and carers a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Kind Regards

Paul Lamb
Deputy Headteacher - Personal Development



Green Class

We have been learning:

English: We have been working hard at using our sounds to write words and sentences. Including understanding what a noun, adjective and verb are and using them in our writing. We have also been looking at classic tales, particularly Little Red Riding Hood. We have been sequencing the tale and retelling it in our own words.

Maths: We have been working hard on addition and subtraction and understanding the different ways we can work out the answer including the use of number lines or objects such as cubes. We have been learning how to tell the time to O'Clock and Half Past.

Science: In term 1 we found out about different animals and their habitats, investigating which animals are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. We have also enjoyed setting up experiments to find out about the weather and how we can create our own rainbows and rain in a glass.

We have worked hard so far this year and we have been very creative in our music lessons using different instruments such as percussion instruments and keyboards. We have found many different styles of art and used our creative skills to show our ideas. We have been learning to use computers and technology to support our learning. We created pictures using power point and the paint programme to help us with this.

In our run up to Christmas Green Class have been learning about advent in RE and how this is an important time of year for Christians. We have even made our own advent wreaths.



Blue Class

Our first term has been incredibly busy and full of lots of wonderful learning experiences. Four members of our class this year are new pupils at Maplefields and have done a great job of learning new routines and expectations as well as building new relationships.

In terms of the curriculum, Blue Class have been working hard in the core subjects of English and Maths. There have been lots of opportunities for reading and writing in our English units on Grammar and Fables. In Maths, we have covered many aspects from place value, multiplying by 4 and telling the time. The class have enjoyed being able to look at the classroom clock and tell me the time throughout the school day!

Our science lessons have been lots of fun with plenty of hands-on learning about teeth, the human digestive system and sound. The class even had a go at making their own human mouth complete with the different types of teeth.

In our Foundation subjects, Blue Class have been learning about the United Kingdom and the Ancient Greeks. We really enjoyed sampling different types of Greek food (although the olives weren't for everyone!) and I was especially proud of the PowerPoint presentations individuals created showcasing their knowledge on both subjects. They were able to present them in front of each other with such confidence and independence.

There have also been many other opportunities for team work and building healthy relationships. Well done Blue Class...we are very proud of you!



Purple Class

In purple class we have had a really positive start to the school year. Focusing on building healthy relationships and using our communication skills to get to know each other has played a crucial part in our journey so far. The class have enjoyed swimming every Tuesday with Miss Taylor and have all improved their confidence and abilities in the water.

In English we have focussed on Grammar skills and The Jungle book by Rudyard Kipling. We have looked at persuasive writing and diary entries, focusing on language and structure. Their work has included expanded noun phrases, conjunctions and preposition, and they have created outstanding pieces of work.

In Topic we have been learning about Ancient Egypt where they have discovered the ways in which they lived, the way they dressed and the way they ate. The lessons have included making Egyptian necklaces and Egyptian bread.

In Science we looked at life cycles of humans and what we need to grow. They showcased great knowledge in this area and were able to make a healthy fruit salad and discussed the importance of having your 5 fruit and vegetables a day.

In the lead up to Christmas the class have practiced their song for their Xmas performance, and they all done themselves proud by standing in front of everyone and singing their hearts out.

We are very proud of all of purple class with what they have achieved so far this year. Well done.



Red Class

Red class have had a wonderful start to the new school year. We have had lots of amazing learning opportunities and explored lots of different topics.

In term 1, we looked at rivers and coasts in geography. We explored different features of rivers and how they are formed. We also looked at how we have adapted to be able to cross rivers. This then helped us to complete our DT projects of making our very own bridges.

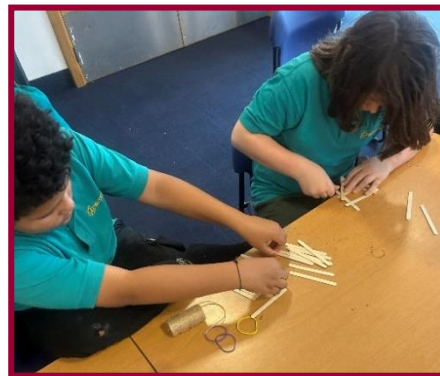
We explored how bridges are made and what gives them support, looking at different examples of bridges from across the world. With all this information we were then able to create our own bridges.

Red class had lots of fun around Halloween creating decorations and talking about what Halloween means in different countries. To celebrate Halloween, we all turned into vampires!!

Red class had amazing behaviour and were putting lots of effort into their work and lessons. As a result of this, Red Class had a reward breakfast with pancakes, waffles and fruit. They were really proud of their achievement.

Across the last 2 terms, Red Class have had a big focus on the zones of regulation. We have had some amazing conversations about our emotions and feelings. We have spoken about how feelings effect our body and physical reactions we may have.

There has been a lot of group work and group discussion which have helped us to support each other.



7JBa

7JBa have started the year positively and are working hard to build healthy relationships with each other, and their new class staff.

