

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



MAPLE TREE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Climbing the branches of success

Newsletter

Friday 3rd February 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

This week I want to draw your attention to one of our most special resources - our Kid's Club. Ms Green and her team work tirelessly during term times and holidays to provide wraparound care for our working families and those who need the additional time at the beginning and end of the day. Over the years it has grown from strength to strength but, with the Covid lockdowns, changes have been made to many aspects of family life and we have seen our numbers, particularly on a Friday, dwindle to the point where we question whether it is financially viable to keep it running on those days. This is obviously something that concerns us greatly; Kid's Club, as an extension of school, provides children with a safe and known environment to stay until parents can pick them up. Staff have tried a number of initiatives to bring in numbers but we can quite clearly see that with many parents now working from home on a Friday, there is less need for this fab resource.



In order to consider all our options, we would like to invite new families for a free trial session, should they be interested. This needs to be booked, in advance, with Ms Green who can be contacted on 07950 592745 during Kid's Club hours; this may give you an insight into something you need that you didn't know existed!

We have also included the poster for Holiday Club later in this newsletter, please do consider if this is something you would like or need your children to attend to give you some support during the half term holiday. Places can be booked using the number above.

We treasure this amazing group and the staff who run it - if you would like more information, please do contact us.

I hope you all have a good weekend.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

DUE TO POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS BEHAVIOUR SEEN IN THE SCHOOL CAR PARK, FROM NEXT WEEK THE BACK GATE WILL BE UNMANNED AND STAFF WILL STAND AT THE FRONT GATE. THE GATES WILL BE CLOSED. IF YOU HAVE PERMISSION TO PARK IN THE CAR PARK YOU WILL BE ALLOWED TO PARK SAFELY, IF NOT YOU WILL NEED TO PARK OUTSIDE OF THE SCHOOL GROUNDS WITH CARE AND ATTENTION FOR RESIDENTS PLEASE. DANGEROUS PARKING WILL BE REPORTED. PEDESTRIANS SHOULD NOT BE CUTTING ACROSS THE CAR PARK BUT USING THE PATHS FOR THEIR SAFETY.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN KEEPING OUR PUPILS SAFE.

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Mental Health and Wellbeing Update

January's Mental Health Focus was Inspirational Quotes. The classes were given a daily quote to talk about: their favourite quotes were: "When life gets you down, you know what you gotta do? Just keep swimming." – Dory, Finding Nemo.



"You can't focus on what's going wrong. There's always a way to turn things around." – Joy, Inside Out.

Poplar class have said that they enjoyed the quotes a lot. Some of the quotes reiterated the messages that Mr Renzi and all the teachers promote - to have a growth mindset. He could see quite a few children smile when he read the quotes and thinks it'll help them along their way.

Rowan class children said: Freya- 'They made us think of nice happy things to make life perfect'; Theo- 'The quotes have been happy and calm'; Iris- 'They made me feel relaxed'; Oliwia- 'They made me think 'What else could I do in this world'; Evie- 'They gave me confidence' and Mia- 'I can believe in myself!'

February's focus is Drawing and children can come along to 'How to Draw' break and lunch time clubs. Next week is Children's Mental Health Week with lots of activities going on including a children's yoga taster session and a mindfulness colouring competition.

Have a good weekend, Mrs Pond :)

We need your help!

Do you have a passion for reading? Do you want to make a difference to the children's reading ability? If you answered yes to one or both of these questions then we need you.

We are looking for an army of volunteers to support with children's reading across the school. At the moment we have gaps on Monday, Thursday and Friday afternoons. If you feel like you are able to support by regularly dedicating a couple of hours a week to this cause, then please let Miss Hyde know via the teacher@mapletreepriamaryschool.com email. You really will help to make a difference!

Good literacy at an early age improves academic achievement and this leads to greater opportunities of all kinds in adulthood.



Children who are the most engaged with reading and writing are three times more likely to have higher levels of mental wellbeing than children who are the least engaged.



Children that read at least **20 minutes every day** will have exposure to approximately 2 million words annually.

