

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



Newsletter

Friday 15th September 2023

We are proud to announce that we have been awarded a **Bronze award** from the Anti-Bullying Alliance for our work to improve our approach to anti-bullying last academic year. We can now proudly call ourselves a 'United Against Bullying' School.

The work won't stop there though, we continue to develop our approach to anti-bullying headed up by Miss Hyde. This will begin with a relaunch of our Anti-Bullying Policy and lots more during Anti-Bullying week in November.



Accelerated Reader (AR) update

Over the summer holidays, AR updated their website; including the parent area 'Home Connect'. Home Connect allows you to view information about your child's progress in reading. It also allows you to sign up to receive email notifications after they complete a quiz at school.

To log in to Home Connect website please use the new link: <https://global-zone61.renaissance-go.com/studentprogress/homeconnect?t=2231080>. The login details are the same as your child's and can be found in their reading/homework diary.

Maple Tree Primary School, Hawk Drive, Sandy, Bedfordshire, SG19 2WA

Tel: 01767 699806 Web: www.mapletreepriaryschool.com

Emails: office@mapletreepriaryschool.com or teacher@mapletreepriaryschool.com

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

What a busy week! It has been great to see the children embarking on their second week back and there is so much to share. Normally, our Ofsted visit would have been the first thing within this newsletter, but our award from the Anti-Bullying Alliance needed to take front page news - this is something that we worked incredibly hard on last year and I am extremely grateful to Miss Hyde for all she has done in implementing strategies, collecting and collating evidence before submitting our application. It is a reason to be proud of our achievements.

And then of course, there was our Ofsted inspection! This was very early on in the term but was well overdue so it was welcomed when we got the call. At this stage I am unable to share the outcome with you, as it has to go through a rigorous quality assurance process and therefore will not be published for about a month. I am also unable to share this with staff so I would respectfully ask that you do not pressure staff for information regarding the judgement made - they do not know!

I know you will be keen to find out how we did and I want to assure you that we saw many positives this week and the children showed us all exactly why they are the best children in Sandy! Their respectful attitudes towards each other, their kindness and compassion and strong behaviour for learning were, as always, evident throughout. They spoke confidently about their learning and shared the work in their books from this year and last. Children and staff across the school were spoken to and lessons were visited, children were observed at points outside of the classroom environment too during break times and assembly.

We had a really good response to the parent survey that was sent out and I am grateful to all parents who took part in this. The results are largely positive and where there are areas that we, as a school, have identified need further work, we will be using our Parent Forum as the place to unpick some of these further so if your class does not yet have a rep, please do contact us via teacher@mapletreeprimaryschool.com if you are happy to nominate yourself. It is really key that we have a complete group so we can ensure communication and interaction with all year groups across the school. Dates for this year's meetings can be found over the page.

And finally I want to say a very big thank you to all the staff at Maple Tree for all the extra efforts they have made this week; there have been long days for all and I am grateful to them for everything they have done this week. Today they have enjoyed spending time with the children, continuing to get to know them at the start of the new school year in a slightly more relaxed way. Your children are very lucky to have such a supportive team.

We look forward to seeing you at the Meet the Teacher presentations next week and apologies to Year 6 parents for having to postpone your meeting at short notice; the new date is over the page.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

SITE SAFETY

In a follow-up to last week's parking request, we have had a really nice conversation with the manager at the Co-op this week who has said he is happy that parents park in their car park at drop-off and pick-up times though of course if this was for a longer event, alternative arrangements would need to be made. We are grateful to the Co-op and the strengthening links we have within the community.

Pedestrians - please do not walk across the car park but stick to the paths, even if the car gates are closed. We need to role model for all our children in regards to road safety. Thank you for your support in this.

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Staffing changes

At the beginning of this term we welcomed new members of staff to our team and I want to introduce them to you: Mrs Khan has joined Year 2 as a teaching assistant and Mrs Goodwin as a 1:1 support assistant for a child in our Reception class. We also welcomed Mrs Phillips back to our pre-school too. It is lovely to see the relationships being built with the children they are working with and we welcome them all to our staff team.

I also want to let you know that, sadly, Mrs Leigh will be leaving us at the end of September for new ventures and we wish her all the very best - she will be missed. We are hoping to recruit and will keep you updated with further staff changes as they happen.

Parent Forum

Our parent forum meet 6 times a year (once per half term) to take part in discussion surrounding whole school issues such as vision or anti-bullying as well as being an opportunity to raise relevant and pertinent questions about things such as pick up and drop off, communication, uniform, general questions etc. The meetings are run by the Head and Deputy Head and are attended by a parent representative from each year group. These parents nominate themselves and are agreed by the rest of the parents in that cohort. The reps collect questions and topics for discussion from the parents and feedback after the meeting - though formal minutes are also circulated to all parents following the meeting. If you would like to stand as a class rep this year (and we would really like to include parents from the upper end of the school as well please) then talk to the rest of the parents of your child's class and contact Miss Hyde through the teacher@mapletreeprimaryschool.com email address.

Meeting dates:

Autumn Term

Friday 6th October 9am

Friday 8th December 9am

Spring Term

Friday 9th February 9am

Friday 22nd March 9am

Summer Term

Friday 24th May 9am

Friday 12th July 9am



This is an opportunity for you to come along and hear about the expectations on your child(ren) during their school day and to see what they are learning this year.

LKS2 Monday 18th September 9.05 – 9.45am

Year 5 Tuesday 19th September 9.05 - 9.45am

KS1 Monday 19th September 9.05 – 9.45am

Year 6 (to include information regarding Y6 SATs) Tuesday 26th September 6-7pm

These will be held in the school hall apart from Year 6 which will be in the classroom.

Further information will be provided nearer the time.

The presentations will be uploaded onto the website following these meetings for parents who are unable to attend due to work commitments.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Week beg 18th Meet the teacher sessions - see above

Macmillan Cake Sale Wednesday 27th September

Parent Forum Friday 6th October 9am

Parents' Evening Tuesday 17th /Thursday 19th October

KS2 Harvest Assembly Friday 20th October 9:10am

Half Term week Monday 23rd October

Anti-Bullying Week 13th-17th November

Anti-Bullying Open Afternoon 17th November

Grandparent's Breakfast Thursday 30th November

Parent Forum Friday 8th December



FRIENDS OF MAPLE TREE AGM

What's involved?

Come along & meet the team, plus others who are interested in joining the committee. Ask questions to find out how you can help. No commitment necessary.

- ☒ Become part of a team & make friends
- ☒ Help organise events like fetes & discos
- ☒ Raise money to help support the school

Would you like to nominate someone? Or yourself?

Please email fomtprimary@gmail.com



2nd October 2023

6pm onwards



Meet at the school or join virtually