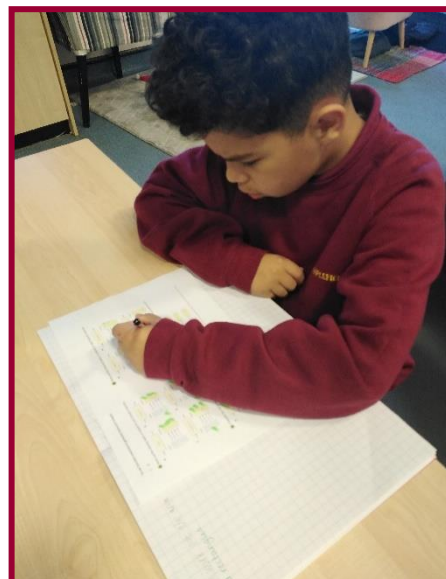
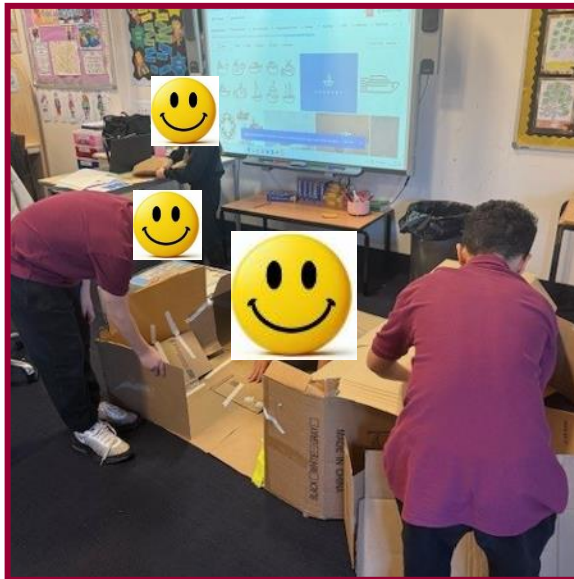
In English, we have spent time looking at fictional and real-life heroes and this term we have studied the text 'Treasure Island'. We have worked as a team to construct our own class pirate ship and used our speaking, listening, teamwork and leadership to achieve this goal.

In Maths, the class have been looking at a range of topics including measurements, times tables, rounding, BIDMAS and division. All of which, students have engaged well with and are continuing to build confidence to become secure with.

Students have also been building relationships with new subject teachers such as art, cooking and DT and showing their creativity and problem-solving skills to make a range of dishes and Christmas decorations.

In the lead up to Christmas, we had a lovely time decorating the Christmas Tree as a class, using our communication and creativity skills.

We are looking forward to continuing our successes next term and hope you all have a lovely Christmas!



7SH

This term in 7SH, the class have continued to show a keen interest in their learning, they have been working well in lessons and have learnt about a variety of topics.

In Science we have been learning about electricity. We have enjoyed being practical in these lessons, making circuits using different components such as bulbs and buzzers.

We have learnt how to measure volts, current and resistance.

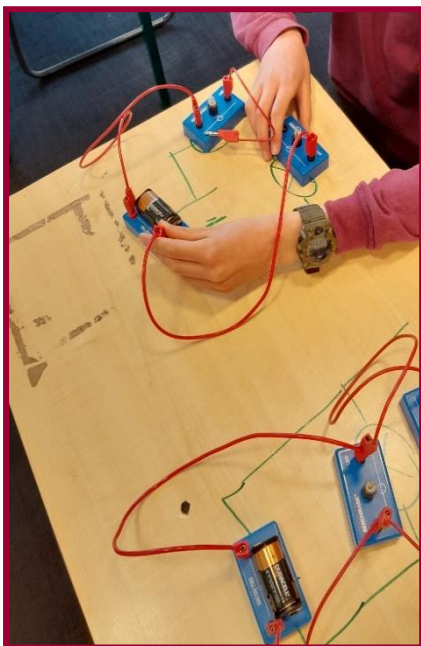
In English we have focussed on the story 'Treasure Island', we have been reading and watching the story and focussing on how the author builds tension in the story and writing our own versions of the story.

In maths we have been learning different methods of multiplying and dividing numbers, as well as looking at graphs and charts

In RE we have been learning about Christianity and leading up to Christmas we have looked at the Christmas story

At the end of the term we went with other classes from KS3 to watch Beauty and the Beast pantomime at The Corby Cube.

As well as enjoying other end of term activities such as rock-climbing races, quizzes and Christmas card making.



89CW

Since September, 89CW have spent time settling in to year 8 and the secondary end of school. They have formed positive relationships with staff and peers and getting used to having different teachers with different settings for learning.

Term 1- We were studying *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* in English. It seemed a good opportunity to try some authentic Turkish delight, which was met with mixed reactions! We went out for breakfast and helped ourselves to the buffet of cooked food pastries, cereals, fruit and drinks.

We took part in lots of sporting Maples sessions and really enjoyed the time. We also had the chance to participate in a Wheelchair Rugby session. This was one of our favourite things to do and we hope we can do more!"

Term 2

For our class wellbeing trip, we went Ice Skating and then out for lunch where we all ordered our own meals including how our steak was cooked!

We finished off the term with a Panto visit, the first time in a theatre for most of the form. Everyone really enjoyed participating in all the traditional aspects of the panto and also the more up to date references! "6 7! and Skibbidy Rizz K Pop"



8/9HF

The students in 8/9HF have been working very hard since September, and have made a positive start to their time in Year 8 and 9. In October, the class developed their teamwork and problem-solving skills through pumpkin carving for Halloween which they really enjoyed.

They have also been working hard developing their communication, healthy relationships, independence and self-worth through all of their curriculum subjects. They have been working particularly hard in English, completing some fantastic work around The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe in Term 1, and A Christmas Carol in Term 2.

8/9HF have worked hard in Maths as well, and have enjoyed developing their problem-solving and independence skills through learning about a variety of topics, including angles, algebra and area of rectangles.

At the end of Term 1, our class went on a trip to Odyssey VR where they continued to develop their teamwork and communication skills really effectively. They all enjoyed themselves and said how much they valued the experience. They then enjoyed a lunch at McDonalds afterwards.

Some of our students have also made fantastic achievements with their attendance so far this year. Two students achieved 100% attendance for Term 1, and one student achieved 95% attendance! Keep up the good work 😊



1011 JT

The first two term this year have run very smoothly and form 10/11JT have enjoyed a good start to their exam courses. Everyone has made a good start and are finding the new subjects interesting as well as challenging.

The class have all seen their predicted grades for the first time and are keen to do even better than expected of them.

Our school curriculum drivers require us to learn outside the classroom as much as we do inside, building self-worth and celebrating progress. The 10-11 JT School trips provide valuable learning beyond the classroom, helping students connect lessons to real-world experiences building confidence, independence, and teamwork while encouraging curiosity.

