

MAPLE HAVEN SCHOOL



Term 3 Newsletter



Music and the Arts

In Music, we are still working towards our 'Arts Award' with Zoe. We get to experience fun sensory music and even learn to use musical instruments. We also now have Andy Mak who comes once a week to sing on his guitar. They sing Disney songs, classics and any requests. A class favourite is Sponge Bob Square Pants!

Learning Through Play and Enrichment

We have loved taking part in a wide range of enrichment activities, including swimming, sensory spa time, gardening, forest school, and animal care. These experiences have given the children opportunities to build confidence, develop independence and explore the world around them through play.



Acorn Class

A great start to the new year has been had by Acorn class. We have been able to dive deep into our mark making, we have been exploring space and our phonics and BSL has sky rocketed.



Our Topic: Space!

This term, we have been exploring SPACE. We have been sent on intergalactic space missions, we have been learning about different planets, we have build rockets in junk modelling and even created yummy foods that remind us of space. The children have been astronauts when role playing and we have had great in depth conversations about how they would feel living in space. Watch out our next Neil Armstrong might be in this class!

Our Class Book: The dinosaur that pooped a planet

Our story this term has been 'The Dinosaur who pooped a planet', this has been a real hit. The children have really enjoyed reading this book, and know when the funny parts are coming. They have named their own dinosaurs' and written lists of what the dinosaur has eaten!



12/34 Maths Magic

In Maths, we've been learning all about numbers 0-5. We have been going on number hunts, learning to form numbers and being able to subitise the numbers too. We have build rockets out of mega blocks and counted one more and one less. We have used playdough to weigh our different moon rocks and have used balance scales to explore what was lighter or heavier.



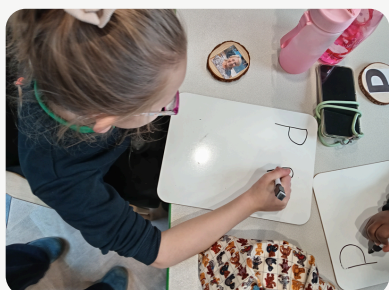
This Term in Pictures



We have enjoyed baking different things in cooking, a firm favourite were the rocket wraps!



We get to have time in the role play area, we get to run the kitchen and buy things from the shop.



Every day we work on our phonics and mark making, we have been trying really hard on forming letters and finding initial sounds.



We play SALT and phonics games every day, we are now able to answer questions on who, what and when from photographs.

The Core Words

This term the core words curriculum has been really exciting, we have learnt our new words: need, see, up & down, in & out, on & off and different. The children love listening to the different songs and videos that go with learning their new words, and they have been able to create incredible sentences or phrases using their word of the week. A few examples:

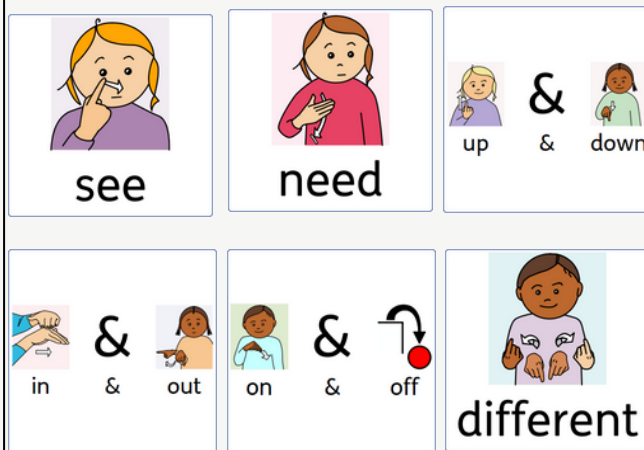
ZN - 'I need to go home and play with my brother'

RPN - 'I see my family after school'

UM - signed all her core words independently

IC - 'I want a different cake'

The impact this curriculum is having on the children is amazing, we see them using past learnt words regularly too.



Thank you for your support



Blossom Class



Communication:

We have been using photographs and symbols to help support the children to understand their routine and to make requests. We have also used communication boards alongside many activities to broaden their understanding of symbols.

The class have been highly engaged with our morning routine where we sing songs and sign hello, the days of the week, and the weather.

Learning Through Play and Enrichment

During our learning through play sessions, we have set up Numeracy, Literacy and Sensory areas for the children to explore. It has been wonderful to see child independently engaging with number recognition activities as well as colour sorting.

During these sessions, adults have also been using intensive interaction to support the children's communication and interaction. It has been lovely to see the children initiating interactions with staff more regularly.



★ Our Topic: Space!

This term our topic has been space.

The children have enjoyed space themed attention bucket activities such as shooting rockets and spinning UFOs.

They have also loved exploring sensory tuft spot trays where we created a Mars landscape with sand and red paint.

In Art, we have created starry nights with different tools using black paper and white paint. Many children enjoyed rolling balls or watching adults flick paint to create the stars.



Sensory Regulation:

We have incorporated sensory resources and activities for the children to explore ways to regulate their sensory needs. This includes yoga balls, spinning seats and sensory socks. It has been wonderful to see children trying new activities and being able to engage with adult-led activities once their sensory needs are met.

