



Maplefields Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Spring edition of the Maplefields newsletter. I am sure that you will agree that it is filled with lots of amazing pictures and information that highlights the learning experiences that the children have had throughout terms 3 and 4. In this edition we celebrate the outstanding learning and work within the curriculum and through many additional extended learning opportunities that have taken place beyond the classroom.

At the forefront of what we offer at Maplefields is centred around our curriculum drivers of; communication, healthy relationships, independence and self-worth. These key focus areas are embedded in the daily fabric of life at Maplefields and within each different subject area they are celebrated in this edition.

From English through to Outdoor Learning we are proud of the experiences that the children have gained this term and the benefits of such a rich and broad curriculum offer supports the children to achieve better outcomes as they progress through the school. The recent visit of Zootopia is a prime example of this and for some of our children their resilience was truly tested on this day as you will see from the pictures!!!!

In this edition we also get the chance to showcase what we did as a school for world book day. Having been at Maplefields for a number of years now, I have to admit that this day is one that I always look forward to and although the different customs on view help make the day what it is, the love of reading and the imagination and creativity of our children is always evident through the different activities that take place in every class.

I would also like to thank students, staff, parents and trustees who were involved in our recent Spring Fayre. It was a real success and the Futures Café again afforded some of our students valuable work experience whilst also raising valuable contributions to our Alumni Fund.

On behalf of all the staff and trustees at Maplefields may I wish you all a very restful and enjoyable Easter.....

Kind Regards

Paul Lamb

Deputy Headteacher - Personal Development

Red Class

Red Class have had a lot of fun in class in the last few terms

We have been learning about and using glockenspiels in music building on our knowledge of different music notes and using these when playing different tunes

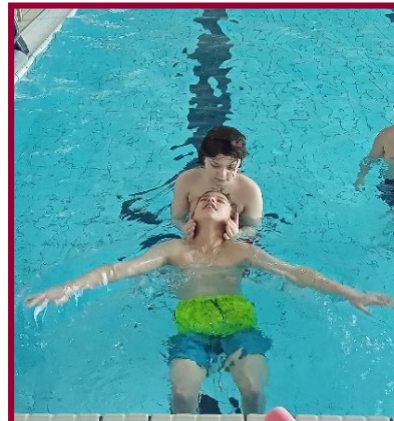
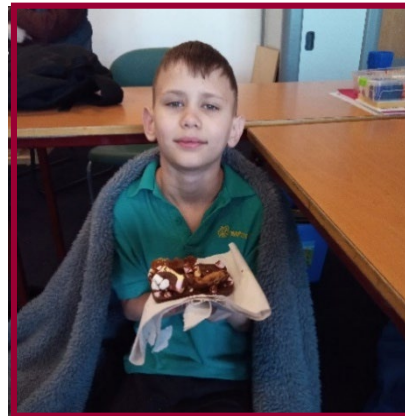
We have been able to use lovely teamwork and listening skills to work in pairs and small groups to create different songs

Red class looked at persuasive writing in English and created our own adverts.

To go alongside these, we designed and created our own chocolate bars!

On World Book Day we had some lovely visitors from secondary who came to read with us and support us with creating our own mythical creatures

Red Class have also been attending swimming this term and have been amazing with their support of one another and retrieving and practicing their skills!



Purple Class

This term Purple class have been focusing on Living things and their habitats for Science. They have been using the classification key to identify different groups as well as learning about what plants, humans and animals need to survive

The class have recently had a visit from Zootopia which supported our learning
They were very brave, holding and stroking the animals and thinking of great questions to ask the expert

In English this term we have focused on Short stories and they have enjoyed translating it into drama and then creating their own tales to showcase their understanding of different morals linked to fairy tales

Well done Purple class!



Purple Class

Purple class have achieved rewards for attendance and behaviour and have been lucky enough to get a breakfast treat of their choice to celebrate

We have accessed forest school this term which they have really enjoyed and shown great team work and focused on healthy relationships

Primary pupils have had the chance to take part in a trip to Stanwick Lakes and two pupils from purple class got the opportunity to go

They had an amazing day!