Visiting the Northampton cinema to watch the latest Jurassic World movie offered an enjoyable and engaging learning experience. Students practiced independence while navigating the venue and developed social skills by sharing the film together.

The trip encouraged communication, strengthened friendships, and created an enjoyable break from usual routine supporting well-being, positive relationships and lasting memories for all.



10/11 JJ Form Group Ice Skating Trip

A Day of Fun, Learning, and Resilience

Students from 10/11 JJ Form Group recently enjoyed an exciting Ice-Skating trip to Peterborough Planet Ice, and it was a day filled with fun, laughter, and plenty of learning!

For many students, it was their first time on the ice, and the day provided the perfect opportunity to challenge themselves, try something new, and build new skills.

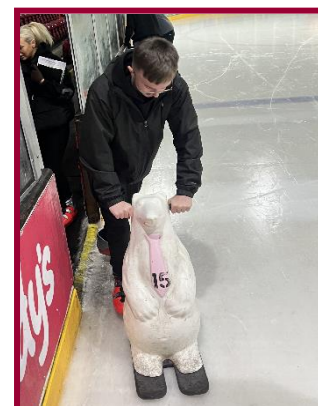
Whether they were gliding effortlessly around the rink or wobbling cautiously at first, everyone embraced the challenge with enthusiasm and determination.

One of the highlights of the day was seeing how students showed resilience when they fell. It was a common sight to see a student slip and tumble, but what stood out was how quickly they got back up, brushed themselves off, and kept going.

This positive attitude and willingness to keep trying, no matter how many times they fell, was truly inspiring!

A huge well done to the entire 10/11 JJ Form Group for their teamwork, sportsmanship, and resilience. It was fantastic to see everyone enjoying the experience, learning new skills, and most importantly, supporting each other every step of the way.

We look forward to more trips like this in the future!



12/13HW

Throughout terms 1 and 2, Post 16 have been working incredibly hard developing life skills including teamwork, communications skills and listening skills.

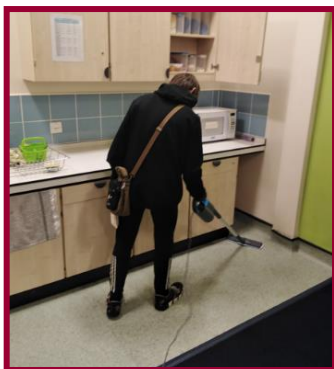
12/13HW have been out on many life skills trips into the local community and have visited a local library, banks and building societies, country parks, local shopping markets and have explored the ways we can use public transport.

Going forwards as part of their life skills work, post 16 will begin their next phase of work experience placements both internally and externally for which class staff are sure they will continue to demonstrate their resilience and excellent work ethic.

12/13HW have also been working hard on their Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) award and post 16 have had recent success in their maths assessments.

Hard work has been continued in English, Employability, Cooking, PE, Music, Mechanics and Art. This term, 12/13HW won the attendance award for the best class attendance out of KS4 and KS5. This was celebrated with a Christmas shopping reward trip and a gaming session for one Friday morning.

Both Mr Weyman and Mrs Luxton are very pleased with how the students in sixth form are developing and will look forward to welcoming students back to school in the new year.



🏆 A Day of Judo – Learning, Movement & New Skills 🏆

Students were recently invited to take part in a fantastic “Day of Judo” held in school, giving them the opportunity to experience a new sport and learn about its traditions and techniques.

Throughout the day, students were introduced to the foundations of Judo, beginning with learning some basic Japanese words used within the sport. This helped them understand the importance of respect, discipline, and etiquette that are central to Judo practice.

Under expert guidance, students then moved on to learning key Judo skills, including basic holds, throws, pins, and safe rolling techniques. Great emphasis was placed on control, balance, and safety, allowing everyone to participate with confidence and enjoyment.

It was wonderful to see students fully engaged, supporting one another and showing determination as they practised new movements and challenged themselves.

Many commented on how much they enjoyed trying something different and learning skills that promote both physical fitness and self-discipline.

The Day of Judo was a hugely positive experience and a great introduction to a sport that builds strength, coordination, respect, and resilience.

Well done to all the students who took part, and thank you to everyone involved in making the day such a success.



PE Maples

Our primary classes have been thoroughly enjoying their recent PE lessons focusing on basketball. Throughout the term they have been developing a range of key skills including dribbling, passing, shooting and teamwork.

Their confidence has grown quickly and it has been wonderful to see so many pupils encouraging one another and celebrating each other's progress. The term has finished with a basketball Maples session for our primary pupils to play against other classes in the secondary sports hall. It was a very successfully afternoon for everyone involved.

Our KS3 students have been engaged in high-energy handball sessions this term, developing both tactical awareness and physical skill. They also had the opportunity to be part of the Maples session to showcase skills they have learnt throughout the term. They have been practising key techniques such as quick passing, shooting on the move and marking opponents.

Pupils have also been learning about the rules of the game and how to work effectively as a team to create scoring opportunities. The competitive spirit has been strong, with students showing excellent sportsmanship and a real willingness to challenge themselves. We look forward to more energetic sessions ahead as they continue to build confidence and refine their game-play strategies.



Outdoor Learning

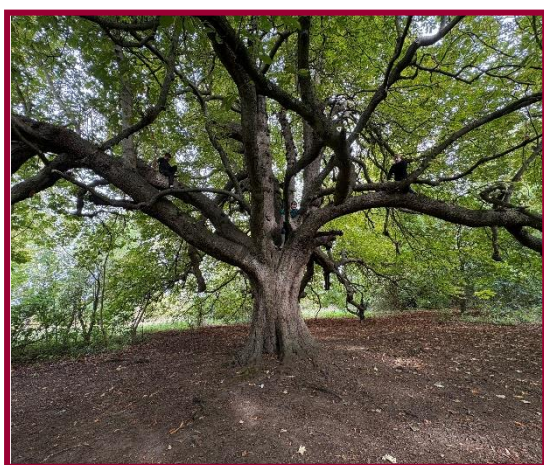
Outdoor learning has been full of adventure, exploration and hands-on learning in our forest school sessions. Pupils have embraced the outdoors in all weathers, developing confidence, curiosity and a strong connection with nature.

