

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



Newsletter

Friday 6th September 2024



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

Welcome to our first newsletter of the new school year! Whether you are a current parent, or a new parent, I hope that you will find the information here useful as it is my intention to keep you up to date with things happening in and around school. If you know of parents who have not signed up for parentmail and are therefore not receiving this, please ask them to contact the school office. If you are new to the school and are unsure of how things work then please also contact the school office for further information.

It has been so lovely to see the children adapting to their new routines so quickly and I am very impressed with our very youngest children who are taking things in their stride. The sunny weather has helped but the children do seem to be very content, which is great, and puts them in the right mind-set to kick-start their learning and this year will, undoubtedly, be another full year.

We have some new members of staff who have joined us this year and we welcome them to our team: Ms Cornfoot joins us as our new HLTA who has started getting to know all the children as she will be taking them whilst the teachers have their planning time; we welcome Mrs Ranson who is a 1:1 learning support assistant in Reception and our site team is now complete as we are pleased to welcome Mr Gernon - our new site agent - along with Mrs Carter and Mrs Pope who have joined our cleaning team. I am sure you will see them around the school site and know that you will also make them feel welcome.

The smell of fresh paint around the school shows how busy staff have been over the holiday and we look forward to updating you over the coming weeks as to the changes that have, or are, being made within school. We will also be updating our playground as a lot of the woodworks could do with a refresh. We have the paint but could do with some volunteers to help us with this but there will be more about this next week so please look out for this if you would be happy to help.

We, again, have a large number of parent events this year and accompanying this newsletter is a planner which will give you advanced notice of some of these so that you are able to plan accordingly. Our first event that you are invited to is our Meet the Teacher session where the teachers will share with you the expectations for the year and provide you with key information. Our class website pages are also currently being updated and I will let you know once these are ready but you will also find information there too about our curriculum. If you have questions that you cannot find the answers to then we have a dedicated email address: teacher@mapletreepriamaryschool.com which you are welcome to use to ask questions or share information with the class teacher. If your enquires are more general or are regarding absence then you should call into the office or email office@mapletreepriamaryschool.com.

There will be plenty more information coming out in the next few weeks so please do watch out for this.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

PARKING ON SITE

Please be advised that parking in our school car park is not permitted at drop off and pick up times (including pre-school parents) unless agreed by the office or you own a blue badge. If you do need to enter the school car park in between these times, then we would be grateful if you could ensure the main gate is closed on your way out. This will enable us to ensure that our site is safe for our pedestrian users. If you are parking on the streets, please be mindful of local residents.

Thank you for your support in this.

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

Tel: 01767 699806 Web: www.mapletreepriamaryschool.com

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

School Uniform

It has been wonderful seeing the children return looking smart wearing their Maple Tree uniforms with pride. We encourage all children to wear uniform at Maple Tree, as we believe that it creates a sense of belonging and identity for the children.

Our current uniform expectations are that all the children wear navy or black trousers, shorts or skirts with a royal blue knitted jumper or cardigan. In Mulberries only, we also accept navy or black joggers or leggings. From Reception to Year 2 the children wear white polo shirts under their jumpers whereas from Year 3 up the children wear white shirts with a clip on tie. Across the school, yellow or blue checked summer dresses are allowed in the warm weather. All children should be wearing smart black school shoes: no heels, trainers or strappy sandals allowed. Velcro fastenings are much appreciated in the younger years where pupils can't yet tie their own laces.

Attendance changes

As I am sure you have seen in the media, and as reported to you last academic year, at the end of August 2024 new legislations surrounding taking your children out of school for holidays and for any unauthorised absence during term time came into effect. Schools will have to follow the following guidance, specifically around term-time holidays:

- Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more consecutive days. Inset training days are school days and can be included in the 5 or more consecutive days where there was intent to be absent for term time leave.
- Penalty Notice Fines are issued to each parent who allows their child to be absent from school. For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent who allowed the holiday receiving 3 separate fines.

For any more information surrounding the new fines please visit the government website: <https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/08/19/fines-for-parents-for-taking-children-out-of-school-what-you-need-to-know/>

or Central Bedfordshire website: https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/4/pupil_support/526/non-school_attendance



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.

Years 3 & 4 Monday 16th September 9.15 – 9.45am

Year 5 Tuesday 17th September 9.15 – 9.45am

Year 6 Tuesday 17th September 6-7pm (to include information regarding Y6 SATs)

Year 1 & 2 Wednesday 19th September 9.15 – 9.45am

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 16th Meet the teacher sessions - see above

Parent workshop - phonics Wednesday 25th September 9.15am

Macmillan Cake Sale Friday 27th September at 3.30pm

Parent Forum Thursday 3rd October at 2.30pm

Parents' Evening Tuesday 22nd /Thursday 24th October

KS2 Harvest Assembly Friday 25th 9.15am

Half Term week Monday 28th October

Reception phonics drop-ins week beg 11th November

Anti-Bullying Week 11th-15th November

Anti-Bullying Open Afternoon 15th November

Grandparent's Breakfast Thursday 28th November

Parent Forum Thursday 12th December at 2.30pm



FRIENDS OF MAPLE TREE AGM

WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE PTFA? HAVE YOUR SAY IN THE EVENTS WE RUN, THE MONEY WE SPEND ETC? COME ALONG TO OUR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.



16th September 2024

6:30pm