Green Class

Green Class have been working hard within their lessons

They have been looking at sequencing and how this is important when telling a story and they have also been learning about the value of money and how much each coin is worth

Green Class won the whole class attendance award and chose to enjoy a full cooked breakfast as their reward

They have been enjoying horse riding and learning all about how to care for a horse



Blue Class

Blue class have had another busy and fun term. Pupils and staff enjoyed dressing up for World Book Day. The class enjoyed lots of activities linked to the theme of myths, fairy tales and legends including creating their own mythical creatures

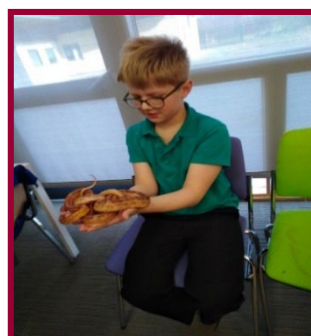
In Science, we have been learning about plants. We have enjoyed exploring the different parts of a plant using a hands-on approach and have set up an experiment to find out the best conditions for seeds to grow in

In Maths we have been learning about Place Value and Angles. Pupils were able to show their understanding of the value of digits in numbers up to 100,000 and have been able to identify and order different types of angles

Blue class also enjoyed learning about Shrove Tuesday and were able to follow a recipe to make their own pancakes. Their favourite part of the lesson was definitely adding the toppings and eating the pancakes!

Another highlight of the term was a visit from ZooLab. We were able to meet a range of different animals such as a snake, tarantula and a cockroach

Most of us were brave enough to hold the animals but some preferred just to give them a friendly wave!



Blue Class

Outside of the classroom, Blue Class have continued to enjoy horse riding and forest school this term



7SH

This term in Year 7, 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 plants and their different parts, how they function and we have also dissected a plant and viewed them under a microscope

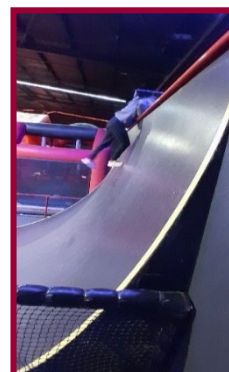
In English we have been learning about Shakespeare and some of his plays and how they are sequenced like Romeo and Juliet the tempest

In maths we have been learning about coordinates and angles, complete different practical activities to apply these skills to everyday life

In RE we have been learning about Judaism and in PSHE we have looked at drugs and alcohol and the dangers of them

The class have enjoyed working towards a Monday reward with Miss Garley where they are able to go into the woodland area of the school and play games such as tag and capture the flag

At the end of the term we visited Ninja Warrior, Leicester. The class had a great day trying out the course that is similar to the one on TV. The class enjoyed their lunch at McDonalds as well



7HF

This term in Year 7, our form has been exploring a variety of different topics

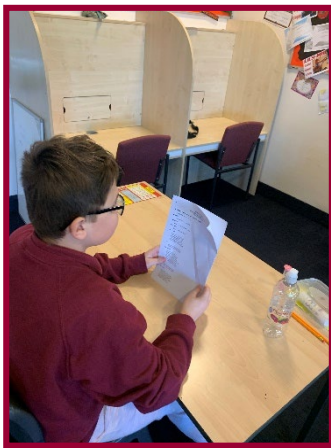
In English, we have been exploring Shakespearean Heroes, and introducing students to a variety of Shakespeare plays

Students have analysed the Shakespearean language, and have had a go at reading different parts of Shakespeare's plays

In Maths, we have been learning about angles and coordinates, including how to use a protractor, and identifying the different points of a compass

In PSHE, we have been focusing on health and wellbeing, and exploring ways we can maintain a healthy lifestyle, as well as identifying the risks that certain substances can have on our health

