



YEAR 4 –MAPLE

LEARNING LETTER

Rowan: Mr Cosgrove, Miss Graham

Maple: Miss Roberts, Mrs Ormerod

Spring Term 2025

Mathematics

In Mathematics this term Year 4 children will study: 3D shapes, multiplication, division and place value (decimals and negative numbers).

Looking at 3D shapes, we will focus on pyramids and prisms, understanding their properties and how to identify them using key vocabulary such as edges, vertices and faces. Year 4 will use multiplication facts to complete number sequences. Using our knowledge of decimals, we will be practicing doubling. To consolidate the grid method, we will be multiplying 1 digit numbers by 3 digit numbers and using the inverse to check answers.

Later in the term, we will be learning how to half odd and even numbers in our division unit. Using the chunking method, we will divide numbers with remainders using estimation and inverse to check our answers.

We will learn to read and write numbers up to 2 decimal places including ordering, rounding and comparing decimal numbers and to count backwards through 0 including ordering temperatures using negative numbers. We will look further into our learning on multiplication, division, addition and subtraction including problems involving money.

English

In English this term, Year 4 children will cover several units. We will explore issues and dilemmas through 'Wallace and Gromit – A Matter of Loaf and Death' as well as learning about key features of persuasion texts.

Later in the term, we will explore information texts, including explanation persuasion, poetry and narrative story openings. We will be focusing on the book 'The Last Bear'.

Take a look at our class pages to see what we have been working on:

<https://www.lowerhousejunior.co.uk/year-4-rowan/> <https://www.lowerhousejunior.co.uk/year-4-maple/>

Our grammar focus will be on fronted adverbials to create some detailed setting descriptions. We will be creating our own fantasy setting to write our own versions of the story.

Children will be able to:

- Listen, view and identify key points in a text.
- Discuss events using a film text.
- Use drama techniques to explore events, character actions and feelings.
- Raise and answer questions orally and in writing.
- Identify key events and storyboard the main points.
- Identify characters, setting and events.
- Specify points and use evidence from the text to justify opinions.
- Summarise key points from across a text and justify with reasons.
- Identify effective words and phrases.

Guided Reading

Children will participate in at least four 30-minute guided reading sessions a week.

Guided Reading is a classroom activity in which pupils are taught active strategies for improving their reading. The teacher will lead the class on a text carefully selected to offer an appropriate level of challenge and interest. The books selected are of appropriate content for the year group.

Challenge may be in terms of reading cues and strategies, language and vocabulary, or sophisticated aspects of grammar, inference, skimming and scanning. At Lowerhouse Junior School, the Guided Reading lesson forms an important part of our strategy to raise standards in all areas of literacy. Guided Reading time allows teachers and children to share a period of sustained reading that will lead the way to confident independent, interpretive reading.

Group reading can offer opportunities for:

- observing, recording, reporting and assessing children’s reading strategies and behaviours and keeping track of progress;
- teaching reading strategies for different kinds of reading – e.g. plays, narrative poetry, information texts, as well as novels;
- regular practice in tackling unfamiliar – and familiar – print;
- establishing confidence;
- talking about texts – with and without an adult;
- tackling challenging texts in a spirit of communal support;
- noting where readers might be guided next in their reading choices;
- giving a high profile to reading as a valuable and public activity;
- linking reading, writing and talk.

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Topic

In Science we will be looking states of matter including the processes of melting and freezing. We will also look at the water cycle and the role played by evaporation and condensation. Later in the term, we will be learning about how sound is made, how to conduct and amplify sounds as well as how sound travels. We will learn the difference between volume and pitch.

In Geography, we are investigating how rivers are formed linked to the water cycle as well as developing a knowledge of Egyptian waterways.

In History, we will examine why waterways were so significant for ancient civilisations. We will focus on The River Nile and how it was essential to the success of the Ancient Egyptians. Using timelines, maps and research, we will compare the uses of The River Nile in ancient and modern Egypt.

In Art, we are exploring 'The Great Wave'. We are going to use collaging techniques to create a water/sea scape image using tearing, overlapping and layering.

In DT, we will be linking our learning to History by making mechanisms (levers) that imitate how stones were lifted for building pyramids.

Homework

Year 4 are required to complete times table practice at least once a week. We also run Battle of the Bands each week with the top 3 players in each class receiving certificates. Please see the letter on the school class webpages for more information about the Year 4 Multiplication Check. To access TTRS please use the link below. If you have any problems accessing TTRS, please speak to your child's class teacher.

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school>

Please note: Reading books will be checked on a Monday morning and changed throughout the week as they are returned. A child will not be allowed to change their reading book unless their home school reading books are signed by an adult. All reading books must be in school every day so they are available if an adult needs to read with your child in school. Please help us to help your child by supporting the completion of homework at home.

Spelling

The children will have spelling lessons 3 times a week. They will take home a list of spellings every Monday, to practice for a spelling quiz on the Friday.

Music

Music is taught using the Charanga scheme. We will be covering the 'Stop' and 'Lean on me' units.

French

Throughout the Spring term, we will be learning how to talk about animals and colours.

PE

Rowan: PE every Friday. Swimming every Tuesday until February half term, after which they will have PE on Tuesday instead.

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Maple: PE on Tuesday and Friday. After February half term, our Tuesday PE lesson will be replaced by swimming.

Children should come to school in their PE kit on the days that they have PE. On swimming days, children should be dressed in school uniform and bring their swimming kit in a suitable waterproof bag.

RE

During Spring 1, we will be learning about Sikhism, focusing on the 5K's, equality and the Gurdwara. In Spring 2 we will move on to looking at Christianity again, this time focusing on Jesus and the sacrifices he made.

Extra Information

Thank you for all your support. Please communicate with school should you have any questions or concerns about your child's learning or any other issue. This can be done by contacting the school office by telephone or email (admin@lowerhouse.lancs.sch.uk) to arrange a telephone appointment.

Your child's class teacher will add information to the class webpage fortnightly to update you with the range of lessons and activities that the children have been doing. Please ensure that all photograph permission slips and contact detail information is up to date.

Maple class page: <https://www.lowerhousejunior.co.uk/year-4-maple/>

Rowan class page: <https://www.lowerhousejunior.co.uk/year-4-rowan/>

Class Dojo

Please sign up to Class Dojo via the QR code shared with your children. This will enable you to see all the fantastic learning taking place in your child's class.



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