

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**

Learning. Equality. Achievement. Friendship.

Newsletter

Friday 23rd May 2025

MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY HEAD

Alongside the learning, there has been a lot of fun in school this week with children learning to ride their bikes on the roads as part of our bike-ability scheme and having an Ancient Egyptian day in year 3, and that's just been today! This week, I have loved seeing the children creating their amazing pieces of art for the upcoming art exhibition. They have worked really hard on these and we can't wait for you to see them. Remember, there is no pressure to purchase the artwork but we hope that the children enjoy seeing it displayed for all to admire.

On a very different note, I am saddened to share that we have had some instances where staff have felt upset about how a parent or carer has spoken to them. We believe that a strong partnership between home and school is essential for your child's success and well-being and that a key part of this is **respectful communication** between everyone in our school community.

Our staff members are dedicated to providing the best possible learning environment for your children. They work incredibly hard, and we ask that all interactions with them, whether in person, by phone, or via email, are always conducted with politeness and respect.

Sometimes, frustrations can arise, or you might have concerns you wish to discuss. We understand this. Please know that we are always here to listen and help resolve any issues. However, it's crucial that these conversations remain calm and respectful. Aggressive or abusive language, intimidation, or shouting is never acceptable towards any member of our staff.

Working together, with mutual respect, ensures that our school remains a positive and safe place for everyone. We truly appreciate your cooperation in upholding these values and would like to thank the vast majority of you who support the school with this.

We all hope you have a good half term and we will see you all on Tuesday 3rd June.

Sadly we have had very few replies about children who would like to join us for the Sandy Carnival this year. If we do not get a suitable number of children taking part, we will have to pull out.

If your child wishes to take part in the carnival procession, please complete the reply slip via Parentmail to register their interest. We have extended the deadline to Wednesday 4th June.

The theme for the carnival is, 'Once Upon a Story' and Maple Tree have decided to ask children to dress up in their favourite traditional tale costume.



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

Tel: 01767 699806 Web: www.mapletreprimaryschool.com

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

Year 5 by Juniper Class

Art in Juniper class is fun! We have been learning about city and landscapes and then sketching them.

In Geography, we've been looking and explaining why oceans matter.

This term in Juniper, we have been drawing landscapes of our field in art and other things around the area. We also showed the year 6 pupils what we have done, also telling them to not worry about mistakes and celebrate the errors.

In Science we have been learning all about the properties of different materials.

We have learnt how to add and subtract decimals.

In PE we have been doing basketball and we have learnt how to dribble with different passes. The passes include chest pass, shoulder pass and bounce pass.

During English, we have been focusing on biographies and autobiographies. We read a David Attenborough biography and are currently writing our own autobiography.

Recently, we have been learning about landscapes by drawing parts of the school field and including parts of the playground and school building.

In Juniper we have been learning basketball in P.E. We have learnt three types of dribbles (protective, v dribble and

a dribble) along with three different passes (chest pass, shoulder pass and a bounce pass) and we have played some matches.

In Maths we have been learning about negative numbers. **We've learnt how to** count them. We learnt how to read a scale using them. For example on thermometers to measure the temperature.

In computing, we have been learning about programming. We are using Scratch and figuring out how to create music.

Juniper have also been learning about King Henry VIII who lived in Tudor times.

At Maple Tree we use our values to become kind and caring people. We take care to listen and learn.

Holidays During Term-time.

This week we have received a number of absence requests for holidays. We understand that holidays are an important part of family life. However, we'd like to remind you about the regulations regarding taking children out of school during term time.

As per government guidelines, headteachers can **only** grant leave in exceptional circumstances. Family holidays are generally **not** considered exceptional circumstances.



If you choose to take your child out of school without authorisation, or if the absence is not approved by the headteacher, it will be marked as an unauthorised absence in our registers.

What happens next?