In Life Skills, students have began exploring future goals and aspirations, and created mood boards picturing what their aims are for their futures



7HF

7HF have been working hard to develop their skills builder and curriculum driver skills. As a reward for their hard work in Term 3, we arranged a reward trip to Odyssey VR in Corby

The students enjoyed having a go on the VR headsets, and develop their teamwork skills along the way

They also enjoyed their lunch at McDonalds after



8/9JD

This term 8/9JD have been aiming high in food technology and “cooking up” plenty of tasty dishes along the way

Meals including a cooked breakfast, pasta, cookies and spicy potato wedges have been enjoyed by all

The boys are mighty proud of themselves and have collectively picked up the most grade A's an extra Maple points in this subject... not to mention keeping form tutor, Miss Done, well fed too!

Well done, boys!



8/9JD

The force was with 8/9JD on World Book Day! Students and staff showed great teamwork and creativity skills in selecting their chosen costume theme of characters from the Star Wars film franchise

Just for one day, the Empire and the Rebellion came together and made the galaxy of Maplefields a happier world for all...
"Do, or do not, there is no try"



8/9JT

The spring term has been one rich in rewards for 8-9 JT

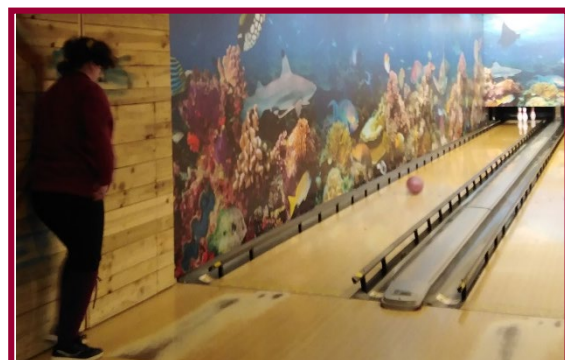
We received a whole school reward for our high attendance which is a whole school target this year

We have end of term trips out to Laser-maze in Wellingborough and Thunderbowl in Kettering. The trips were well attended and everyone had a great time

The trip to Laser-maze in January was a lot of fun. There were different types of games but all involved a great deal of running around and sweating. The complimentary drinks definitely went down well!

Thunderbowl Ten Pin bowling was a competitive affair. There were many different bowling techniques used, some more successful than others

In the team game the girls showed the boys how to win!



10/11JB

10/11JB have been working hard to attend and work hard in their lessons to earn Maple Points towards reward items that each student wants to purchase

These items include construction boots, football boots, a Frisbee and a bike pump



10/11 JJ

Term 4 has been a successful term in 10/11 JJ the students have had the opportunity to access various activities outside their usual classroom learning, two of our students represented the school at a County Badminton Competition, and demonstrated great sportsmanship and determination during the competition in the face of difficult opposition

The form has also been able to access Wheelchair Rugby Sessions and different times during this term

The Form also enjoy a Reward film afternoon, to celebrate all of their successful and positive behaviours around the school for this term and last term

Three students also took part in a BTEC Drama trip to Castle Theatre in Wellingborough, where they looked around the Theatre and see what other jobs are available for people inside the creative arts sector other than Acting



12/13HW

This term in post 16, students have been working hard in all their lessons and have been making very good progress with lots of gold days achieved

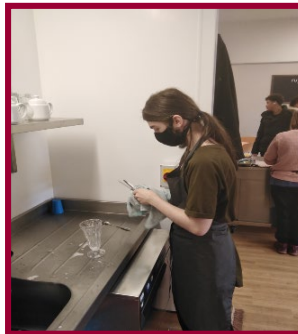
Post 16 have been doing work experience at Bistro (Tuck Shop) and have been developing their skills in communication and teamwork. Going forwards, the students will be starting work experience at the Salvation Army Donations Centre as part of their life skills lessons

Post 16 had a positive trip this term where they had a tour of their off-site work experience placement. The 6th form are now keen to start their placements with the aim of developing relevant work skills that will be evidenced by a reference to support them in their next steps

