

Maple Class Newsletter Spring 2 2023

We hope you have all had a restful and enjoyable break, and are ready for a rather short half term as we approach Easter. We hope the following information will be useful to you as the term progresses.

Maths

Our Maths topics for this half term include: comparing and ordering numbers with up to three decimal places; adding and subtracting decimal numbers; rounding decimal numbers to the nearest tenth and whole number; converting and comparing fractions, decimals and percentages; calculating percentages of amounts; investigating the properties of regular polygons; and also identifying, measuring, drawing and calculating angles.

English

We will complete our studies of *Street Child* by Berlie Doherty by the end of Week 2 before going on to study a short picture book called *Varmints* by Helen Ward and Marc Craste, which is a mysterious tale of a threatened natural world and a hopeful new start!

Spellings

We have uploaded the weekly lists for this half term onto the Year 5 class page on the website for your information and to help you to support your child's learning at home. As usual, a new spelling list will be given to the children each Monday and they will be tested every Friday.

Topic

Our new Topic is entitled *Why Visit North America?* Our studies will include investigating: the different countries which are in the continent of North America; the difference between physical and human geography; the industries which are most important to North America; the meaning behind some nicknames such as 'The Land of the Midnight Sun' and 'America's Breadbasket'; and also the meaning behind the fifty stars and thirteen stripes of the flag of the USA.

Science

Our next Science topic is *Life Cycles* and will include: comparing the life cycles of different mammals and also of amphibians and insects; naming the different



parts of a flower and their role in reproduction; and also investigating the work of Jane Goodall with endangered chimps.

Homework

Our current set of Home Learning Challenges is due to be returned to school by Friday 21st April.

In addition to the HLC's, there is also an expectation that children in Year 5 read for at least 15 minutes each day together with learning their weekly spellings.

Fluency in times tables is the cornerstone of maths success so any time spent practising times tables at home - perhaps using Times Tables Rockstars - is time well spent.

