



Maple Newsletter



It has been such a busy and exciting half term in Class Maple and it has really flown by! This term has seen the annual fete, Christmas Capers, the Carols by Candlelight Service in the church and the Christmas productions, which were a great success. We have also had our delicious Christmas lunch this week and earlier in the term, the children enjoyed presenting their ancient Egyptian projects that they worked so hard on.

I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and a very happy new year. I look forward to seeing everyone back in 2015!

English

In English this term we learned about explanations and instructions. We identified the features of the two text types and then compared them. After looking at and annotating several examples of both instructions and explanations we then thought about their use of punctuation. Finally we started to create instructions for how to build a flying boat after watching a short animation featuring such an invention. We also learned about some examples of classic poetry.

"We wrote explanations for crazy inventions such as the 'Doggie Luggage'. We then presented them in front of the class. It was like the programme, 'Dragon's Den' as Mr Bray decided whether or not to invest in our inventions." Joanna.

Maths

In Maths we have developed our mental and written methods for multiplication, division, addition and subtraction. We also learned how to find fractions of amounts and to calculate ratio and proportion.

"We learned how to convert cm into m, m into km and km into miles. We also added and subtracted decimal numbers." Mansi.

"We have been working on our multiplication skills by taking times tables quizzes where we have to answer 81 questions in five minutes. If you get 70 or more on three separate occasions, you get to move onto the next level. There are four different levels - bronze, silver, gold and platinum." Alex.

Carols by Candlelight

During the Carols by Candlelight service at Bourn Church, a group of Class Maple children staged a small performance to commemorate the Christmas Day truce of 1914, one hundred years ago.

"At Carols by Candlelight I delivered a reading about the moment when the wise men saw the star and decided to follow to see the baby Jesus." Ella Mae.



Ancient Egypt

In our Enrichment Curriculum lessons this half term we have learned more about the ancient Egyptian civilization.



"In our Egyptian topic we wrote a new article about what it would have been like to walk into an Egyptian tomb. We also learned about Tutankhamun." Maja.

Christmas Capers

For this year's Christmas Capers, everyone in Class Maple was asked to take on some extra responsibilities as the oldest children in the school. We all contributed, helping to set up and run stalls and organise different events.

"At Christmas Capers, I helped in one of the stalls - the 'Lucky Dip'. I was there for the whole day to run the stall and count up the money. Our stall raised over £30." Athiene.

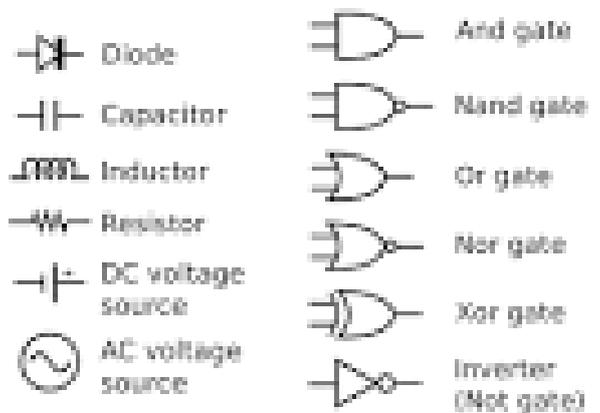
"There was also a games room and a Santa's grotto. I was in the games room running the snowball game." Jordan.



Science

In Science this half term we have been learning about electricity and circuits. We carried out a number of investigations to discover what might impact on the brightness of a bulb in a circuit. We also learned the different symbols for each of the different components in a circuit so that we could draw accurate diagrams to show our results.

"We learned about electrical circuits and how to tell if they are broken." Marcus.



Other Comments

PE: *"We have been learning to play hockey and have practised our cycling."* Joe.

Art: *"We made some stamps. First we got a sheet of cardboard and then we put some polystyrene on it in the shape of Egyptian hieroglyphs. Next we painted them in different colours and stamped them on a large piece of paper."* Sam.

Music: *"We learned about music from all over the world, including Australian Aboriginal music, Brazilian Samba music and music from Ghana, West Africa."* Izzie.

Computing: *"I used Scratch to make an animation of two boys having a conversation."* Evan.

Coming up next term:

- Class Maple Assembly - Friday 16th January.
- Half term - Monday 16th February.