



# Maple Class

## Updates Autumn B 2021

### WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back! We hope you've had a lovely half-term break and we are really pleased to be back in school with your children.

We just wanted to give you some quick updates for the rest of the Autumn half-term.

### VOLUNTEERS

We are hoping to go on some trips this half of the term, including a walk around the village. If you are able and willing to help, please let the office know and we'd be very grateful.

### BRINGING IN TOYS

Where possible, we are asking for no toys to be brought into school after half term. This is to help children focus on their day without the distraction of anything else. We have class cuddly toys, so if there are any wobbles we are happy for children to look after them if they need an extra little hug from a furry friend!

### READING

We have been so impressed with the children's reading skills so far this year. Please keep supporting to your child by listening to them **read daily** at home. Please talk to them about their books to encourage them to develop an enjoyment of reading and to improve their comprehension skills. We will stamp your child's reading book when we have read all of the reading record comments and we will write or add stickers when we read with your child.

Please keep encouraging your child to read the books on Bug Club as we are updating these regularly for the children. We will give time in school for children to read their Bug Club books, but ask that you write their physical books and Bug Club online reading in reading record books.



For good practice, we ask that the children read each book they bring home 3 times. This is to build up fluency, comprehension and intonation of how they read. We will be changing books once a week (on a Tuesday), but if children are ready for a new book, on a different day, please make sure they ask one of us and we will be happy to change them.

### HOMEWORK

The children are doing really well with their homework. Thank you so much for your support with this. Please make sure that they write in pencil and that any lines are drawn with a ruler (as these are the school expectations).

### Spellings

We will now start to send home weekly spellings for children to learn. These comprise of some of the 100 common exception words (words that children need to learn as they don't follow a typical spelling pattern) and words that are being taught in phonics and spellings sessions that follow a specific spelling rule.

The common exception words that children need to know by the end of year 2 are attached to this letter for your interest. Learning these will help your child in both their reading and their writing progress. Spellings will be set on a Thursday and will be sent home via a sticker in your child's reading record book. Please help your child to learn these during the week ready for a short spelling test each Thursday.

### Top Tips for Learning Spellings

- Write spellings on post-it notes and dot them around the house
- Place the spellings on post-it notes and ask children to 'splat' the correct one as you say the word
- Ask your child to type the spellings on a computer/tablet (if this takes their interest)
- Words without vowels:

This strategy is useful where the vowel choices are the challenge in the words. Write the words without the vowels and pupils have to choose the correct grapheme to put in the space. For example, for the word *field*:

f \_\_\_\_\_ ld

- Pyramid write each word

This method of learning words forces you to think of each letter separately.

p  
py  
pyr  
pyra  
pyram  
pyrami  
pyramid

You can then reverse the process so that you end up with a diamond.

- Look, cover, say, write:

This is probably the most common strategy used to learn spellings.

**Look:** first look at the whole word carefully and if there is one part of the word that is difficult, look at that part in more detail.

**Say:** say the word as you look at it, using different ways of pronouncing it if that will make it more memorable.

**Cover:** cover the word.

**Write:** write the word from memory, saying the word as you do so.

**Check:** Have you got it right? If yes, try writing it again and again! If not, start again – look, say, cover, write, check.

### BABY PHOTOS

Finally, for our History teaching about the past we would love the children to bring in 2 photos of themselves to use to make their own timeline. Each photo should be in the past, ideally with them looking very different (for example one as a baby, one as a toddler). These can be emailed into the school's admin address, or brought into school during the first week day back. Many thanks.

We look forward to seeing you all on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November!

Best wishes,

Mrs Brown and Miss Borne.



# Year 1 and 2 Common Exception Words Mat



Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

**Aa**  
a  
after  
again  
any  
are  
ask

**Bb**  
bath  
be  
beautiful  
because  
behind  
both  
break  
busy  
by

**Cc**  
child  
children  
Christmas  
class  
climb  
clothes  
cold  
come  
could

**Dd**  
do  
door

**Ee**  
even  
every  
everybody  
eye

**Ff**  
fast  
father  
find  
floor  
friend  
full

**Gg**  
go  
gold  
grass  
great

**Hh**  
half  
has  
he  
here  
his  
hold  
hour  
house

**Ii**  
I  
improve  
is

**Kk**  
kind

**Mm**  
many  
me  
mind  
money  
most  
move  
Mr  
Mrs  
my

**Nn**  
no

**Oo**  
of  
old  
once  
one  
only  
our

**Pp**  
parents  
pass  
past  
path  
people  
plant  
poor  
pretty  
prove  
pull  
push  
put

**Ss**  
said  
says  
school  
she  
should  
so  
some  
steak  
sugar  
sure

**Tt**  
the  
there  
they  
to  
today  
told

**Ww**  
was  
water  
we  
were  
where  
who  
whole  
wild  
would

**Yy**  
you  
your

**Ll**  
last  
love

ar or ur ow oi ear air ure er

ch sh th ng qu



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