Students have been enjoying subjects including art, music, DofE and cooking and are making excellent progress

A reward trip is happening on 4th April for a game of crazy golf and a McDonalds to celebrate their attendance, gold days, good behaviour and excellent progress

Staff are really pleased with the progress 6th form are making and are proud of their achievements



Computing

During term 3 and 4 years 8 and 9 have been examining how computers work in society. This involved looking at the applications computers are used for in everyday life, like shops, cars and many kitchen appliances

We also looked at what they might be used to do in the future like driverless cars, and drone deliveries

The next area we examined was the internet and web. The hardware and processing power needed to keep it useful given the huge amount of memory required these days

This led us on to the cloud and data storage facilities around the world

In term 4 we started to increase our knowledge of spreadsheets and examining their uses in business. Focusing on the key skills like writing basic formulas, formatting cells, sorting data and creating charts and graphs

Year 10 and 11 have been building toward taking City and Guilds exams in the coming terms. During term 3 we have also been working with spreadsheets but using advance formulae to calculate percentages and averages, hiding data and showing formulas and currency

In term 4 we started combining the different topics involved in the exams. Desktop publishing to create posters and leaflets. Using their emails to open and send documents, and using the word processor to write and edit letters

| Number 1 | Do What? | Number 2 | Formulas Answ | Correct? |
|----------|----------|----------|---------------|----------|
| 5 | Add | 5 | 10 | Correct |
| 23 | Add | 22 | 45 | Correct |
| 100 | Subtract | 50 | 50 | Correct |
| 50 | Subtract | 40 | 10 | Correct |
| 2 | Multiply | 5 | 10 | Correct |
| 10 | Multiply | 20 | 200 | Correct |
| 20 | Divide | 10 | 2 | Correct |
| 100 | Divide | 2 | 50 | Correct |

Charlotte's Web

After a little girl named Fern Arable pleads for the life of the runt of a litter of piglets, her father gives her the pig to nurture, and she names him Wilbur. She treats him as a pet, but a month later, Wilbur is no longer small and is sold to Fern's uncle, Homer Zuckerman. In Zuckerman's barnyard, Wilbur years for companionship but is snubbed by the other animals. He is befriended by a barn spider named Charlotte, whose web sits in a doorway overlooking Wilbur's enclosure. When Wilbur discovers that he is being raised for slaughter, she promises to find a way to save his life. Fern often sits on a stool, listening to the animals' conversation, but over the course of the story, as she starts to

FUN FAIR

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MARCH 1ST

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FIRST DAY ONLY

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Luois.Richards@edu.maplefields.northants.sch.uk to arrange to view or discuss personal requirements.

All prices, colours and styles available

Orders being taken now for Christmas

Flowers is a not-profit making organisation. All proceeds donated to charity.

Drama

KS3: Students have been studying a scheme called 'The Dome'
Set in an apocalyptic world-students have explored characters, had to
discuss morality and create scenes looking at how different people
would react in this situation

The focus was characterisation, which includes honing facial expressions,
vocal and physical skills

KS4: Some students have been rehearsing for their first
examined performance, that will go towards their BTEC Drama Level 1

They looked at a play called DNA and the particular scene
they explored focused on teenagers' reaction to thinking they had done
something wrong



Drama



KS4 students went on a visit to the Castle Theatre in Wellingborough, to explore and have a tour of a working theatre

The students also had an opportunity to observe and discuss what job perspectives there are within a theatre



Theatre Trip

On Wednesday 26th March, a group of KS3 and KS4 students went to watch a performance of Blood Brothers at Peterborough New Theatre, to support with their English and drama curriculum

Students in KS3 were excited about this opportunity having studied the text in the previous term. When reading the play, students engaged positively and enjoyed taking on the role of different characters, enhancing their speaking and listening skills, to read aloud to a group and adapt their volume and intonation, reacting to events in the text