Juniper Class Year 5

Year 5's theme for the Spring Term is Space and the children are really enjoying it. We have been looking at the theme across all the subjects including the significance of Galileo Galilei findings in astronomy, the evolution of the solar system model theories and making planet scenes.

English

We have been studying the poem *The Highwayman* by Arthur Knowles. The children have been investigating the characters in this tragic love story, learning new vocabulary, how to write direct and indirect speech and journalistic vocabulary to include in their newspaper reports of the events that unravelled in the poem.

Juniper have also been focusing their comprehension skills, not just through guided reading lessons but using their inference skills in different ways such as hot seating - being interviewed as a particular person.



Annie is working out $2 \times 3 \frac{2}{7}$

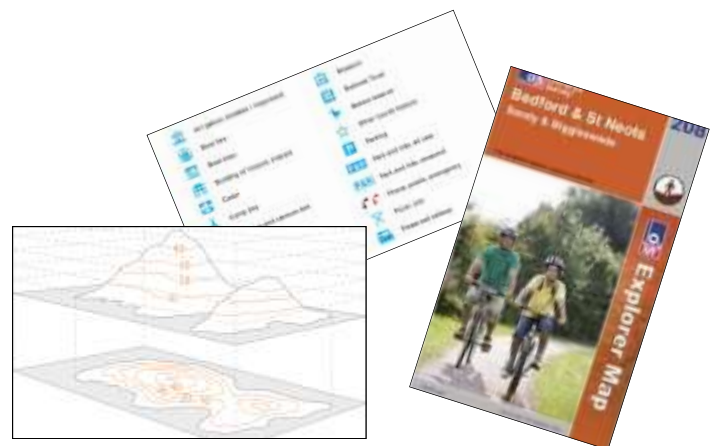


If I work out $3 \times 2 \frac{2}{7}$, I will get the same answer.

Do you agree with Annie?
Explain your answer.

Maths

We started the term by looking at the formal methods of long multiplication, multiplying up to 4 digits by 2 digits, and short division (dividing 4 digits by 1 digit). We then moved on, using that multiplication knowledge, to multiply fractions and apply this to solving problems.



Geography

We have been doing a lot of atlas work over the past few weeks, looking at local OS maps and studying the contour lines to mentally visualise the topography of the local area.



Science

We started the topic with a great lesson discussing and debating if the Earth is spherical or flat. The children took time to consider and question the evidence for both theories and some still have good arguments for the flat Earth theory! We have also learnt what force stops the planets floating out of our solar system and how we have night and day.

Maple Tree Kids Club

Maple Tree Primary School, Hawk Drive, SANDY. SG19 2WA Tel. no. 07950 592745



Gymnastics



Rice crispy cakes



Hama beads



Arts and crafts



Outside play



Construction Toys inc. Lego, Knex,
Duplo, Brio, Klikko, Kids Knex.

Valentines activities



There are many more activities available all day every day, so please come and enjoy the fun!!!

We are open from 8-6 an all day session is £24, half day sessions are available 8-1 and 1-6 at £12, a packed lunch is required for a morning and full day session, please make sure you send your children with coats as depending on the weather we will go outside.

Headteacher Awards

This week the awards are

...making a difference to others/ being a great writer



Fir Class: Tommy Freddie	Yew Class: Kimberly Imogen	Aspen Class: Henry Nicole
Rowan Class: Maja Ellis	Poplar Class: Torben Next week	Juniper Class: Kornelia Brayleigh-Maie
Cherry Class: William Roselyn	Elder Class: Aidan Cora	Wellbeing Awards Millie Katie

This week's House Winners



Congratulations!

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Wednesday 8th February 4-6pm Parents' Evening

Thursday 9th February 4-7pm Parents' Evening

Monday 13th - Friday 17th February Half Term

Wednesday 22nd February Thinking Day - 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 30th January

The best attendance award is presented to: **Fir class!**

Blossom (Mulberries) 90.8%	Berries (Mulberries) 92%
Fir (YR) 99.2%	Yew (Y1) 85.7%
Aspen (Y2) 96.8%	Rowan (Y3) 89.7%
Poplar (Y4) 96.8%	Juniper (Y5) 91.9%
Cherry (Y5) 87.4%	Elder (Y6) 90%