Throughout the term, students have enjoyed forest school activities, including climbing trees, exploring the natural surroundings and learning how to move safely and responsibly in an outdoor environment.

These activities have helped pupils build resilience, problem-solving skills and independence while encouraging teamwork and communication.

A highlight for many has been the opportunity to get muddy! Through den building, nature exploration and creative play, pupils have learned that getting messy is often part of meaningful learning.

These experiences support both physical development and emotional wellbeing, while fostering a sense of adventure and fun.

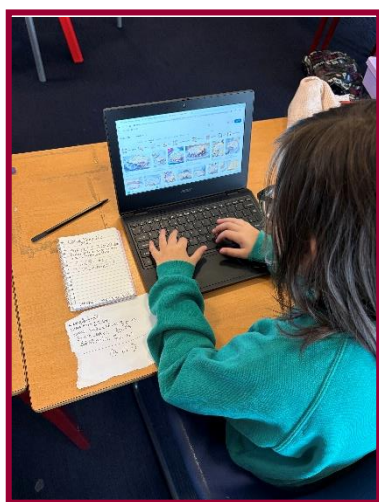


Junior Duke

This year primary pupils have started a new strand within our outdoor learning curriculum, The Junior Duke Award. Our Junior Duke pupils in Red and Green class have been busy developing new skills and embracing challenges. Red class have been learning how to safely ride a bike on our school playground. Also, as part of their life-skills activities, red class have learnt how to plan and create their own shopping lists. They discussed what item they would need, compared prices and worked out how to stay within a budget. It was wonderful to see them practising real-world problem-solving and showing growing confidence in making sensible choices.

Nothing brings a team together like food cooked over a fire! Green class learned how to prepare and cook marshmallows and chocolate bananas on a campfire—an activity that was equal delicious and educational. They explored fire safety, teamwork and simple outdoor cooking techniques, all while enjoying a tasty reward for their efforts.

We are incredibly proud of how committed our Junior Duke pupils have been. They are developing independence, responsibility and confidence. Well done to all our pupils for their fantastic achievements so far. We can't wait to see what new challenges and adventures the next part of the Junior Duke journey brings!



Physical Education

We have had a fantastic and active term in the PE department, with pupils across the academy engaging positively in a wide range of sports. It has been great to see pupils developing their skills, teamwork and confidence throughout their lessons.

Our primary pupils have been busy taking part in indoor hockey and basketball. Sessions have focused on fundamental movement skills and teamwork. Pupils have shown great energy and enjoyment in lessons.

Year 7 pupils have enjoyed a varied programme including rock climbing, badminton, basketball and football. Rock climbing has been particularly popular, helping students build confidence, resilience and problem-solving skills, alongside developing physical strength and coordination.

8/9 pupils have taken part in football, basketball and badminton this term. Lessons have focused on developing core skills, understanding rules and tactics and encouraging teamwork and fair play. Pupils have shown excellent enthusiasm and progress across all activities.

KS4/5 pupils have worked hard in volleyball, handball and badminton. These activities have allowed pupils to refine their technical skills, improve game awareness and apply more advanced strategies.



Music at Maplefields

In music recently, students at Maplefields have been busy exploring a variety of musical styles and genres, as well as playing different musical instruments and expanding their knowledge of music theory. There has been a lot of interest in singing which has been great to see and students have explored instruments including the ukulele, piano/keyboard, djembe drums, drum kit, and the guitar.

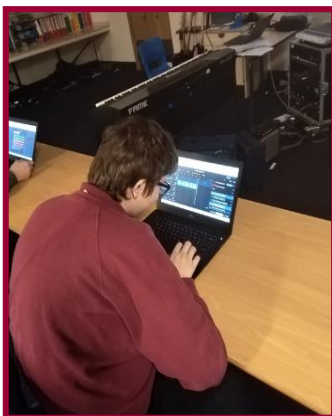
In Year 7, students have been exploring Scales & Arpeggios, learning how to play different major and minor scales on the keyboard and developing their 5-finger playing technique. Year 8 and 9 students have been learning about music from the 1970s to the 2000s, describing how music has evolved and changed, and how different genres have emerged from these eras. They have also explored playing a variety of styles and genres on the keyboards, and developing the repertoire that they can play on the keyboard.

This term, the BTEC Music students in Year 10 and Year 11 have been creating their own musical compositions using a variety of music technology. They have also been developing their performance repertoire whilst also preparing for their mock exam on the Music Industry.

Several students across primary and secondary have been enjoying developing their passion for music further, and have participated in 1:1 music sessions. This has allowed students who are passionate about the subject to develop their instrumental and vocal technique, and prepare for participating in the Christmas Performance at the end of term.

The musical components to the Christmas performance this year was exceptional. The performances included a selection of musical ensembles and solo performances on instruments. This academic year has seen the arrival of the 'Music Maples' sessions which involves a selected group of students that have displayed a particular passion for music and want to develop their talent further to have a group practical music session.

This involves singing and playing certain instruments of interest to the students. Teaching staff are very pleased with all progress made in music and we look forward to more music making in the new year.