After watching the performance live, students said

"I actually really liked it and because we didn't know what was going to happen at the end, it was really surprising."
Dominic

"It was absolutely epic... the effects were amazing."
Riley

"It was good, it was really funny."
Armani

"I think it was really great, the actors did really well but they deviated a bit from the original script we read."
Tyler

"It was marvellous!"
Alissa

"It was really, really good, but the bang at the end scared me."
Felicity

"It was good!"
George

"It was amazing...spectacular"
Cory



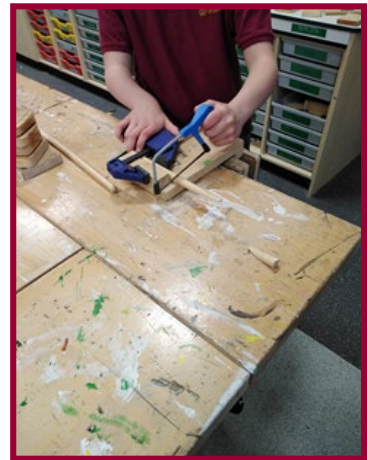
Design & Technology

Coaster Sets

Our Spring Project for Year 7's have been making
and designing their own coaster sets

Developing their skills in using the tools and equipment
in the DT room and, improving their measuring,
cutting and sanding skills

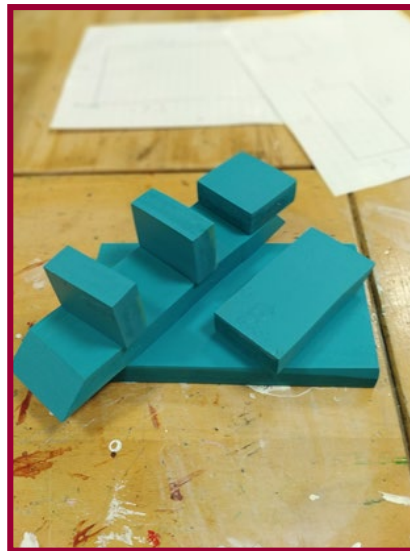
Also developing their drilling and dowelling skills
to complete their project



Boxes and Console Headphone and controller stands
Our Spring Project for Year 8/9's have been making boxes
and console controller stands

Developing their skills in using the tools and equipment in the
DT room and, improving their cutting and sanding skills

Also developing their measuring and planning skills to complete
their project



English

So far this year, our English curriculum has been full of discovery and achievement, with students exploring captivating texts, strengthening literacy skills, and building confidence

Key Stage 1 & 2: Building Strong Foundations

In Term 1, KS1 and KS2 students revisited grammar and literacy basics, mastering key skills like punctuation and sentence structure to ensure confidence in their writing. They have explored both fiction and non-fiction, developing their understanding of a range of genres and the conventions within each of them

Key Stage 3: Tackling Big Ideas

Year 7: With their year-long focus on heroism, students analysed what makes a hero and examined how *Harry Potter* challenges these conventions. This then led to explore representations within the media and which groups in society are presented as 'heroes.' Students are currently being introduced to Shakespeare by exploring different Shakespearean heroes

Year 8/9: Exploring conflict and resolution, students began with *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief*, before delving into real-world issues like climate change, crafting persuasive non-fiction writing. Students have also studied a modern play, with some of KS3 going on a theatre trip to watch *Blood Brothers*, and they are currently learning about poetic conventions through music and rap

Key Stage 4 and 5: Achieving Milestones

KS4 students have worked hard on their English Language skills. They've explored the powerful messages in *An Inspector Calls* and shown bravery by presenting Spoken Language assessments to small groups. Students have also been working towards Entry Level Functional Skills qualifications, with some already securing a pass in their reading or writing papers—an amazing achievement!

We are so proud of our students' hard work, creativity, and enthusiasm this year. Here's to more success in the months ahead!



