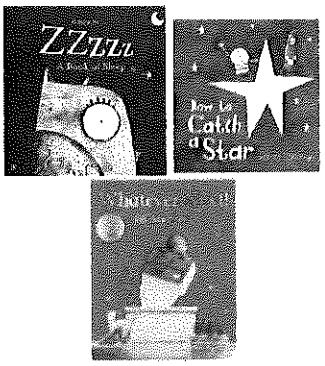
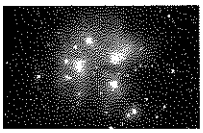
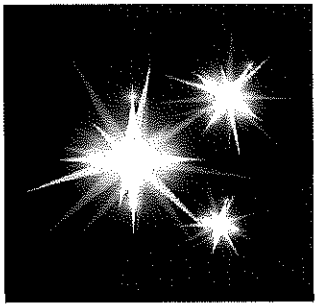
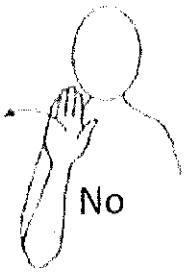
Week beginning: 16th November 2026

This week in Maple

Book of the week:	Rhyme of the week:	Happy Thought:	Sign of the week:
ZZZ A Book of Sleep , How to Catch a Star , Whatever Next 	Twinkle Twinkle Little Star 	Shine like a star! 	No 

In Maths we will be:

- Exploring repeating patterns using claps, taps and simple action sequences.
- Subitising small groups of stars (1–4) during our Twinkle Twinkle star drop activity.
- Recognising small quantities (1–3) in quick reveal games such as Cars in the Tunnel.
- Using finger patterns to show numbers without counting.
- Sorting classroom objects by colour, size, type or texture, and returning them to the correct areas.
- Taking turns in simple comparison games, such as rolling cars down a ramp to see which travels the furthest.

In Phonics we will be:

- Developing our visual memory, remembering where objects and picture pairs are hidden in simple games.
- Listening carefully to sound-talk, identifying instruments by their initial sounds with Rosy Robot.
- Matching sounds to visual cues using Len's Footsteps characters such as the mouse, fairy, lion and giant.
- Taking turns with instrument games, copying sound patterns and responding to what we hear.

Learning opportunities:

This week in our enhanced and continuous provision, the children will have opportunities to:

- Explore mark making with black sand, coloured paper and black playdough.
- Enjoy space-themed small world play linked to our stories.
- Investigate light and dark using dark dens and torches.
- Count and sort objects such as stars by colour, size and texture.
- Work together on large construction, including building a rocket.
- Create large-scale artwork with black paper and white paint rollers.
- Use Busy Things on the interactive whiteboard, taking turns and solving simple problems.

Help at Home:

Why not try exploring light and dark at home this week? You could:

- Go on a little torch hunt around a dark room — shine the light on objects and see what you can find.
- Look out of the window at night-time together and talk about what you can see (stars, moon, streetlights, shadows).
- Make your own dark den using blankets and cushions, then explore it with a torch.
- Read a story in a cosy dark space using a night-light or torch.

These simple activities help children understand night-time, shadows, and how light changes what we can see, all part of our learning this week.

We are here to help. If you have any questions or concerns, please talk to your child's keyworker or any of the staff in Maple.