Art & Design

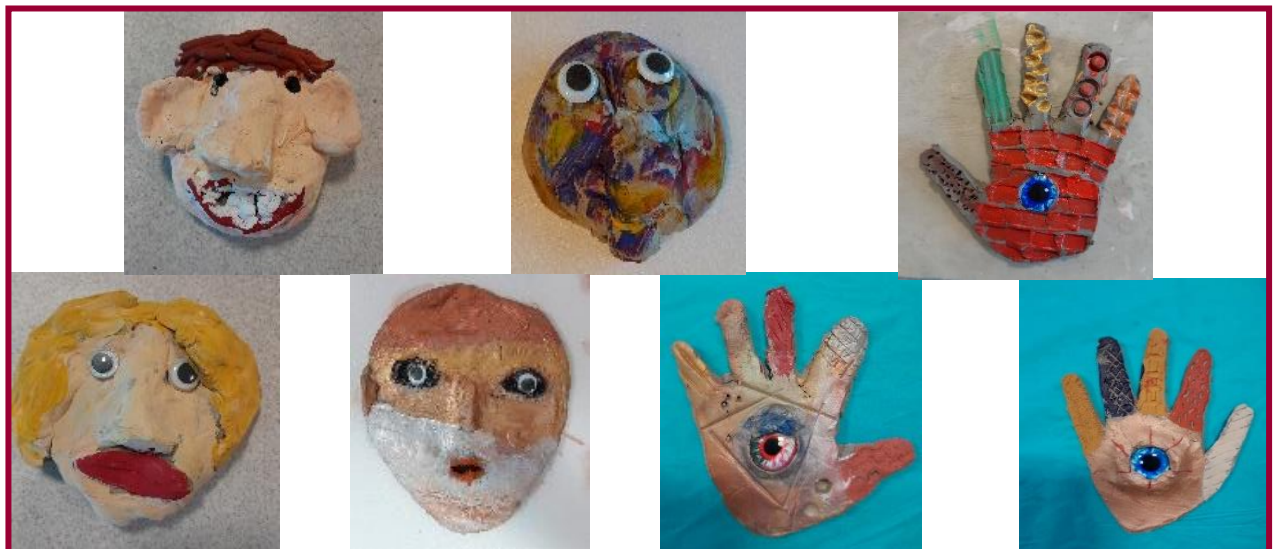
This term Year 7's created artwork exploring the formal elements of shape, colour, pattern and texture.

They made 3D clay expressive faces and hands. Developing skills to experiment and explore using materials.

Years 8 and 9 have been using a range of materials to create artwork on the theme of nature.

They researched Andy Goldsworthy and created patterns using natural materials. They also created decorative containers inspired by Matisse's artwork.

Year 10 and 11 have been working on their coursework. Year 10's used clay to make 3D sculptures of natural forms.



Careers

Green Class – Career Exploration

This term, Green Class have been diving into the world of future careers and aspirations. Students learned about a wide range of available job roles and discussed what skills and interests might suit each one. After exploring these options together, each student created a drawing to show the job they would like to do when they grow up.

College Applications/Careers Meetings

Our Year 11 students have been hard at work preparing for life after Maplefields, with many now submitting their college applications. Thanks to the college visits we arranged last academic year, students have felt more confident and informed throughout the application process.

In November, every Year 11 student also took part in a one-to-one meeting with our independent career's advisor, Avril. These sessions provide valuable, impartial guidance to help students make the best choices for their future pathways.

To learn more about our careers offer, simply scan the QR code to visit our website.

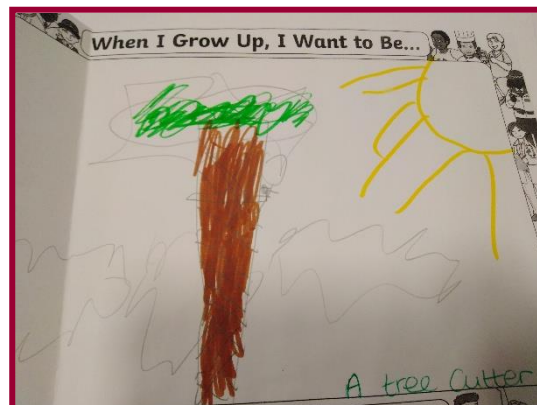
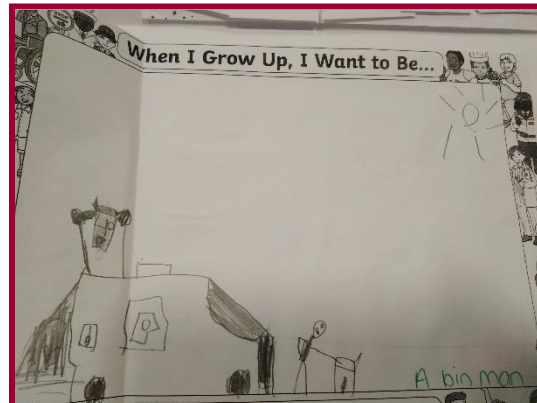


SCAN ME

Careers Collaboration and Workplace Opportunities

Our Careers Lead, James Briggs, has been working closely with Sarah Latimer from the South Midlands Careers Hub and Kev Garfield from VMS Ltd in Wellingborough. Over the coming months, James and Kev will deliver a series of sessions for Maplefields students, focusing on essential life skills, engagement, and exploring a range of career pathways.

This partnership will also create valuable work experience opportunities with VMS Ltd, giving our students first-hand insight into the world of work.



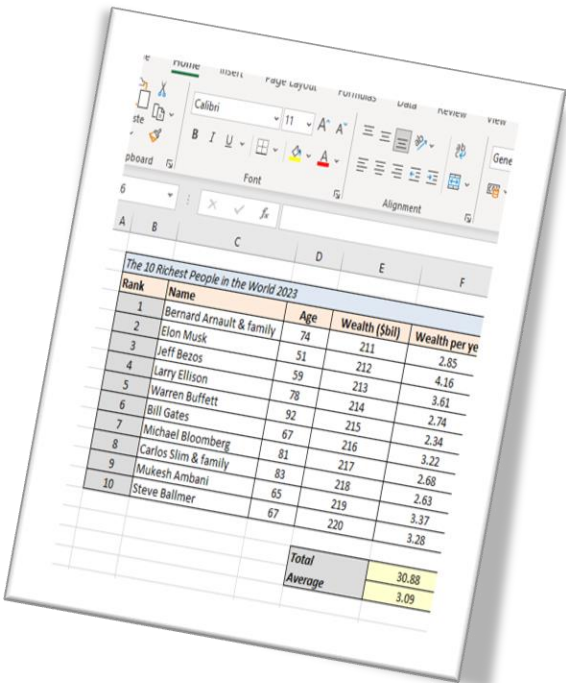
Computing

Word processing and spreadsheet software are essential digital tools taught at KS4. Word processors allow students to create, edit and format written documents, improving the clarity and professionalism of their work.