Music

This term in music students have been working hard developing skills in performing, composing and appraising

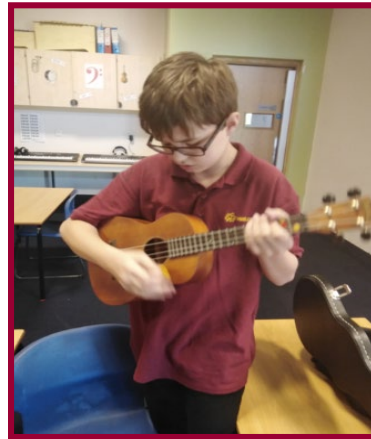
Year 7 have worked hard learning about the orchestra and have been developing their keyboard skills through playing an orchestral piece of music

Year 8/9 have been looking at Rock music and have been playing rock songs from the 70s, 80s and 90s through exploring instruments including the keyboard, guitar and ukulele

In year 10/11 for BTEC Music, students have put on a musical performance for one of their course modules, that will go towards their end of year grade

They have also been revising hard for their Music Industry assessment

There has also been a lot of interest in 1-1 music sessions, where students have developed musical skills in an interest of their choice, ranging from singing, ukulele and saxophone!



PE Department

It has been a busy term in the PE department, the continuation of our Wheelchair Rugby sessions delivered by Northampton Saint has been a very popular and successful opportunity for our students to access

There have also been several opportunities for our students to access extracurricular fixtures in both Football and Badminton

The recent Football Fixture vs Foxfield's Academy was a great display of all the students have learnt in their lessons, and they were able to demonstrate that when playing against another school

The games were hard fought and our students demonstrated excellent character and respect throughout the fixture

There was also an opportunity for some of our students to access a county wide Badminton tournament and the students who attended enjoyed the experience of playing against a variety of different schools from across the county

There will also be an opportunity for students to attend a county wide Flag Football tournament on the last day of term where we will be taking students from year 9/10 to compete against other schools from the county



PHSE

Green Class have been working on road safety and sorting ways of crossing the road into the categories of safe or unsafe

They have also been working on understanding how loss or changes can affect our emotions and how we can get help if we need it

Blue Class- have been looking at different types of hazards and how these can affect our safety. This was also linked to the effects that habits and dares have on our lives

Red and Purple Class- have been gaining knowledge regarding human rights and responsibilities and how the rules can impact the decisions we make

They have been looking at diversity and how everyone is different although each of us are human and should be treated fairly

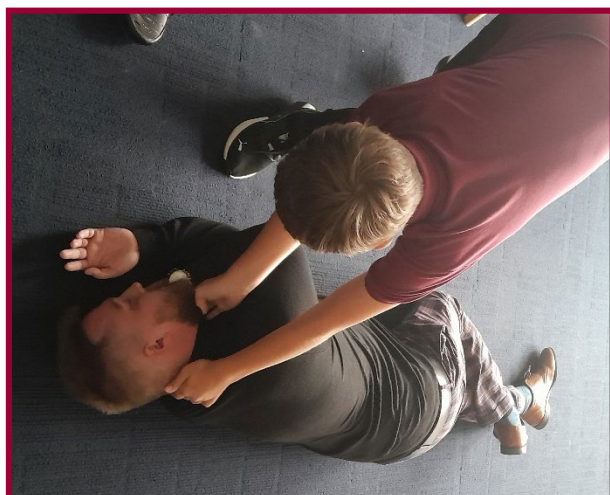
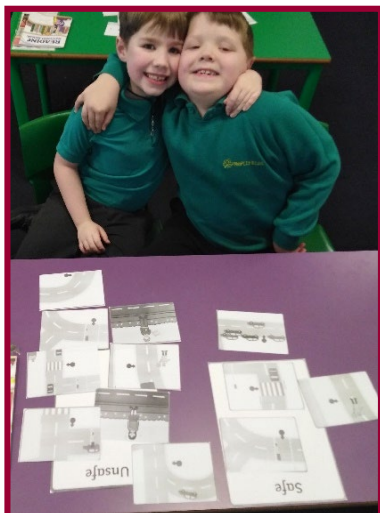
Year 7- have been working hard at understanding the risks of alcohol, tobacco and other substances

