

Here I Am!

Who am I and where do I live?

Reception Newsletter

Term 1 2025

Dear Parents,

We wish all of you a warm welcome to Maple Class!

Our topic for this first term is 'Here I Am!'. This topic provides us with a really great start to our journey of getting to know one another. We will be reading a range of texts such as 'From Head to Toe', 'What Makes Me a Me', 'The Great Big Book of Families', 'Incredible You' and 'Different is a Great Thing to Be'. We will be exploring who we are as people and our place in the world. We will think about our families and where we live. We are so looking forward to sharing the photographs you have kindly provided us with. We will be learning about our immediate environment, slowly getting to know all of the school building and the grounds. Alongside this, we will be working on counting, number recognition, and recognising amounts. We will also be developing our foundation understanding of letters and sounds. We will be using a fantastic phonics programme called Little Wandle. Please visit the parent information page on their website to find out more about this. (<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>) We will be hosting a reading meeting to provide more information and support to parents in the latter half of this term but do not hesitate to ask us any questions you may have in the meantime.

Reading	Your child will bring books home each week. One of these books will be a Little Wandle book and it will remain the same all week. The idea is that it is shared repeatedly to give your child confidence and fluency. The other books will be more regularly changed. It is essential that the book wallets are returned each day as we will be using these books in reading sessions. Please do share books with your child as often as you can. Initially, the books that you will share will not have any words in them. At this stage, it is really helpful to encourage your child to use the pictures to tell stories. You can record your reading sessions using the Boom Reader app, just as we will be at school. This is a brilliant way of us sharing your child's reading journey with each other.
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Little Wandle Letters & Sounds	Each week, the Little Wandle planning will be shared with you in your child's homework book. You will be able to see which sounds and which tricky words they will be working on that week. Please use this information to support your child when they are sharing books with you. If you need support in knowing how to say the letter sounds, please use the video clip recommended below. We have noticed that those children who are aware of the sounds that we will be covering benefit greatly from this knowledge. It can be really helpful to make phoneme flash cards to encourage familiarity. Later on in the year, we will begin to send home tricky word flashcards for you to share with your child.
Maths	We use a variety of different schemes, including White Rose Maths and Maths Mastery. The maths we will be covering each week will also be outlined in the weekly homework letter. Please support your child by counting with them at every opportunity and by playing games with them that involve counting and matching.

Quick Reminders

- Please can you make sure your child brings in a named **water bottle** and their **book bag** each day.
- Please ensure that your child brings in a waterproof each day. We play outside in most weathers!
- Our regular PE days are Monday and Thursday. The children will change for PE at school and their PE bags must be in school all term. They will be returned at the end of each term for washing.
- Please ensure that your child has a **full change of clothes** in a named plastic bag. We have some clothing spares but they tend to run out quickly! All clothing must be named!
- On Forest School days, we would like children to arrive at school in their Forest School clothes. Please also ensure that they have waterproofs and wellington boots in a bag. Do not send reading books or other materials in their bags on these days as they have a long way to carry them!

Home Learning

We encourage children to continue their learning at home which will enhance their progress at school.

Phonics – If you are supporting your child with their phonics at home, please visit

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ksblMiliA8> to ensure you are teaching the pronunciation of the sounds in the same way.

Useful websites

For phonics: <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources>

For maths: <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/>

We hope you all have a lovely first term supporting the children in their learning and please do not hesitate to come and speak to us if you have any questions.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Boldero, Mrs Perry, Miss Bews and Mrs Whyte



'Here I Am'

Learning Map

What are we learning this term?

<p>Literacy</p> 	<p>Stories</p> <p>LO: I can listen to stories and respond to what I have heard.</p> <p>LO: I can recall key events in a story</p> <p>LO: I can discuss my favourite stories</p>	<p>Phase 1 & 2</p> <p>LO: I can play Phase 1 Phonic Games</p> <p>LO: I can learn some Phase 2 Sounds</p> <p>LO: I can begin to identify and write some Phase 2 Sounds</p>
<p>Maths</p> 	<p>Match, sort & compare</p> <p>LO: I can identify and match objects</p> <p>LO: I can reliably count to 10 objects</p> <p>LO: I can sort objects into categories</p>	<p>Measure and Pattern</p> <p>LO: I can compare size</p> <p>LO: I can explore mass and capacity</p> <p>LO: I can create patterns</p> <p>LO: I can continue patterns</p>
<p>EAD</p> 	<p>LO: I can explore songs and rhymes</p> <p>LO: I can engage with imaginative play</p> <p>LO: I can create a self-portrait.</p> <p>LO: I can learn about famous artists like Picasso and Frieda Kahlo.</p> <p>LO: I can experiment with different materials and techniques.</p>	
<p>UtW</p> 	<p>Where do I live?</p> <p>LO: I can familiarise myself with my new school.</p> <p>LO: I can discuss my family and my home.</p> <p>LO: I can understand that some homes can be different to mine.</p>	<p>Who am I?</p> <p>LO: I can talk about how I have changed since I was a baby.</p> <p>LO: I can talk about the things that are important to me.</p> <p>LO: I can talk about myself, my family and my home.</p>
<p>Physical Development</p> 	<p>Fine Motor</p> <p>LO: I can begin to hold a pencil comfortably.</p> <p>LO: I can begin to mark make</p> <p>LO: I can represent my name</p>	<p>Gross Motor</p> <p>LO: I can move in a variety of ways.</p> <p>LO: I can use a balance bike.</p> <p>LO: I can change my clothes ready for a PE lesson.</p> 
<p>PSED</p> 	<p>Valuing Difference</p> <p>LO: I can learn about the people in my school.</p> <p>LO: I can celebrate what makes each person unique.</p> <p>LO: I can recognise that we can have things in common with others.</p>	<p>Classroom Rules</p> <p>LO: I can help make the classroom rules.</p> <p>LO: I can observe the rules we have made.</p> <p>LO: I can learn about our classroom Mood Monsters.</p> <p>LO: I can build friendships</p>
<p>Communication & Language</p> 	<p>Discussions</p> <p>LO: I can follow instructions with more than one part.</p> <p>LO: I can listen appropriately.</p> <p>LO: I can turn-take in class discussions.</p> <p>LO: I can turn take in games</p> <p>LO: I can begin to speak in full sentences.</p>	<p>Sharing Stories & Drama</p> <p>LO: I can respond to the stories I hear.</p> <p>LO: I can engage with imaginative play.</p> <p>LO: I can tell stories in my own words.</p>