Features such as spellcheck, templates and styles support accurate communication.

Spreadsheets organise data into rows and columns, enabling calculations, graphs and data analysis. Functions and formulas help students solve problems, model scenarios and present information visually.

Both tools develop vital ICT skills used across subjects and in future education or employment, encouraging efficiency, accuracy and effective presentation of information.



The 10 Richest People in the World 2023

Rank	Name	Age	Wealth (\$bil)	Wealth per year
1	Bernard Arnault & family	74	211	2.85
2	Elon Musk	51	212	4.16
3	Jeff Bezos	59	213	3.61
4	Larry Ellison	78	214	2.74
5	Warren Buffett	92	215	2.34
6	Bill Gates	67	216	3.22
7	Michael Bloomberg	81	217	2.68
8	Carlos Slim & family	83	218	2.63
9	Mukesh Ambani	65	219	3.37
10	Steve Ballmer	67	220	3.28
Total				30.88
Average				3.09

Exercise 4 – Setting Out a Letter

Miss C Smith
125 West Haven Road
Corby
Northants NN18 0TH

03/12/2021

Dear Mr Jones

As you have recently joined our Dojo, I have pleasure in enclosing a free copy of our latest newsletter which we produce on a quarterly basis. Normally we take a small charge of 50p for this newsletter to help us with the cost of production, if you require further copies of the newsletter to pass on to friends and family, please see me after the next session.

I would also like to let you know that we are looking at starting a new beginner's course. The course will cost £50 for the full 10 weeks and will commence on the 15th of next month, and the session will start straight after our normal mid-week session. As you are a relative newcomer to Karate, I believe you would also benefit from attending this session; this will be free of charge.

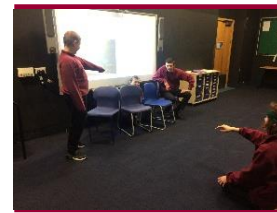
Yours Sincerely

Drama at Maplefields

The first term at Maplefields this year, students have been exploring different theatrical styles, plays and performance techniques.

Year 7 have been developing their dramatic skills, looking at characterisation, techniques and stage presence-and then onto furthering their knowledge through the use of a play.

Year 8 and 9 too developed their skills before exploring a play called 'Hope Springs', looking into a play inspired by real events. Students then developed their own scenes driven by discussions based on the play.



It has been an exciting term for Drama trips and performances.

KS4 Drama students completed a BTEC unit which culminated in a performance shared with Red class.

The Primary Christmas show showcased the students in KS1, 2 and 3 performing readings from the 'Snowman', signing Christmas songs and playing a variety of instruments. It was wonderful to invite parents and carers to this celebration of dedication and hard work of the students.

KS4 students also went to the Derby theatre to watch a performance of 'Oliver'. A lovely way to end the Term.



Employability & Life Skills

Year 10 & 11 Teamwork Challenge

Year 10 and 11 students have been busy strengthening their teamwork skills through an exciting hands-on challenge. Working in small groups, students took on the roles of Builder, Supplier, and Engineer to assemble a Lego figure.

The activity required strong communication, cooperation, and problem-solving as each role played a vital part in the team's success.

It was fantastic to see students supporting one another, listening carefully, and working together to achieve a shared goal.

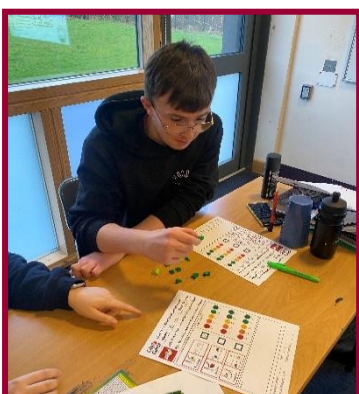
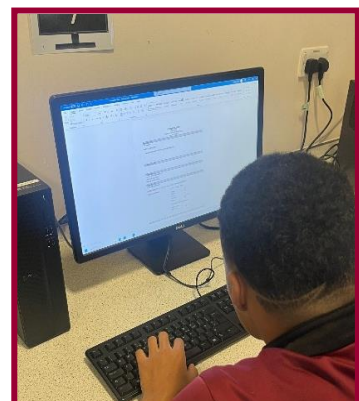
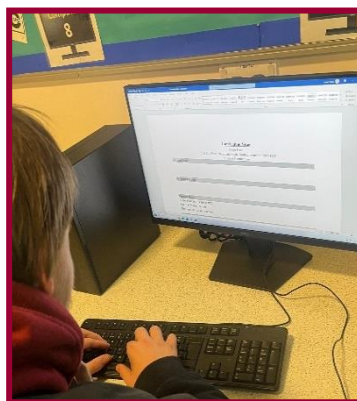
Well done to all our students for their enthusiasm and teamwork!

Year 10 & 11 – CV Writing

Year 10 and 11 students have been developing their employability skills by creating their own CVs in preparation for future job applications. Each student identified their key strengths and showcased these in their 'About Me' section.

Some students also began exploring future career pathways and part-time job opportunities, gaining a clearer understanding of how a well-written CV can support their transition into employment.

We are proud of the thoughtful work students have put into presenting themselves confidently and professionally.



English at Maplefields

During this autumn term, students across Maplefields have been busy analysing, comparing and exploring a variety of texts and literary devices, across different genres.