The effects these have on our body physically and mentally not only in the short term but in the long term too

Year 8/9- In term 1 year 8/9 have been gaining knowledge in basic first aid and what to do if in different situations

They learned how to use the recovery position and practiced this on a member of staff

Year 10/11- have been working on identifying health and safety in different independent contexts and how to make and take responsibility for our healthy choices to keep ourselves safe



Science at Maplefields

We have had a fantastic term at Maplefields In science. To celebrate science week, we welcomed 'Zoo lab' into primary science

Our students got to meet some wonderful animals and learn about their habitats and the ways that these beautiful creatures are adapted

We are so proud of how our students over came some fears handling the unusual animals

It was also wonderful to hear the care and interest they showed when asking wonderful questions to find out more about many different species

KS3 students have been focused on chemistry this past term

We have learnt lots through experimentation and hands on investigation

Students have used many techniques to separate mixtures and were able to identify the pen used in a crime scene investigation using chromatography!

Our KS4 students have continued to work towards their upcoming examinations

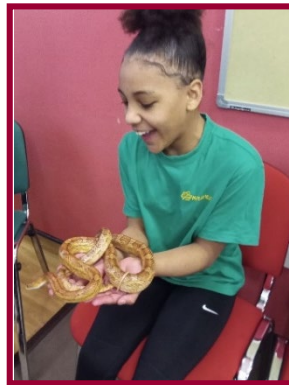
Year 10's have completed assessments towards their entry level qualifications and year 11 are switched on, focused and preparing for their physics GCSE

As part of the year 11 course, we have been using the ray boxes and wave machine to understand wave behaviour

Miss Walker kindly gifted the science department some stick insects who have settled in nicely

Students have enjoyed handling them and often help me to collect their eggs and clean out their home

If our eggs hatch successfully we will soon be over run and some will be looking for a new home... watch this space!



Futures Café – Spring Craft Fair

On Saturday, 22nd March, Maplefields hosted a successful Spring Craft Fair, bringing together members of the public, students, and staff for a day of creativity and community spirit

The event featured a variety of stalls, including those run by local vendors and a dedicated school stall with a popular tombola

The Futures Café was open throughout the day, serving delicious food and drinks to visitors

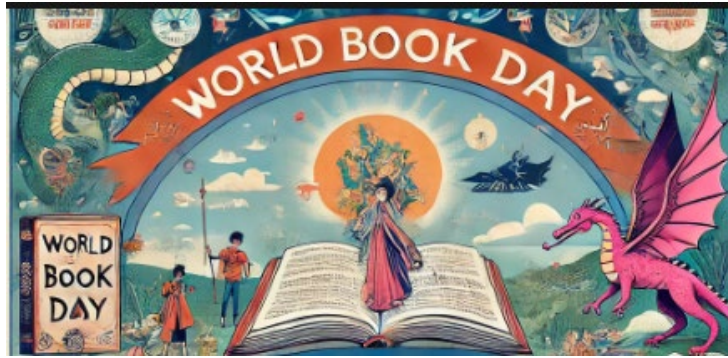
Two Year 11 students had the opportunity to gain valuable work experience by helping in the café, enhancing their skills in customer service and teamwork

In total, the Craft Fair and Futures Café raised an impressive £571 for the Alumni Fund

These funds will directly support our students as they take their next steps after leaving Maplefields, helping to purchase essential items for college, employment, or personal wellbeing, including mental health support resources

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to making this event a success!





