

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 6th January 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

Happy New Year to you all! It has been great to welcome the children back following the Christmas break and to see them re-engage swiftly with the learning. We welcomed new children to our Mulberries class this week and extend a warm welcome to new parents too. Please do ask if you have any questions.

I know that a number of parents have asked for more information as to what the children are learning across the school and so I want to direct you to our website where you will find [whole school overviews](#) which show what the children are learning in each subject in each term over the year.

You will also find that the [class pages](#) are being updated so that each class has their own page where photos and relevant information will be added. We have just uploaded Spring Term overviews so again you will be able to see a little more detail as to what is being covered this term. These can be found on the individual class pages towards the bottom of the page under [Termly Overview](#) Please click the link to see what the children are learning this term. If they are not there yet they will be by the end of next week.



There is also a lot of subject specific information on our website which I will draw your attention to. Within the **Teaching and Learning** section, under the [Curriculum](#) tab, each subject has its own page where you will find how we teach as well as

what we teach. We have progression grids for each subject which show expectations of the pupils at various stages within their learning journey across the school.

There is a lot of information on our website and it really is worth taking the time to read through some of this to give you a clear picture as to the learning that goes on in school. If you do have any questions regarding our curriculum though please do get in touch.

I hope you all have a good weekend.

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School Dinners

This week we have welcomed our new caterers - HCL - to Maple Tree; we have seen and heard really good things about them already! The food is hot and fresh and beautifully laid out for the children. They have new cutlery and tableware and it really feels like a proper dining experience! The feedback from the children has been really positive so far and a lot less waste which is also telling. If you are interested in your child having school dinners please contact the school office.



Panto

Yesterday, 195 children and 35 adults went to Stevenage to watch Cinderella. There is more information on this trip below but I want to extend my thanks to Miss Hyde for all her hard work in putting this trip together - no mean feat and many risk assessments - but to hear the buzz from the children, well worth it!

The trip to the pantomime on Thursday was a roaring success "Oh no it wasn't...Oh yes it was!". The whole school enjoyed the excellent production of Cinderella, featuring a flying carriage, magic tricks and puppets! The children were bubbling with excitement throughout, loving cheering, dancing and interacting with the characters. They were incredible representatives of school by showing our values and listening to the adults; I am a very proud deputy head. A massive thank you to all the staff that supported us and our team of volunteers.



Alfie K, Violet and Saffie (Reception) *"It wasn't scary and I liked all of it. My favourite part was the end because everyone was dancing together. I liked Cinderella because she is a good person."*

Chloe D (Year 1) *"I loved Buttons and the Ugly Sisters because they were boys pretending to be girls and had lots of crazy costumes—it was so funny!"*

Isaac (Year 2) was chosen to come up on stage and play an instrument. He says *"It was incredible. I went up on the stage and broke the drum, I thought by accident but it was actually on purpose as it was made of paper!"*

Alek (Year 3) says *"It was so good. The best bit was when the two ugly sisters were at the ball and did a silly dance."*

Lottie (Year 4) *"It was so funny and made me laugh. I liked to sing along to the songs and liked the character Buttons."*

Brooke and Krystal (Year 5) say *"It was really good and so funny. We thought it was funny that the ugly sisters picked on a teacher from another school by flirting with him—they even had his name on their knickers at the end!"*

Cora and Amelie (Year 6) say *"Overall it was great—our favourite character was Buttons because he was really funny. It was also so funny when they 'messed up', like laughing when they were supposed to be frozen."*