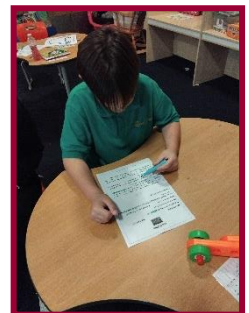
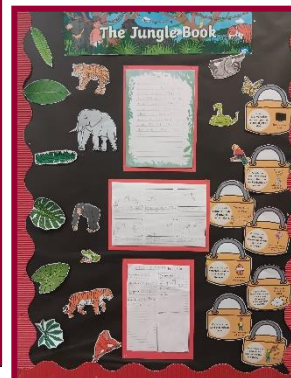
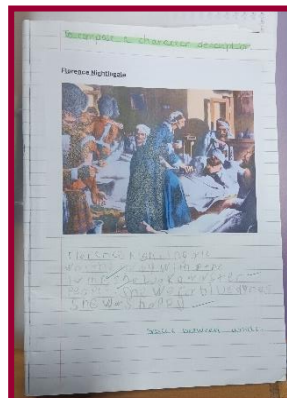
In primary, students have been developing their reading and writing skills, studying a variety of texts. In KS1, students have been looking at the story of Little Red Riding Hood and have been retelling the story using key events. They have also worked on Read Write Inc. In LKS2, students have been showing their understanding of text they have read through a variety of tasks, including identifying facts and opinions in non-fiction texts. In UKS2, students have developed their vocabulary through descriptive writing and composing different formats of writing.

In Year 7, students have been looking at written pieces of texts around heroes, both fictional and non-fictional and exploring the different parts of a story. They have also focused on punctuation and grammar. This term, students have studied the text 'Treasure Island', creating pieces of descriptive writing and exploring themes shown in the text, such as greed, adventure and trust, and finding evidence from the text to support their opinions.

In years 8 & 9 students have looked at a contemporary text and a pre-1914 text delving into the land of Narnia, with their focus text being 'The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe' followed by exploring and analysing the works of Charles Dickens by studying 'A Christmas Carol'. While using these texts, students are beginning to identify appropriate textual references to support their views and opinions and build upon their prior knowledge of understanding characterisation, plot and setting.

In years 10 & 11, students have studied 'The strange case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde', exploring the genre of gothic literature and the features of this text type. Students have analysed characters and the impact they have on the text, as well as composed some non-fiction pieces of writing composing newspaper reports and formal letters. This is supporting the students with the written exam expectations, in preparation for their mock exams. Students have also started to work on their speaking and listening elements for their functional skills and GCSE, planning a presentation to deliver later in the year.

All students have worked extremely hard in English through these first few terms and I am sure this will continue into the new year with their new topics.



Food Tech

EYFS & KS1, Lower KS2 and Upper KS2

Over the Autumn terms, Primary students have been able to attend cooking lessons on a Friday afternoon during their enrichment sessions. The dishes they eagerly produced ranged from Pizzas, cheese burgers, penne in a creamy tomato sauce to doughnuts at which they took a great deal of pride in producing.

Year 7's

These last two terms, year sevens have learnt a variety of basic sweet and savoury dishes which has seen their culinary skills improve as well as learning about cooking safely and hygienically. The dishes they have produced range from Mexican burritos, cottage pies, chicken stir fry's with noodles to treacle tarts.

Year 8&9's

The autumn terms have seen year's 8's and 9's produce a range of dishes from strawberry gateaux, tacos, beef in a black bean sauce, pasta carbonara and chicken and mushroom pies. They have continued in improving their knife work and in working safely and hygienically. They have also learnt how to correctly store foods to prevent contamination and growth of bacteria.

Year 10 & 11's

This year has seen some of the students start their second year towards an NVQ qualification and are on track to achieve the required pass mark or exceed it. There are two further 2nd year students who are working towards entry level at present. Once again, they have produced a range of sweet and savoury dishes which are more complex than when they were in year 8/9 such as chicken tikka marsala with homemade naan breads and onion bhajis to poached fish in a cheese sauce served with creamed potatoes and vegetable. On a more seasonal note they have also prepared, cooked and decorated chocolate yule logs and mince pies.

Year 12&13's

This year to date, has seen the continuation of life skills for the year 12/13's in cooking. They have covered various savoury and sweet dishes. Further to develop their understanding they have also studied nutrition what it is and what it does to the body to maintain health and fitness. Dishes they have covered so far include: Enchiladas, Beef in a black bean sauce, salted caramel chocolate torte and savoury rice dishes.



PHSE/RSE

Green Class have been learning about their likes and dislikes/choices and how these may change as they grow from being young to old and how they should respect others likes and thoughts. They have been understanding where they get money from and how it is important to spend on essentials but also save too.

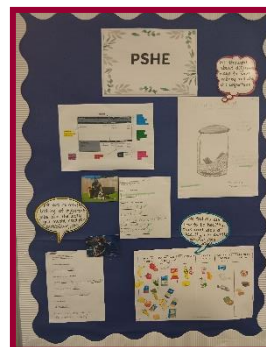
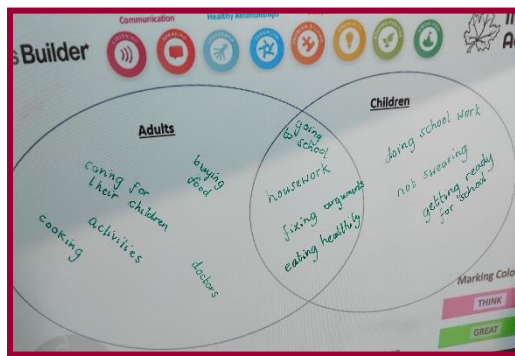
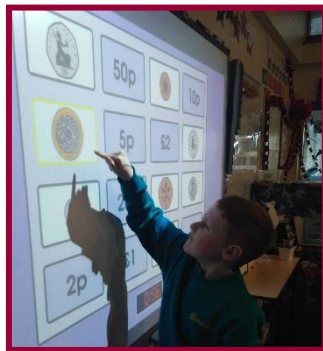
Blue Class have been learning about their health and hygiene- bacteria, virus, infections, hygiene routines such as washing hands and drugs, alcohol, medicines- safe and unsafe, other people's beliefs. They have also been looking at responsibilities at school, home, wider community and groups I belong too.

