



MAPLE HAVEN SCHOOL



Term 4 Newsletter



Expressive Arts & Design

In Music, we enjoy playing different musical instruments with Zoe and we are working hard on our music awards still. With Andy Mak, we get to sing and dance along to fun songs. In Art we made our mum some pompom bouquet's of flowers, created a scene from the little pigs and made our own crowns.



Learning Through Play & Enrichment

This term we have been really lucky with the sunshine and have enjoyed afternoons up at the Pillows, we got to see the baby piglets and play alongside friends on the bouncy pillows. We have also spent time at the Watering Hole with friends. As well as going on a fun trip to Wingham Wildlife Park, finding the bears, wolves and pigs.

Maths Magic

In maths this term we have had fun discovering the number 9 and the number 10, we are all confident now in counting to 5 and even sometimes being able to count to 10. We have enjoyed listening to different counting songs, especially 10 little fishies. We also looked at 2D shapes, matching them, making patterns with shapes and going on shape hunts around the school.

Acorn Class



Our Topic: Once Upon a Time!

This term, we have been having fun exploring fairy tales. We have been exploring tuff trays with porridge, making our own beanstalks and building our own houses made from bricks, straw and sticks.

In cooking we have made Goldilocks flapjack bars, cheese straw broomsticks and pigs in pitta bread pizzas, which were all very tasty!

Our Class Book: The 3 Little Pigs, Goldilocks and the 3 Bears, Jack and the Beanstalk

We have read 3 different 'Once upon a time' stories this term that have been explored through story bags and props. We have followed along with acting out different characters, like blowing down straw houses as the wolf, filling up bowls of different sizes with porridge like Goldilocks, and then planting our own magic beans in soil like Jack.



Core Words

This term the core words curriculum has been really exciting, we have learnt our new words: what, where, here, there, when and now and next. We love listening to the different songs and videos that go with learning our new words, and we have been able to create incredible sentences or phrases using the word of the week. A few examples:

IC – said 'Where are we going today?'

FM – signed the word 'here' and pointed to 'there'.

UM – signed and said the words 'what' and 'where'.

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

Acorn's Term in Pictures



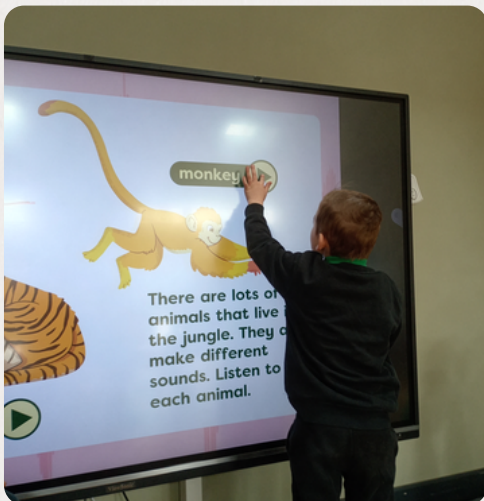
Blossom Class



Learning Through Play & 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 the child independently engaging with posting and counting activities. During these sessions, adults have also been using intensive interaction to support the children's communication and interaction. It has been amazing to see the children initiating interactions, using new words or using new symbols to communicate their needs.

We have also seen children exploring new activities when modelled by adults.



Communication:

The children have been brilliant at understanding their routine and pointing to visuals or gesturing to express their needs. We have had brilliant eye contact, and many children are initiating interactions with less familiar adults.



Our Topic: 'Once Upon a Time'

This term our topic has been once upon a time.

The children have enjoyed listening and watching three stories

The three Little Pigs, Goldilocks and The Three Bears and The Gingerbread man.

They have enjoyed exploring sensory tuft spot trays themed around the stories. Our tuft spot with hay, sticks and Lego bricks was highly engaging.

In Art, the children created bowls of porridge using real porridge oats and we learnt about each character using paint and different materials to create a picture of them.



Sensory Regulation:

We have seen some great progress with children exploring new sensory resources and activities. They have loved exploring kinetic sand, crazy foam and water.

These activities alongside our sensory resources in class are helping them to understand their senses and learn how they can regulate their sensory needs.



Bonsai Class



Learning Through Play & Enrichment

During our enrichment time, we get to play football with our new goal, and basketball with our basketball hoop. We get to go to gardening with Matty. We do animal care with James and Tia, where we get to play with the goats, guinea pigs and rabbits. We have been really lucky this term to go horse riding every week, we have even learnt how to trot with the horse and explored new parts of Quex from the height of a horse.



