

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



MAPLE TREE
PRIMARY SCHOOL
Climbing the branches of success

Newsletter

Friday 12th November 2021



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

This week it has been my pleasure to share the ins and outs of our school with a number of new parents looking for places for their children and also to show our School Improvement Advisor around the school yesterday - all who have gone away with a very favourable impression of Maple Tree. In all my walking around this week, I have, again, been super impressed with the high levels of engagement and the great behavior for learning the children show. The fact that they maintain these levels all the time and not just when they are being observed is fantastic and is supporting them in their learning no end. I thought I would share some of the good things I have seen in this month's 'Learning to Learn' round up:

Year 6 - are thoroughly engaged in their WWII and WWI topic and are currently reading the book 'War Horse'. The children are able to use the links from their topic lessons to support them with the content of the story and vice versa.

Year 5 - children were planning and writing non-chronological reports on the Ancient Greeks having been on a fact finding mission first. They looked at examples of reports to find the key criteria to support them in their own writing.

Year 4 - some of the children had a very honest discussion about what they do when they find things tough and how it is a good idea to have a positive mindset - how applying the word 'yet' to a situation can encourage them to persevere, for example, 'I can't do it...yet!'

Year 3 - were very engaged in their maths lessons this week and were able to talk confidently about what they were learning, how they were using the Base 10 resources and could also tell me how they used previous learning to help them.

Year 2 - children have been working very hard at creating their Tudor houses and watched fascinated as the local Fire Brigade came to help them recreate the infamous Fire of London—a fantastic visual lesson!

Year 1 - could tell me some great facts about Grace Darling and her rescue attempts. They listened carefully to the information presented and then wrote the facts down independently - amazing! Some beautiful handwriting too!

Reception - were learning about the properties of 2D shapes and were able to talk confidently about the number of sides of a triangle as well as identifying other shapes.

Mulberries - have been involved in some fantastic topical projects: Berries were making edible firework sparklers and Blossoms have made a lovely window display of poppies.

For more detailed information about what your child is learning during the course of this year, you will find [Yearly Overviews](#) on our website with areas of learning for all curriculum subjects. There will be further information to share with you over the coming weeks.

In the Spotlight

Berries class have written some fabulous Firework poems!

They bang crackle whistle and whoosh.
Red, blue, green, purple, silver.
Pop in the sky.
Glitter in the sky.
We like fireworks
Henlie, Christopher, Sophie, Ava, Jude, Matthew.

Crackle bang whizz.
Red, blue, purple, green.
Fireworks are fun.
Silver ones and blue ones.
In the sky.
They are dangerous,
So stay back and watch.
Dexter Alfie B, Riley, Alfie K, Laura, Harry.

I hear big bangs,
Golden, rainbows, pink green,
Rocket ones in the sky.
Yellow, blue, pink.
Stars and circles.
Bang, bang, bang, pop.
Sully, Lexxi-Jai, Scarlett, Charlotte, Emily and Felicity

I saw them out of my window.
Green, red, blue, white.
Bang, bang, crackle.
We saw circles.
They look like glitter.
Freddie, Max, Grace, Violet.

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Message from our Eco Warriors

I'm sure that you are all aware of the COP26 conference that is dominating the news at the moment. In preparation for the conference, classes made their own 'promises to the planet' on leaves, where they pledged to try and do one thing differently that can help to tackle climate change. A copy of these promises has been sent to the charity WWF who are taking them to COP26 in Glasgow to show the willingness of schools to play their part in the climate change crisis. Within school, we have signed up to a campaign called Switch Off Fortnight, and the eco-warriors have been helping to promote this by encouraging all staff and children to switch off (not leave on standby) any devices that are not being used, such as lights, computers and whiteboards. This will help us to use less energy in school and thereby reduce our carbon footprint. Once a week for 4 weeks, we will input our gas and electricity meter readings to calculate the amount of energy we have saved. Watch this space!



There is also a competition being run by the eco company The Pod, on the same theme - Switch Off Fortnight. Please see the flyer sent out with this newsletter. Children are welcome to enter and need to give their entries to their class teacher by Monday 15th November.

We also have an eco display in school to promote different ways of reducing our carbon footprint, such as walking instead of driving, eating less meat, turning the central heating down by a degree or two, or producing less food waste. These are ongoing efforts that we can all get involved in.

This week's House Winners



Congratulations!



Christmas Class Assemblies

This year we are holding class assemblies for you to attend so we don't miss out on that 'Christmas feeling' so please keep these dates free:

Tuesday 7th Dec 9.05-9.30am Y6
 Weds 8th Dec 9.05-9.30am Y5
 Fri 10th Dec 9.05-9.30am Y4
 Mon 13th Dec 9.05-9.30am Y3
 Mon 13th Dec 11am Berries
 Tues 14th Dec 9.05-9.30am Y2
 Weds 15th Dec 9.05-9.30am Y1
 Thurs 16th Dec 9.05-9.30am Rec

Advanced notice: Monday 6th June School Closed

As you will be aware, an additional Bank Holiday has been announced for 3 June 2022 for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The Department for Education (DfE) has laid regulations to reduce the minimum number of sessions schools are required to meet in the academic year 2021/22 as a result of this additional Bank Holiday.

Most schools will be on their half term breaks in the week commencing 31 May 2022 but the DfE has advised that schools are able to identify another day of 'holiday' elsewhere in the year. We have attached our day to the summer half term and as a result of this, school will be closed on Monday 6th June and will reopen to all from Tuesday 7th June.

DATES FOR THE DIARY



Sunday 14th November Sandy Remembrance Parade
Monday 15th November Anti-bullying week
Tuesday 16th November *Anti-Bullying Workshops for KS2*
Friday 19th November Children in Need—non uniform day
Friday 19th November *RockSteady workshops for R-Y6*
Friday 25th November Year 6 Bletchley Park Trip
Sunday 27th November Sandy Christmas Light Switch On and *Christmas Tree Festival at St Swithun's Church*
Tuesday 30th November 9.30am New Parent Tour
Class Christmas Assemblies - please see dates for each year group in the box above.
Thursday 2nd December Year 4 Roman Baths trip
Thursday 9th December 1.30pm New Parent Tour
Thursday 16th December Christmas Dinner
Friday 17th December Term Ends



Attendance Award



The best attendance award is presented to:

Mulberries (Pre-School) Blossoms 97%  Berries 92%	Fir (YR) 85%
Yew (Y1) 90% 	Aspen (Y2) 88%
Hawthorn (Y3) 86%	Poplar (Y4) 80%
Rowan (Y4) 89%	Cherry (Y5) 88%
Elder (Y6) 86%	Our target is 97%