Home Reading Books

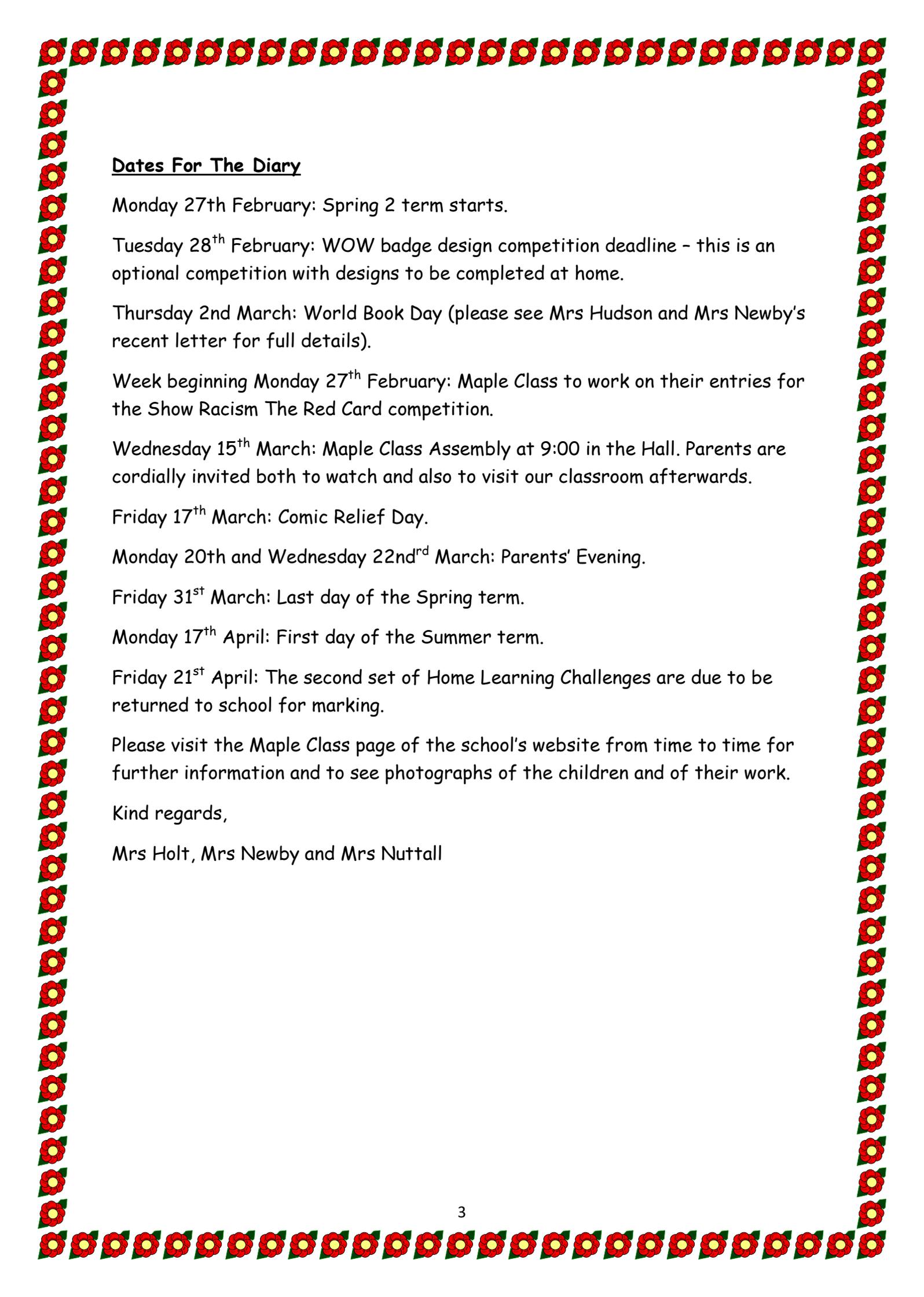
Our Home Reading Books are changed each Friday and this half term, we have decided to introduce a Home Reading Reward Scheme to link with World Book Day. Each Friday your child brings their 'old' reading book together with their Reading Record, signed by an adult, they will earn a stamp in the back of their Reading Record.

There are five weeks in the Spring 2 half term and if your child **earns four stamps before the start of the Easter holiday, they will be rewarded with four merits**. If your child earns **five stamps**, they will be rewarded with **five merits PLUS an additional playtime!** Please help your child to successfully participate by reminding them to bring their reading book and signed reading record every Friday.

P.E.

P.E. lessons will continue to take place on Wednesday and on Thursday afternoons; both sessions will be with our professional coaches. The children will be practising their jag tag and basketball skills.

We have noticed that a significant number of children regularly forget either their entire or a significant piece of the PE kit (for example, trainers) and we respectfully request that you ensure that your child has their full kit on our PE days; thank you!



Dates For The Diary

Monday 27th February: Spring 2 term starts.

Tuesday 28th February: WOW badge design competition deadline - this is an optional competition with designs to be completed at home.

Thursday 2nd March: World Book Day (please see Mrs Hudson and Mrs Newby's recent letter for full details).

Week beginning Monday 27th February: Maple Class to work on their entries for the Show Racism The Red Card competition.

Wednesday 15th March: Maple Class Assembly at 9:00 in the Hall. Parents are cordially invited both to watch and also to visit our classroom afterwards.

Friday 17th March: Comic Relief Day.

Monday 20th and Wednesday 22ndrd March: Parents' Evening.

Friday 31st March: Last day of the Spring term.

Monday 17th April: First day of the Summer term.

Friday 21st April: The second set of Home Learning Challenges are due to be returned to school for marking.

Please visit the Maple Class page of the school's website from time to time for further information and to see photographs of the children and of their work.

Kind regards,

Mrs Holt, Mrs Newby and Mrs Nuttall