

Kindness and Co-operation	Thankfulness	Friendship and Sharing	Respect	Unity	Responsibility
Hope and Peace	Patience and	Trust and Honesty	Happiness	Courage	



**MAPLE TREE**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Climbing the branches of success

## Newsletter

Friday 10th September 2021



### MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

Welcome to our first newsletter of the new school year! Whether you are a current parent, or a new parent, I hope that you will find the information here useful as it is my intention to keep you up to date with things happening in and around school. If you know of parents who have not signed up for parentmail and are therefore not receiving this, please ask them to contact the school office. If you are new to the school and are unsure of how things work then please also contact the school office for further information.

#### Learning to Learn

As a headteacher, the most important thing to me is teaching, learning and ensuring the children are making progress. I am passionate about what goes on both in the classrooms and on the playground and as such it has been so lovely to welcome the children back to the new year and to meet our new youngest pupils. I have spent time in all classes this week and have been so impressed with how quickly they have settled into new routines and are already showing high levels of engagement in their learning. Well done to the children and to the staff who are creating some amazing learning opportunities for the children. I have included some of my highlights below:

**Year 6** - High levels of motivation and engagement in Year 6 during maths and English lessons and a rapidly growing curiosity for their new learning.

**Year 5** - Some fantastic writing already with pupils showing a great mindset, they are happy to share their work aloud and take supportive comments to enable them to improve; a very mature attitude.

**Year 4** - It has been lovely to visit the Year 4 on different occasions this week and to see the children considering their aspirations for the year - they could articulate the reasons for their choices and made realistic but challenging targets for themselves. I also saw some fantastic feats of dexterity as they began to make self-portraits in the style of a Roman mosaic - lots of patience as well!

**Year 3** - High levels of enjoyment and engagement in a maths lesson as the children created objects out of base 10 and then calculated what the object equaled overall - lots of great addition strategies going on here!

**Year 2** - It has been great to see the children getting straight into the cutting and sticking but also showing how fabulously they can clear up afterwards. Really taking responsibility for their own space within the classroom.

**Year 1** - Watching the children show really positive attitudes towards their learning and showing a sense of independence already.

**Reception** - The children have settled so well and were completely engaged in a variety of bright activities, learning skills that will help them independently in their learning - a great start!

**Mulberries** - Watching our youngest children adapt quickly to being with others and seeing them sharing without asking - fab!

**PE** - All classes have been thoroughly enjoying outdoor PE lessons with Miss Milne this week. It is good to see the children coming to school in their PE kits as this saves precious time in lessons and cuts down on the amount of lost property. Levels of motivation and active participation in this important curriculum area have been amazing.

There will be more to share in the coming weeks.

Have a lovely weekend.

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Head: Mrs Cath Bainbridge Deputy Head: Miss Amy Hyde

## Uniform

It has been wonderful seeing the children return looking smart wearing their Maple Tree uniforms with pride. We encourage all children to wear uniform at Maple Tree, as we believe that it creates a sense of belonging and identity for the children.

All the children are expected to wear navy trousers, shorts or skirts with a royal blue knitted jumper or cardigan. In Mulberries only, we also accept navy joggers or leggings. From Reception to Year 2 the children wear white polo shirts under their jumpers whereas from year 3 up the children wear white shirts with a clip on tie. Across the school, yellow or blue checked summer dresses are allowed in the warm weather. All children should be wearing smart black school shoes: no heels, trainers or strappy sandals allowed. Velcro fastenings are much appreciated in the younger years where pupils can't yet tie their own laces.

Our PE kit consists of: a yellow t-shirt, navy shorts, plain navy/black jumper and joggers and trainers for outdoor activities. Following feedback from staff, parents and children, we decided that children should come to school in their PE kit on the day that they have PE or a PE club, as this maximises the learning time and decreases the amount of lost uniform.

At the parent forum last year, these uniform expectations were discussed and I wanted to make you aware of our new procedures that staff will follow if the children are not in correct uniform. In the first instance, teachers will have an informal conversation with the parents on pick up/drop off (or phone call) to discuss expectations. Personal circumstances are considered and there is support from the school available, if needed. After this, teachers will send home a pre-written letter, outlining the correct uniform procedure from their key stage leader.

To find out more details on our school uniform rules, please see our [website](#).



### DATES FOR THE DIARY

**Monday 20th Sept 9am KS1** Meet the teacher

**Tuesday 21st Sept 9am LKS2** Meet the teacher

**Wednesday 22nd Sep 9am UKS2** Meet the Teacher

**Wednesday 20th October** Parents' Evening

**Thursday 21st October** Parents' Evening

**Week beg 25th October** Half Term Week

**Monday 1st November** Term starts

**Friday 19th November** Children in Need

**Friday 17th December** Term Ends



## MEET THE TEACHER

This is an opportunity for you to come along and hear about the expectations on your child(ren) during their school day and to see what they are learning this year.

**KS1 Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September 9.00 – 9.30am**

**LKS2 Tuesday 21st September 9.00 – 9.30am**

**UKS2 Wednesday 22nd September 9.00 - 9.30am**

These will be held in the school hall. We ask that only one parent from each family attends and that you wear a mask when you are in the building.

Further information will be provided nearer the time.

The presentations will be uploaded onto the website following these meetings for parents who are unable to attend due to work commitments.

## Maple Tree School Priorities 2021-2022

This year we are focusing on a number of key elements which will drive us to ensuring that the children are given the best learning experiences at Maple Tree. Our School Development Plan outlines, in detail, the actions we will take and provides milestones to allow us to confirm we are making great impact in a timely manner. We will share more of this with you in the coming weeks but for now our key priorities for this year are:

- Ensure robust leadership at every level in measuring effectiveness of all aspects of teaching, learning and the curriculum.
- A culture of challenge runs throughout the curriculum, children are cognitively stretched to achieve the highest outcomes and develop into resilient and determined life-long learners.
- Uphold strong values and vision whilst supporting the physical, mental and emotional health and wellbeing of pupils and staff.
- To embed the new statutory framework in the Early Years to ensure quality teaching, learning and assessment within pre-school and Reception.



***Everyone a leader...everyone a learner.***

Thank you to you all for sticking to the one way system around the school site. We realise that with more parents arriving at the same time this has the opportunity to cause a bottle neck through the back gate. We will watch this carefully and will review these measures at the end of September. Thank you for your continued support.

### Term Time Holidays

We have recently updated our Attendance Policy and will share this with you in the next couple of weeks but in the meantime I would like to remind all parents that the law gives no entitlement to parents to take their children on holiday during term time.

As a headteacher, I can only authorise absences for holidays, or related activities, if there are 'exceptional circumstances'. Our policy will include more information as to what this entails and how to go about submitting a request.

Please do not take any holidays in term time to avoid misunderstanding.

### Values Education

At Maple Tree we strive to educate the whole child. With this in mind, along with academic study, Values education supports the spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects of learning. Having a strong core set of values ensures that our children and staff feel each value has a positive impact on our school and the wider community.

**This month we value...**

*Kindness and Co-operation*

Kindness is about treating others in the way we would like to be treated as well as having compassion and empathy for those less fortunate than ourselves.

Co-operation is the ability to ensure we are working together.

We look forward to sharing with you how the children show kindness and cooperation in September.

Please do share examples from home with us too. We love to celebrate achievements - no matter how small.

## Marvellous me

We love sharing positive updates from the classroom through the app marvellous me.

All accounts are the same as last year but please see your child's class teacher for a joining letter if you haven't yet joined.