Literacy & Maths:

In Literacy we have been focusing on different phonics sounds, musical instruments and animal sounds. We have been working really hard on learning letters in our names. As well as mark making different patterns and letters.

In Maths we have been looking at different shapes, being able to identify circles, squares, rectangles and triangles. We have also been counting to 10 and using objects and songs to support us.



Our Topic: 'Once Upon a Time'!

This term we have been looking at Once Upon a Time.

We have looked at The 3 Little Pigs, the Gingerbread Man and Jack and the Beanstalk.

We have made our own gingerbread men, and decorated them with icing and treats. We have explored the books with role play, where we got to dress up as pigs and the wolf, the horse and fox and the giant.

We have been playing in tuff trays filled with straw, sticks and bricks.



Expressive Arts & Design

In Art we have been following our topic, we made wolf masks, gingerbread men, beanstalks and a bonsai tree.

In music we have been working towards our art/music awards, learning new songs and playing new instruments.

We love singing new songs with Andy Mak every week too.



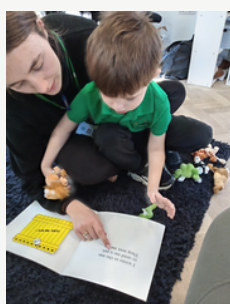
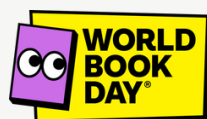
School Events



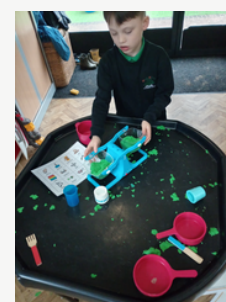
A NATURE WALK WITH HEY DUGGEE



This term the children have been exploring different events that are celebrated around the world. The main one we looked at was '**Comic Relief**'. The theme this year for Early Years was Hey Duggee, a programme that all the children seem to love. The mission this year was to go on a nature walk around Quex to do a sponsored walk, the children did amazing at this and managed to gain their 'fundraising badge' and 'nature badge' whilst raising money for a great cause, even the staff joined in and got stuck in the mud - thank you for all your support and donations.



Another fun event we explored together was '**World Book Day**' where all of the children got to come in in their favourite colours. We enjoyed reading new books in places we sometimes wouldn't read in. We took our books to the watering hole and read stories on the slides and swings.



We have also explored '**Science Week**', where we did an experiment on things that sink and things that float. We also did some experiments with exploring kinetic sand, what we can build with it and how we can play with it. We also made gloop and explored how it changes from a solid to a liquid!



Next Term:



We have our yearly '**mini London marathon**' that the children really enjoyed participating in last year. This will be on Tuesday 28th April, we start at Minnis Bay and end up in Reculver. Please make sure to pack sun cream, hats, water and a packed lunch.

Interview with

Josh!

BY STAN



If you would put any member of staff in the chokey, who would it be?

It would have to be Georgia and Ryan, give all the other members of staff some peace and quiet.

Would you rather have the hairiest legs or the hairiest arms?
Hairiest legs, easier to cover up.

How do you deal with disruptive students in your class?

I believe every behaviour is communication, you've just got to try and figure out the cause.

What do you think are the most important qualities of a good teaching assistant?
Patience and a calm persona.



What were you like at School?
I'd love to say I was an angel at school but that would be a lie. I had lessons that I loved, and lessons were I'd drift off into daydreams.

What was your first impression of Joe?

That he knows how to let his hair down when he's not at work.

What's your dream car?
Any car that doesn't break as much as my 23-year-old VW golf.

What was your first job?
I was a flooring installer for 6 years.

All the schools you've worked in what was your favourite?
Maple haven is the best school I've worked at, every child has so many opportunities to thrive.

How long have you been a teaching assistant?
5 years

Interview with ? Gemma! ? BY FAITH

What's a completely useless skill
you're weirdly proud of?
My useless skill is I'm very good at
falling over.

How would you describe the
colour Gold to a blind person?
Shimmery and rich.

If you won the lottery, what
would you do with the money? It
depends on how much I won, but if
it was a lot a house and would
share with family and friends.

If you could travel instantly
anywhere right now where would
it be?
Jamacia

What one word would you
use to describe the smell of a
rotten egg? Savage

Would you rather fight 1 horse-
sized duck or 100 duck-sized
horses? 100 duck sized horses.
Ducks are scary



Who would win a battle between a
ninja and a pirate? A pirate
especially if it Captain Jack
Sparrow.

What is a topic you could rant
about for 10 minutes? Arsenal
winning trophies this season.

Who's more annoying; Josh or
Ryan? I cant answer that LOL.

If you could be any animal, what
would you be? A Tiger.