

Newsletter

Friday 5th November 2021



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

The weather has done its best to remind us this week that it is Autumn, heading for Winter, and typically during these months we have the heating on and we do our best to keep warm. As things stand, and although we are in a different position to where we were this time last year, we are also very mindful of the increase in positive cases of Covid locally and the additional guidance that is being given to schools. You should have received a list of these updates on Tuesday. Alongside this we have updated our risk assessment which can also be found on our website. Whilst we want the school to be comfortable, ventilation is a key strategy in our attempt to reduce transmissions and therefore the windows in the classroom remain open. We are, of course, mindful of the comfort levels of the children and endeavor to vent during breaktimes and lunchtimes so that the ambient temperature in the classroom remains stable.

This is also the half term that is usually filled with preparations for Christmas events too and having seen so many things cancelled last year we are keen to do what we can. It is, however, really hard to predict what is coming and therefore we need to move with an element of caution. This does make it incredibly difficult to plan for as we run the risk of putting things in place that we have to cancel or making the decision to not go ahead with events from the outset which in turn disappoints and upsets. We have therefore considered our safest options for Christmas and as it stands, this year we will have class assemblies in the last couple of weeks of term. During these, children will be performing songs, stories, poems etc and providing infection rates are not extreme, parents will be invited in to watch these. Should we not be in a position to safely host parents, then we will stream these live so that you can watch from home. This way we can guarantee that the efforts that are put in will be rewarded with an audience whether in person or virtually. We appreciate that this is more low key than we may normally do, but this reflects the times we are currently living in. It does also, however, give us more curriculum time to continue working hard to reduce the impact of the interruptions to the children's schooling over the last couple of years. Dates and times of these will be shared with you next week. I hope you all have a good weekend.

Parent Forum

Our first Parent Forum of this year is next Friday. If you are keen to be part of this then please contact the school office and let them know.

This year, we have a Code of Conduct and Terms of Reference document to support us all. This should have been sent out with this newsletter but a copy can also be found on our <u>website</u>.

If you have an item for the agenda, please contact your class rep and ask them to forward it to Miss Hyde by next Thursday.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Tuesday 9th November 1.30pm New Parent Tour
Thursday 11th November FoMT Glow Discos
Friday 12th November 9.30am Parent Forum
Sunday 14th November Sandy Remembrance Parade
Monday 15th November Anti-bullying week
Friday 19th November Children in Need
Friday 25th November Year 6 Bletchley Park Trip
Sunday 27th November Sandy Christmas Light Switch On
Tuesday 30th November 9.30am New Parent Tour
Saturday 4th December FoMT Christmas Fair
Thursday 9th December 1.30pm New Parent Tour
Thursday 16th December Christmas Dinner
Friday 17th December Term Ends

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Head: Mrs Cath Bainbridge Deputy Head: Miss Amy Hyde

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Anti-Bullying Week 15th-19th November

Anti-Bullying week is coming up soon. In our Parent Survey we often find that parents don't know how we deal with bullying at Maple Tree and so this year we are hoping to be able to share what we discuss as well as the strategies we use to support children. This year the focus is on 'One Kind Word'. KS2 will be taking part in anti-bullying workshops and we look forward to sharing this with you in our themed newsletter that same week.

Remembrance Day

Next week, the pupils will be exploring why we mark remembrance day through their curriculum lessons and Remembrance day will be marked with a two minute silence in school on Thursday 11th November.

Pupil Parliament and staff will also be attending the Sandy Remembrance Parade on Sunday 14th November.



On Friday 19th November, Children Maple Tree pupils will be able to come into school in nonschool uniform to raise money

for Children In Need. Pupils will learn how the charity supports children across the UK in times of need, through a range of wonderful initiatives. This year, we will be collecting donations online using this link:

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/maple-tree

Attendance Award



The best attendance award is presented to:

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Mulberries (Pre-School)	Fir (YR) 89.3 %
Blossoms 96.8 % 👆	
Berries 85.2 %	
Yew (Y1) 87.7 %	Aspen (Y2) 89.3 %
Hawthorn (Y3) 87.4 %	Poplar (Y4) 77.5 %
Rowan (Y4) 89.5 %	Cherry (Y5) 85.7 %
Elder (Y6) 83.6 %	Our target is 97%