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|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|-----------|---------|----------------|
| 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 2nd December 2022

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

What a great week! There have been many positives to take us through into the weekend including a productive meeting with parents this week who have formed a new PTA - more to follow about this but I am extremely grateful to all who have put their names forward to support Maple Tree. We have children practicing really hard for their assemblies and yesterday we served breakfast to 198 pupils and their grandparents! It is such a lovely time of year and when we can have shared events it makes it even more special. Year 2 kick off our run of Christmas assemblies next week and we look forward to welcoming you to share in this with us. Please note the start times of 9:15am.

As you will see over the page, we have shared some photos taken yesterday with you and our aim will be to upload some more onto our website. We take photos to capture the moments but with a keen eye on ensuring that safeguarding remains a priority, therefore we ask that you do not take photos or videos during the Christmas assemblies (and other school events). We will take some to put onto the website so that you can look at these but we have a number of children who do not have photo permissions and we need to ensure we are keeping these children from public view. You will be reminded of this at the start of the events but if you see others taking photos please gently remind them too.

School is looking very festive with the decorations the children made yesterday hanging in the corridors, our concept of using recycled materials has enabled pupils to make some very unique baubles as well as proving that beautiful things can be crafted from that which has seen better days!

I hope you all have a good weekend.

Please come and join us for our Reading Workshop at 6pm on Monday 5th December in the school hall with Miss Hyde.

Book Fair

There is still time to come and browse the book fair looking for last minute Christmas presents.

We will be open Monday and Tuesday afterschool.



We raised £253.00 for Children in Need with our non-uniform day.

Thank you to everyone who donated - this is a great amount to go to an amazing cause.



Carols on the Playground

3.40pm Thursday 8th December

Come and sing some carols by candlelight with the children on the playground (weather permitting).



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Grandparent's Breakfast

We had a lovely morning with the grandparents yesterday. Breakfast was a hit (some even said it was the best bacon they had eaten!), the book fair was a big draw and the decorations crafted are now hanging beautifully around the school. It was a fabulous atmosphere and great to see the children spending time with family and friends.

Thanks go to Mrs Varley for organising this and to all staff for the early start and behind the scenes preparations.



Big thanks

to Ms Cassidy for organising our fabulous tree which took pride of place at the Christmas Tree festival last weekend



and to Mrs Vickery-Cox for her leading and supporting our wonderful choir and the Sandy Light Switch On. Such a lovely occasion and great to be involved.

Music at Maple Tree



At Maple Tree Primary School, we try to make music fun and enjoyable for the pupils. As the children go through the school, they will experience different kinds of music and be confident to express themselves using music, be it through the class rapping at performances or singing their hearts out at whole school singing assemblies.

Music enriches children's lives individually and the school, as a wider community. This is why we encourage music to be included across all the subjects taught, for example in English in performing poetry and to inspire the creative minds in art. Music can have many benefits, it can help them focus, relieve stress and boost self-confidence. Across the school everyone has been enjoying music and here are a few things the children have been doing:

This term, Yew have been learning all about pitch, rhythm and volume. They have also been listening and trying to learn different songs, more recently focusing on Christmas songs, which include actions to help the children remember.



Year 2 have been looking at South African music, focusing on the rhythm and beat of drums and other instruments. They have now been learning the Christmas Songs for their assembly which include the 12 days of Christmas in which we have looked at breathing and pace. It gets rather fast!

Fir have been using musical instruments in their continuous provision to explore how to use instruments, and what different sounds they make. They celebrated World Nursery Rhyme Week by singing lots of nursery rhymes with other classes in school which all the children really enjoyed.



This term Elder class have learned different vocabulary and notation. We have learned about music history and listened to classics such as Pink Floyd's Hole in the Wall and Joni Mitchell's Big Yellow Taxi.

As part of our history about World War II we learned songs from the war. Mrs Edwards came in to tell us about being evacuated and brought her accordion. We sang Run Rabbit and the Quartermasters Store.



During the Autumn term, year 5 have been learning to play the Ocarinas, that Friends of Maple Tree kindly bought us last year. Juniper learnt and performed 'Old McDonald' for the Harvest festival and Cherry are learning a Christmas song for the Christmas assembly.



Poplar worked really hard earlier in the term and performed a beautiful acapella harvest song, particularly focusing on tone and timing.

Please join us for a short Christmas Carol Concert after school on Thursday 8th December in the playground. It will be a fantastic way to start the Christmas period together.



This term we have worked hard in Rowan on working as a group, really listening to each other. We have put a lot of practice in improving our performance, focusing on projecting our voices.

Headteacher Awards

This week the award is for...

...being respectful.



Fir Class:

Sully

Yew Class:

Harry

Aspen Class:

Finley

Rowan Class:

Evie

Poplar Class:

Noah

Juniper Class:

-

Cherry Class:

Nisa

Elder Class:

Samuel

Well done!

This week's House Winners



Congratulations!

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Monday 5th Dec 6pm Reading Parent Workshop

Tue 6th Dec 9:15am– Year 2 Christmas Assembly

Wed 7th Dec 9:15am– Year 6 Christmas Assembly

Wed 7th and Thur 8th Dec 11:30am - Mulberries Christmas Assembly

Thur 8th Dec 9:15am- Year 5 Christmas Assembly

Thur 8th Dec 3.45pm Carols on the Playground

Fri 9th Dec 9:15am– Year 4 Christmas Assembly

Mon 12th Dec 9:15am- Year 3 Christmas Assembly

Tue 13th Dec 9:15am- Year 1 Christmas Assembly

Thur 15th Dec 9:15am- Reception Christmas Assembly

Thurs 15th Dec Christmas Dinner - children can wear Christmas jumpers.

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

Attendance Awards

Our target is 97%

Week beginning 28th November

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

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Blossom (Mulberries) | Berries (Mulberries) |
| 90% | 98% |
| Fir (YR) | Yew (Y1) |
| 93% | 95% |
| Aspen (Y2) | Rowan (Y3) |
| 97% | 98% |
| Poplar (Y4) | Juniper (Y5) |
| 87% | 85% |
| Cherry (Y5) | Elder (Y6) |
| 96% | 92% |