

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 10th February 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

It was good to see the turnout this week at Parents' Evening whether you attended virtually or in person. It is a good opportunity for teachers to share your child's progress with you so far. If you were unable to make an appointment, please do arrange to meet with your child's teacher after half term; these meetings are so important to ensure communication between home and school benefits the pupils.

Last week I spoke about our Kid's Club being an amazing resource that we want to promote; this week I am sharing a new club that they will be running which is **open to all pupils on Fridays** from 24th February to 31st March from **3.30pm - 5pm**. Children will join with those already booked into attend Kid's Club for a session of sport with Mrs Scott. This will include weeks on Gymnastics, Football, Tennis, an Obstacle Course and Netball. Please see the poster later in this newsletter for further details but it sounds a great way to end the week!

Finally, I want to thank you for your support this half term. The Spring Term seems to go so quickly but we are always focused on what is coming next. Next half term I am going to be canvassing your thoughts on our school vision, which we are in the process of updating, so I will let you have more information about that after half term. I also want to extend my thanks to staff for their hard work this half term and wish you all a good half term holiday. We will see you all on Monday 20th February.

Have a good week.

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK UPDATE BY MRS POND

The whole school has participated in Children's Mental Health Week, beginning with assemblies introducing the theme of 'Being Connected'. I visited all classes throughout the week and we did guided meditation, team activities, Sunshine Circles (nurture activity) and stories/discussions about being connected. The whole school, including all the staff, have decorated a puzzle piece. These will be joined and displayed around the main corridor square of the school to show how we are all 'connected'. Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 also took part in the Taskmaster Education Treasure Hunt to be included on their 'Wall of Fame' and for the chance to win £250 of well-being school resources. There have been several 'How to Draw' video break time clubs too. Children in classes from Reception to Year 6 each had a 20-25 minutes yoga taster session which was very calming and some resources have been provided to the school to use in the future. More info about future yoga sessions will be shared next half term. Children have also asked me to share a link with their parents about finding a penpal to connect with: <https://www.globalpenfriends.com>



Winning entries that received a small prize for the Mindfulness Colouring Competition are: Jacob - Mulberries, Hugo - Fir Class, Oliver - Yew Class, Evie - Aspen, Amelia - Rowan, Oliver - Poplar, Millie - Cherry, Johannah - Juniper, Megan - Elder

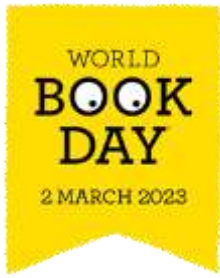


Finally, I do hope you have enjoyed receiving Marvellous Me updates for Children's Mental Health Week and I wish you all a great half term :)

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World Book Day 2023

We are excited to be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 2nd March. We would love for your child to come to school **dressed up as their favourite book character** and to bring the book with them. Please do not feel that you have to go out and buy something for this; many characters can be put together from clothes the children already own. The staff are all dressing up as Harry Potter characters in case your child would like to join this theme!

There will be a number of exciting activities happening throughout the week and on the day:

- Story time with Miss Hyde every lunch time in the library.
- The creation of a school book, with a very special character, that we hope to publish and sell. More information will be shared after the event.
- A book cover art competition where pupils design and illustrate a cover for their favourite book on A4 paper. The winning entries will be blown up and displayed in frames in the library. All entries to Miss Hyde by Monday 13th March 2023.
- A sponsored reading challenge to complete at home—please see the separate parentmail about this.

These are just the whole school events. I know that the teachers will have lots planned too—we can't wait!

RE at Maple Tree

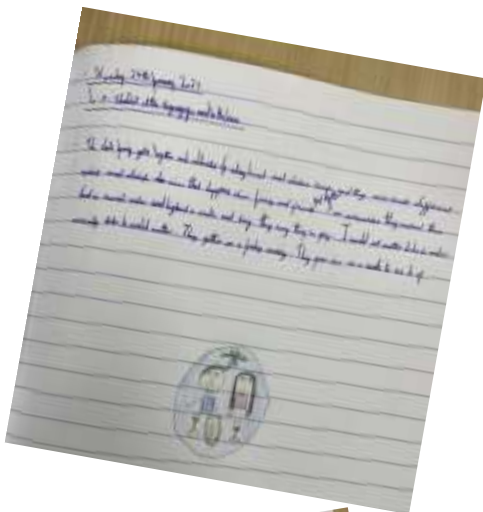
RE helps to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils, and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life. At Maple Tree Primary we follow the "Identities, Meanings, Values: The RE Agreed Syllabus 2018-2023 (Bedford Borough, Central Bedfordshire and Luton).

We aim to develop pupils' knowledge and understanding of Christianity, Sikhism and other principal religions, including Humanism, traditions and world views and Atheism. We hope for the teaching of RE to engage, inspire, challenge and encourage pupils, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to answer challenging questions, explore different religious beliefs, values and traditions and develop a more rigorous understanding of the numerous religious traditions, beliefs and practices that are followed in our school community and the wider multi-cultural society.

Here are the key questions that we have been exploring and learning about this term:

- Reception: Why is Easter special for Christians?
- Year 1: Who is Jewish? What do they believe and how do they live?
- Year 2: How do we show care for others? Why does it matter?
- Year 3: What is the trinity and why is it important for Christians?
- Year 4: How do festivals and worship show what matters to Muslims?
- Year 5: What helps Hindu people as they try to be good?
- Year 6: What will make our community a more respectful place?

If you have any questions about the teaching and learning of RE, please come and speak to Mr Renzi.



Sports



Come and join Mrs Scott in conjunction with Kids Club for some fun and games!!!

To be run from 24/2, - 31/3

In the school hall

3-30-5-00pm to include a snack..... £5.00 per session.

Suitable clothing to be worn

FUN!

Gymnastics

Football

Tennis

Obstacle course

Netball

Games



Maple Tree Kids Club, Hawk Drive, SANDY, SG19 2WA....
07950 592745. Payment via Kids Club



Sports Club

Calling **all** children - come and join us for fun and games on
Friday afternoons 3.30 - 5.00pm
running from 24th February to 31st March.

£5.00 per session, snack provided.

Bookings can be made during Kid's Club hours on 07950 592745



Headteacher Awards

This week the awards are for...

...being a fab all-rounder!



Fir Class: Albert	Yew Class: Sophie	Aspen Class: Isaac
Rowan Class: Ariana	Poplar Class: Niamh	Juniper Class: Olivia
Cherry Class: Lottie	Elder Class: Victoria	Wellbeing Awards Ciaran

This week's House Winners



Congratulations!

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Monday 13th - Friday 17th February Half Term

Wednesday 22nd February Thinking Day - Rainbows, Brownies and Guides may wear their organisation uniforms

Wednesday 1st March Industrial Action School Partially Open

Thursday 2nd March World Book Day

Wednesday 15th/Thursday 16th March Industrial Action School Partially Open

Thursday 23rd March Open Parent Forum - focus on school vision

Friday 31st March EYFS and KS1 Easter Assembly for parents

Monday 3rd - Monday 17th April Easter Holidays

Monday 17th April INSET day

Tuesday 18th April - Term starts

Dates can also be found on our [website](#).

Attendance Awards

Our target is 97%

Week beginning 6th February

The best attendance award is presented to: **Rowan and Cherry** class!

Blossom (Mulberries) 96%	Berries (Mulberries) 81%
Fir (YR) 83%	Yew (Y1) 96%
Aspen (Y2) 97%	Rowan (Y3) 98%
Poplar (Y4) 93%	Juniper (Y5) 91%
Cherry (Y5) 98%	Elder (Y6) 95%