

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 1st October 2021



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

It has certainly turned very autumnal this week and we have all noticed the temperature drop, however, we still need to have windows open in the classrooms to allow through-ventilation and the air temperature, therefore, can be quite cool. Please make sure your child has their jumper with them at all times.

I usually like to communicate the positives with you but this week I need to share that, unfortunately, Mrs Ewen - our Pupil Wellbeing Worker - is leaving. She has been with us for many years but has made the decision to retire - and who can blame her! Mrs Ewen has worked with many children since she started at Maple Tree and has, without question, left a positive mark on all those she has come into contact with both in her role as Teaching Assistant and over the last few years as our Pupil Wellbeing Worker. Thank you Mrs Ewen for all you have done; you will be very much missed by staff and children and I am sure you will all join with me in wishing her all the very best for the future.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Risk Assessment Updates - Please read!

We carefully follow the current statistics for both our locality and within our school and this then enables us to calculate the risks that we face in the light of the ongoing pandemic. We are so very grateful to all parents for the support that you have shown with the measures that we have had in place. It is very difficult to remember some of the ways we had before this started but we do want to continue to move forwards and remove systems that are no longer necessary.

With this in mind, **from Monday, the one way system around the outside of the school is no longer needed.** Both gates will be open and you will be able to come and go through whichever gate is easiest for you. I would ask, please, that you do **not arrive before 8.45am so that we do not have large groups congregating on the playground.** Classroom doors will continue to open at 8:45 for Year 5-6, 8.55am for Years 1-4, and now 9:00am for Reception and Pre-school. **We ask you to drop off your older children first,** before those in Reception or Preschool, which should help queues forming for our youngest children.

Please be aware that there will be more activity at the front of the school at home time and if you drive onto the estate then it would be worth being a little more cautious of pedestrians. Please also **stick to the paths at the front - no one should be walking across the car park;** there may be cars that are leaving site at the same time.

The **front and back gates will be manned in the morning** for now and the **front gate will also have a member of staff on duty at the end of the day.** The **back gate will not be manned at the end of the day.**

As always there is a note of caution, and should there be an increase in positive cases then we will review the measures we have in place. Thank you for your continued support.

Everyone a Leader...Everyone a Learner



Leadership should play an active role in promoting strong core values and vision and demonstrating principles which support and guide learners to become the best version of themselves. Leaders should be acutely aware of what the end goal is and the steps needed to achieve it. They should be able to evaluate processes and adapt accordingly. Last week we looked at how we are all learners within our school community, no matter what our role. This week we share with you how we are developing leadership at all levels this year:

Curriculum Leadership is a key priority for us this year and as such we are investing time into ensuring that the subjects that we offer at Maple Tree enable the children to embed the knowledge and skills they need across the school. We will be working together to identify the 'golden threads' that pull the curriculum together so that the curriculum as a whole 'makes sense'; it is not just a set of themes that could be taught in isolation. We will spend a large amount of our staff training time creating this pathway and will share this with you all on completion later this year.

Subject Leadership is another core area that we intend to develop this year. We are creating Curriculum Teams so that the oversight of a subject is shared amongst a small group who have a passion for, or experience of, that particular subject. This will enable us to focus on breadth of the subject as well as our statutory obligations.

Parent Partnerships are also important to us and leaders are working hard on the feedback that you gave us in our most recent survey and will share that with you next week. We will also start up our Parent Forum after half term - more information will come out about that in the next couple of weeks too.

And finally, **children as leaders**. Children are never too young to learn how to lead; we readily promote child-led learning in Early Years. They have the values to help them to support others as they become older. We develop children as leaders in a number of ways across the school. Last week we introduced you to our House Captains. We also have representatives from each class who sit on our School Parliament or who are members of the Eco Warriors. We have Playground Buddies and sports leaders etc. Later this term I will be introducing a Junior Leadership Team into UKS2 who will help to shape the outcomes in our School Development Plan. These are discrete leadership opportunities however, all the children are encouraged to lead their own learning - to hold in their sights the vision we are all trying to achieve whilst using skills learnt and embedded. Our children thrive on being responsible, trustworthy and dedicated individuals. They love to take on responsibilities and lead by example.

It is a privilege to be a leader and to know that you have the ability to shape the lives of others.

DATES FOR THE DIARY


Tuesday 5th October Individual photographs
Wednesday 20th October Parents' Evening
Thursday 21st October Parents' Evening
Week beg 25th October Half Term Week
Monday 1st November Term starts
Thursday 4th November 9.30am New Parent Tour
Tuesday 9th November 1.30pm New Parent Tour
Thursday 11th November FoMT Glow Discos
Monday 15th November Anti-bullying week
Friday 19th November Children in Need
Friday 25th November Year 6 Bletchley Park Trip
Tuesday 30th November 9.30am New Parent Tour
Saturday 4th December FoMT Christmas Fair
Thursday 9th December 1.30pm New Parent Tour
Friday 17th December Term Ends



Attendance Award

The best attendance award is presented to:



Mulberries (Pre-School) Blossoms 87% Berries 90%	Fir (YR) 86%
Yew (Y1) 89% 	Aspen (Y2) 87%
Hawthorn (Y3) 82%	Poplar (Y4) 85%
Rowan (Y4) 87%	Cherry (Y5) 78%
Elder (Y6) 86%	Our target is 97%

Headteacher Awards

This week the award is for...

being kind to others.



<p>★</p> <p>Fir Class:</p> <p>Callum ★ Aaron</p>	<p>Yew Class:</p> <p>Isaac ★</p>	<p>Aspen Class:</p> <p>Ronnie ★</p>
<p>Hawthorn Class:</p> <p>Katie ★</p>	<p>Rowan Class: ★</p> <p>Maggie</p>	<p>Poplar Class:</p> <p>Olivia</p>
<p>Cherry Class:</p> <p>Amelie ★</p>	<p>Elder Class: ★</p> <p>Pippa</p>	<p>WELL DONE!</p> <p>★</p>

This week's House Winners



Congratulations!

Friends of Maple Tree

This week the Friends of Maple Tree met for their AGM. It was great to hear some of the ideas they have for fundraising this year. We want to say a massive thank you to last year's committee for all their hard work in continuing with fundraising under extremely challenging circumstances.

The resources they purchased are fab (new books across the school, Y6 Leaver hoodies etc) and we are very grateful. We look forward to seeing what they achieve this year.

If you have an Amazon account then please consider signing up with Amazon smile as every purchase you make earns money for the school. Please sign up [here](#) and then type in Friends of Maple Tree. As they say, 'every little helps'.



Harvest Festival

Harvest Festival will be celebrated within school this Autumn with singing, poetry and learning about the festival's history. The classes from Reception to Year 6 are working on sharing some of this with you all in a virtual assembly, that will be shown in school and shared with you in the final week of this half term.

We are also collecting long-life food items to be donated to families in need through The Need project. Items can be brought into school from Monday 11th October to Thursday 21st October and placed in reception foyer. The kind of items that can be donated are found [here](#).

