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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 | |



Newsletter

Friday 13th September 2024

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

This week I want to start by sharing with you that we now have a defibrillator in the school foyer by the office hatch. This hopefully will be something we never have to use but is essential to have on site. It is, however, also available to anyone in need locally during school hours so please share this with friends and family to make them aware.

Over the coming weeks I will be signposting you to new information on our website. Staff are in the process of updating their class pages so please do check back at various points next week as this will be the main source of information for you regarding the workings of the school day including things like timetables and PE days etc. If there is anything you need to know but cannot find then please do either ask at the office or you can email in to teacher@mapletreepriamaryschool.com and your question will be passed on to the relevant member of staff.

In last week's newsletter I mentioned updates to the environment that had taken place over the holiday to refresh the building. Before the weather really turns, we are also keen to update the playground. We have a large amount of wood-work that needs painting; we have the paint, we have the motivation but we need more people to help so that we can get this done quickly so the children can enjoy it whilst it is still dry enough to be playing outside. If you are interested in helping us to paint this, and I am hoping we will be able to find a dry afternoon to tackle this in the next couple of weeks, I would be grateful if you could drop me an email to teacher@mapletreepriamaryschool.com letting me know if you are willing and able to help. Together I think we can make such a difference and it would be really lovely to do this for the children.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.



Charity Cake Sale!

As in previous years, we are, again, supporting this amazing charity with a cake sale. This will be held on Friday 27th September with all proceeds going directly to Macmillan.

We would appreciate donations of cakes to sell for this amazing cause. If you are able to donate, please drop cakes off to Elder class on Friday morning. These do not have to be home baked!

The more we receive the more we can sell, the more we raise!

The sale will take place in the school hall at 3:30pm.

We look forward to seeing you there!



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



Following on from the launch of our updated school travel plan last year, we will be continuing to build on the achievement of last year. We will be aiming to get as many children to travel as sustainably as possible, ensuring that the Maple Tree community stays safe whilst on the streets and to try and encourage everyone to be as active and healthy as they can.

Next week we are taking part in TravelWise week. This is a week-long travel challenge where everyone is challenged to travel more wisely. As part of TravelWise Week, we are challenging pupils to complete a TravelWise Travel Trail whilst they travel to or from school. The aim of the Travel Trail is to encourage more pupils to travel actively to school and to help them engage with their surroundings as they travel. The Travel Trail can be completed whilst pupils are travelling to and from school. We will also be using the trails in class looking further at our surroundings. For further information visit www.travelwiseweek.org.uk

Meet the Teacher Meetings

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 18th September 9.15 – 9.45am**

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

The presentations will be uploaded onto the website following these meetings for parents



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Week beg 16th Meet the teacher sessions - see above

Wednesday 25th September 9.15am—Parent workshop - phonics (hall)

Friday 27th September at 3.30pm Macmillan Cake Sale (hall)

Thursday 3rd October at 2.30pm Parent Forum

Monday 21st October Year R-6 Flu Vaccinations

Tuesday 22nd /Thursday 24th October Parents' Evening

Friday 25th October 9.15am KS2 Harvest Assembly

Monday 28th October Half Term week

Week beg 11th November Reception phonics drop-ins

11th-15th November Anti-Bullying Week

Friday 15th November 2.15pm Anti-Bullying Open Afternoon

Thursday 28th November Grandparent's Breakfast

Thursday 12th December at 2.30pm Parent Forum


Term dates for **2024-2025** can be found [here](#).

Attendance Awards

Week beginning 9th September 2024

The best attendance award is presented to:

Aspen class this week!

| | |
|---|---|
| Mulberries Will start next week | Fir (YR) 98% |
| Yew (Y1) 99% | Aspen (Y2) 100%  |
| Rowan (Y3) 99% | Poplar (Y4) 98% |
| Juniper (Y5) 99% | Elder (Y6) 93% |



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



How to Use Smart Speakers Safely



Smart speakers can be great addition to any household.



Not only can they be of practical use, but they can be a source of fun for the whole family.



However, knowing how to use them safely is important.



What are the risks of Smart Speakers:



There has been growing privacy concerns surrounding smart speakers because they record and store everything you say to them – read tips below on how to delete these recordings.

- Some people may use smart speakers to ask personal questions, which other users may be able to see.
- Smart speakers can listen in on conversations so make sure you know how to mute the microphone.

- Smart speakers can be set to automatically purchase products. We would recommend disabling this setting.
- Smart speakers can alert you to incoming deliveries – be mindful of this when ordering surprise or personal items online.
- Some devices can offer to 'learn your voice' – this is not always necessary so limiting it may give you better privacy.
- Despite human names for some smart speakers designed to build trust, children and young people should understand that they are interacting with a non-human interface which can sometimes get things wrong.

Amazon Echo Speakers



You can turn off in-app voice purchasing or set up a code to prevent children from ordering products from Amazon.

You can easily restrict access via parental controls to inappropriate content.

Turn off or restrict 'drop-in'. This feature allows users to drop into a video call with someone else's Echo.



Activate the "Do Not Disturb" option. This would be most suitable for when your family is sleeping.



On the Echo Show, you can turn the camera and microphone off by using the button on the device.

Google Nest Speakers



Users can set up Family Link. This is done by setting up another account for your child. Your child's voice will be added to your Nest.

Make sure to use Google's Digital Wellbeing tool. This allows users to set up filters for music, video, and assistant queries.

You can turn off Google's Pay Assistant to prevent any unwanted purchases.



Facebook Portal Speakers



Because users have to be over the age of 13 (if they are using Facebook), there are no control settings for children under this age.

Users can place PIN codes on accounts to ensure nothing happens without their permission.

You can set a screen lock on the Facebook Portal, promoting security and ensuring that children and young people in your care do not use it without your permission.

You can disable the microphone and camera with a switch on all devices.

The portal includes a small slide that is used to cover the camera, for extra privacy.

If you have a smart speaker that we haven't covered, we advise you to do some research online and make sure you have the information you need to keep children and young people safer.

Apple HomePod Speakers



You can stop your child from accessing explicit content by following guidelines found on Apple's website.

Users might also want to lock personal requests. This is what Apple calls the ability to send and read texts, add reminders, and create notes. This will prevent anyone from sending messages from your Apple device.

You can prevent children from making in-app purchases by following the instructions found on Apple's website.