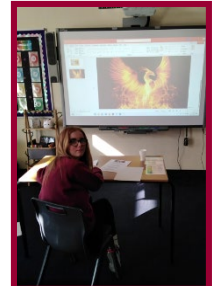
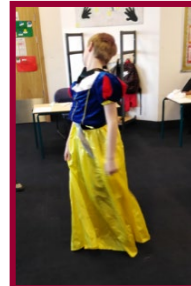
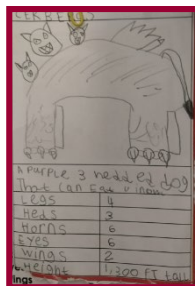
World Book Day 2025: A Magical Celebration of Myths, Legends, and Fairy Tales

World Book Day 2025 was nothing short of extraordinary, as students and staff embraced the theme of Myths, Legends, and Fairy tales with enthusiasm and creativity. The school was transformed into a world of storytelling, with incredible costumes bringing iconic literary characters to life

Green Class embarked on an exciting adventure, discovering a mysterious egg and using their imagination to predict the mythical creatures that might emerge. Meanwhile, Blue Class channelled their creativity into designing Top Trumps cards featuring legendary creatures and crafting magical wands to enchant Maplefields

Across Secondary, the theme wove its way into every lesson, with subject teachers incorporating myths, legends, and Fairy tales into their teaching, making for an immersive and inspiring day of learning

A particular highlight was seeing our secondary students share their love of reading by visiting primary classes to read to younger students, fostering a sense of community and a shared love of storytelling



Construction

The construction students have worked tirelessly throughout terms 3 & 4 covering a number of unit tasks which will stand them in good stead as they move towards securing their construction qualification.

As part of the qualification the mandatory unit of work identifies areas of knowledge that relate to health and safety within the construction industry and written and practical tasks have been completed to a very high standard.

In carpentry, the students have been working on constructing various halving joints which sees them develop their knowledge and understanding of the use of different wasting tools, such as a tenon saw, marking gauge and chisel. It has been very pleasing to see some of the completed practical work finished to such a high standard where accuracy and quality of finish have been improved over time.

In bricklaying, we have been covering units for constructing half brick walling and constructing cavity walls in brickwork and block work with examples of this practical work pictured below.

Over the Easter holidays we are also pleased to announce that one of our construction students is spending a day of work experience with Fountain Construction where he will put some of the knowledge and skills he has learnt throughout terms 3 and 4 firmly to the test.

Overall, it has been an outstanding term up in construction as the students continue to learn with real enthusiasm.



Food Tech

EYFS & KS1, Lower KS2 and Upper KS2

The past two terms have seen Primary students eagerly attending Friday afternoon enrichment where they were able to prepare and cook a variety of savoury and sweet dishes. This will enable them to prepare for Food tech when they move up to Secondary.

Year 7's

As well as learning about healthy eating and the 5 a day rule year 7's have produced a number of dishes ranging from macaroni cheese and fresh bread rolls to healthy chicken stir fry's, banana bread, healthy version of an English breakfast to a chicken risotto.

Year 8&9's

These past two terms years 8&9 have also covered more about healthy eating and about nutrients in food. Practically the students have enhanced their culinary skills through the preparation and cooking of complex pasta dishes, improved skills in bread making and production of sweet and sour chicken balls with egg fried rice with the final week of term letting them choose a dish that they want to make demonstrating skills learnt to date.

Year 10 & 11's

This year sees some of the year 11's completing the final units towards NVQ Level 1 they are on target to achieve 26 credits when 18 credits is required so they will have covered more knowledge and skills as a result. Dishes this cohort have covered to date are, decorated sponge cakes, spaghetti bolognese, cottage pies with sautéed cabbage, chocolate puddings with butterscotch sauce, chicken and chorizo risotto as well as producing a variety of vegetable and egg dishes. The students also had to work as a team and produce a two-course meal.





Outdoor learning

This term during outdoor learning purple and blue class have enjoyed the change in the weather which has meant even more exploring has occurred. Blue class took some fruit and veg to feed the donkey's while on a walk around the forest. Pupils have also been working together to build a bridge across a small river. It has also been an amazing term for the DofE group who have been out and about completing their walks in preparation for the expedition during term 6. They have also been practising packing kit bags and putting up tents during lessons.