Purple and Red Class have been Understanding the differences between surprises, secrets, challenges and dares- peer pressure. Money- budgeting, spending, saving, tax, loans, interest and debt, enterprise skills.

Year 7 have been learning about diet, exercise, sleep and how to make the right choices to be healthy. This then linked into their other areas of learning of personal health and hygiene (including germs, virus, vaccinations, sleep and self-examination).

Year 8/9 have been understanding what peer pressure is and how this can lead to assertiveness and risk. The risks of gang crime They have also been looking at dieting, lifestyle balance and unhealthy coping strategies.

Year 10/11 have been promoting self-esteem and coping with stress whilst understanding how to complete learning and revision skills to maximize their full potential. They have also been looking at the risks of teenage pregnancy.



RE at Maplefields

Students across Primary and Secondary have been working hard in RE during Term 1 and 2.

In Primary in Term 1, Green Class were learning about Religious Festivals and the festival of Diwali. The students had a go at making their own Rangoli patterns.

In Primary in Term 1, Green Class and Blue Class have been learning about Christianity and the Christmas Story.

Green Class learnt about Advent, and made their own Advent wreaths. Green Class also learnt about the Nativity story, and sequenced the events of the Nativity story.

Blue Class learnt about the Christingle service and made their own Christingles.

In KS3, in Term 1, students were learning about Sikhism and the different beliefs and values in this religion.

In Term 2, students were learning about Christianity and the importance of Christmas to Christians at this time of year.

In KS4, students have been working towards sitting their first Entry Level paper, learning about Catholic beliefs and practices. They have explored a variety of different topics, including the Holy Trinity and Pilgrimage.



Science at Maplefields

Students have made a fantastic start to their science lessons here at Maplefields!

My personal highlight has been primary's engagement in science enrichment.

The messiest of scientists attend on a Lesson 5 on Fridays for our super fun experiments.

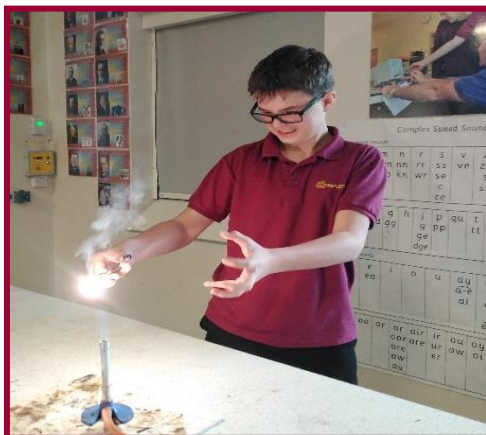
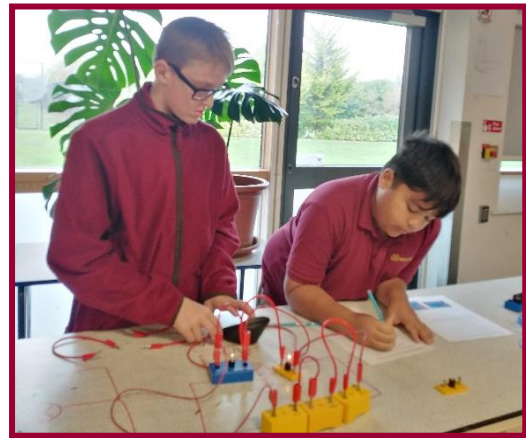
These enrichment activities allow the children the opportunity to follow instructions in a safe lab environment whilst conducting mini science experiments!

I have also been incredibly impressed with the hard work the secondary students have put into the first term.

Year 8/9 students have been securing their knowledge of physics, lots of practical investigations have allowed students to explore key concepts whilst improving their communication skills.

Year 10/11 have been completing their entry level coursework, from testing which habitat a woodlouse prefers to rates of reaction using hydrochloric acid.

Students have worked incredibly hard and should feel very proud of their achievements in Science.



Amazing Attendance

Across the school, we have been making a strong and focused effort to improve attendance, and it has been wonderful to see the positive impact this is already having. There have been so many fantastic achievements to celebrate, and our students have truly risen to the challenge.

At our end of Term 1 Celebration Assembly, alongside certificates and Maplepoints, we recognised pupils who achieved 95% attendance or above. As a special reward, their names were entered into a raffle, with one winner drawn from Primary, KS3, and KS4. Each winner received a voucher to spend on a reward of their choice. Students chose a variety of exciting items, including remote-control cars and Lego sets, making the celebration even more memorable.

In addition to this, our School Attendance Panel met to identify the student who showed the most improved attendance across the whole school. With many strong contenders, the discussion was thoughtful and thorough, but a final decision was made. This student was also awarded a voucher in recognition of their dedication and progress.



Amazing Attendance

Alongside the fantastic attendance achievements of individual students, we were also proud to celebrate the hard work of our classes through our Class Attendance Awards.

One winning class was selected from Primary, KS3, and KS4/5, recognising teamwork, consistency, and commitment to coming to school every day. In Primary, Blue Class worked brilliantly together to achieve the highest attendance and were awarded the class attendance prize. In KS3, the winning class was 7SH, and in KS4/5, the award went to Post 16 students – congratulations to all!

Each winning class took part in discussions to decide how they would like to celebrate their success. Blue Class chose to enjoy a special breakfast along with an exciting rock-climbing session, while 7SH selected a rock-climbing session as their reward. Post 16 students chose to have trip into Corby town centre for a bit of shopping and returned to school to have a gaming session on the Xbox with some snacks.

Well done to all classes for demonstrating how teamwork and commitment can make a real difference. We look forward to seeing even more classes striving for top attendance in the coming terms.

