

Maths

At Great Horwood, we follow the White Rose Maths scheme, using their mixed aged planning to support our pupils. Over the course of the Spring term, Maples Class will be learning:

- **Number – Multiplication and division (B)**
- **Measurement – Length and perimeter**
- **Number - Fractions (A)**
- **Measurement – Mass and Capacity**
- **Number – Fractions (B)**

Religious Education

This half term in RE, Maples explore **community and identity (worldviews)** through the question

What is the Qur'an and why do many Muslims try to learn it by heart?

In this unit, pupils will learn how Muslims treat the Qur'an as a sacred text, the significance of the Night of Power, and the impact of learning the Qur'an on Muslim life. Pupils will also compare Muslim beliefs about the Qur'an with Christian and Jewish sacred texts and explore key teachings of the Qur'an and their influence on Muslims' lives.

Physical Education

Pupils will develop skills in **volleyball** and **dance**. In volleyball, taught by a Sports4All coach, pupils will practise basic skills including throwing, catching, underarm passing, striking the ball, movement, and teamwork. In dance, taught by the class teacher, pupils will perform and create dances using a range of movement patterns and sequences, following step-by-step demonstrations, working individually and in groups, and developing creativity.

What an Incredible Earth!

Maples (Year 3 and 4)

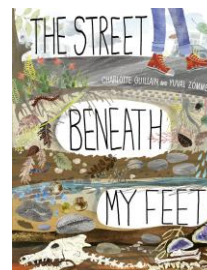
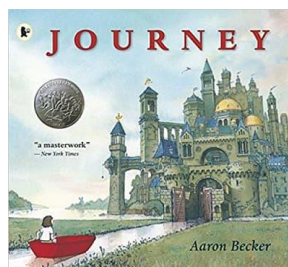
Spring 1 2026

English

Writing texts:

In English lessons, we will be exploring the following texts:

- ***The Street Beneath My Feet*** by Charlotte Guillain and Yuval Zommer
- ***Journey*** by Aaron Becker



Writing Opportunities:

- Persuasive writing
- Kenning Poem
- Recount – Science experiment

Class reads:

The Journey by Francesca Sanna, The Matchbox Diary by Paul Fleischman, The Lorax by Dr Suess and Fantastic Mr Fox by Roald Dahl.

Science

This half term in Science, Maples will be learning about:

Forces & Space: Forces and Magnets.

In this unit, pupils will learn about forces, including pushes, pulls, twists, friction, and contact and non-contact forces. They will explore magnetism by identifying magnetic materials, understanding attraction and repulsion, comparing types and strengths of magnets, and learning about their uses.

Geography

In Geography, we will be exploring the question:

“What is life like in the Alps?”

In this unit, pupils will learn the location and key features of the Alps, why people visit them, and what life is like there. Pupils will also compare the Alps with their local area, including activities and ways of life.

Spanish

In Spanish, we will be learning about:

“Pets and Colours.”

In this unit, pupils will learn vocabulary for pets and colours. They will ask and answer questions about pets, recognise and name colours, translate and write descriptive sentences about animals using correct adjective order, and apply language detective skills to understand and predict meaning in a story.

Design and Technology

In DT this half term, Maples will be learning about **“Mechanical systems—making a slingshot car.”**

They will explore key design developments in the history of automobiles, investigate how mechanical systems affect movement, and measure and compare the performance of different cars. Pupils will design, make, and evaluate a slingshot car by drawing annotated sketches and exploded diagrams, using appropriate tools and materials, conducting market research, setting design criteria, testing against these criteria, and refining designs based on feedback. Assess the product against the design criteria.

Music: Creating Compositions - Response to an Animation

Pupils will create compositions in response to an animation. They will describe how music makes them feel, use movement to reflect different sections, play in time with awareness of others, explore dynamics, and perform melodies and rhythms to accompany and represent the animation.

Instrumental Lessons (Spring) – Recorder Project

Pupils will continue the Recorder Project with weekly 30-minute lessons, using free recorders and music books to develop their playing skills, musical understanding, and confidence.

Music Listening

Grieg: Hall of the Mountain; King Mussorgsky: Night on a Bare mountain; Rutter: For the beauty of the Earth.

Character Education and British Values

Our character education values for Spring 1 are: *cleanliness, fairness and friendliness*

The British Value we will be focusing on in Spring 1 is *Rule of Law*.

Sustainability

Pupils will explore the theme *“I speak for the trees?”* through the story **The Lorax**. They will compare events in the story with real-world deforestation, identify causes and effects, explore how forests are being protected and restored, and consider actions they can take to help.

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Art and Design

Pupils will study **Craft and Design: Fabric of Nature**.

They will develop observational drawing skills, use colour and imagery to create mood boards, and explore pattern and repetition. Pupils will learn about the work and style of William Morris, create and refine repeating patterns inspired by research, and understand different methods of printed fabric design. Sketchbooks will be used to evaluate ideas and develop designs for products.

Diversity and Inclusion

Pupils will learn about diversity and inclusion through themes including racism and beliefs, National Storytelling Week (using diverse texts within the Super 6), LGBT+ History Month, and International Women’s Day.

Enrichment (Spring 1)

- 22nd January - Pantomime
- 3rd February - Key Stage 2 Netball Tournament

Computing and Online Safety

Pupils will study **Data Handling: Investigating Weather**. They will search the web efficiently to find and record weather data, use spreadsheets to organise forecast information, and understand how this data is collected. Pupils will design a weather station and an automated system that responds to sensor data, and create a video presenting weather forecast information.

E-safety:

Our E-safety unit this half term, pupils will explore **Sharing Information**, learning how personal information can be shared online and how to do so safely and responsibly.

PSHE

This half term in PSHE, Maples will be learning about **“Citizenship”**

Pupils will learn about human rights and their importance, environmental responsibility through reusing items, and the range of groups within the wider community. They will understand how community groups support different interests, how diversity strengthens communities, and the role of local councillors.

Pupil Safety and Safeguarding (Spring)

Across the Spring term, Maples will learn about **safety and safeguarding**, including pet and animal safety, internet safety, NSPCC workshops, water safety (practical in the pool), and understanding and responding to verbal abuse.