For unauthorised absences, our local authority may issue a **Fixed Penalty Notice (a fine)**. Where a penalty notice is issued, then over a 3-year rolling period the sanctions are:

- first offence – fine of £160 reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days.
- second offence – fine of £160.
- third offence – court hearing and up to £2,500 fine, or up to 3 months in prison and a criminal record.

Once a penalty notice has been issued, there is no right of appeal, although there are circumstances in which they may withdraw the notice.

As a maintained school, we work closely with the local authority to ensure that we balance working with families in regards to attendance whilst also following the guidance laid out by the department for education and appreciate your continued support with this.

Why is attendance so important?

Every day in school counts! Regular attendance is crucial for your child's learning, progress, and overall well-being. Missing even a few days can disrupt their education and make it harder for them to catch up.

We strongly encourage you to plan any holidays during the school breaks. You can find our term dates on the school website to help you plan.

If you have any questions or are facing exceptional circumstances, please do not hesitate to speak to the school office.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child's regular attendance.



Maths at Maple Tree

Early Years

In Mulberries the children have been recognising and finding patterns in animals. They have used pattern vocabulary, for example spots and stripes. They have also counted legs and wings of different birds and animals. Deepening their subitising to 3, in the second part of summer term they will be subitising to 5.



In Fir class recently, we have been learning all about shapes. We have recapped the properties of 2D shapes and have then been using them to make pictures, such as flowers and houses. We have also used 2D shapes to make larger shapes by moving and rotating them.



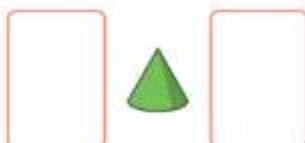
We have used different resources throughout the week to investigate shapes and make our pictures.

Key Stage 1

In Yew the children have been learning about fractions.

They are now learning a geometry unit about position and direction. Within this unit they will learn how to describe left and right, forwards and backwards and above and below. They will use lots of new vocabulary. They will also learn about ordinal numbers. For example, first, second and third.

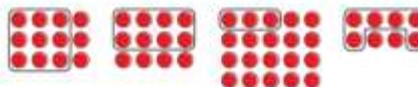
Here is a cone.



- Draw a circle to the left of the cone.
- Draw a triangle to the right of the cone.

In Aspen the children have been learning about fractions. They recognise equal and unequal parts to then recognise and find half, quarter and a third of a shape. They also learn about the whole and how a fraction is represented. They deepen their learning by understanding what a unit fraction and non-unit fraction is.

Which pictures show $\frac{3}{4}$?



In Poplar the children have been learning about decimals. They can compare and order decimals reading the tenths and hundredths. This learning then leads into their learning about money. During this learning they have calculated with money and solve problems.

1.42

4.12

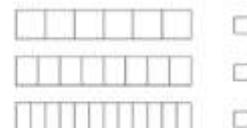
1.24

2.41

Lower Key Stage 2

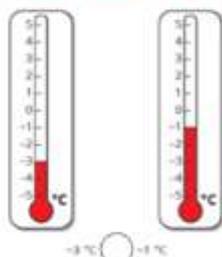
In Rowan the children have been learning about fractions. Moving on from Year 2, children now learn to compare fractions and find equivalent fractions on a number line. Children also find equivalent fractions using a bar model. They deepen their understanding of fraction vocabulary, including numerator and denominator.

Tick the bar models that can be used to show a fraction that is equivalent to $\frac{1}{2}$.
Shade the bar models to support your answers.



Upper Key Stage 2

In Juniper the children have been learning about place value—negative numbers. They can order and compare and count through zero. As well as this, they can find the difference using a number line.



In Elder the children have just completed their end of key stage assessments—SATs. They worked extremely hard to revise the Key Stage 2 curriculum in preparation.

Over the final weeks of year 6, they will work on maths projects. The first project is, 'Design a Theme Park'. They have to use their knowledge of area, perimeter, arithmetic and other areas within the maths curriculum.


**WELL DONE
YEAR 6**
**SATS
ARE OVER!**

Headteacher Awards

This week the awards are for... ..showing all our values!



Fir: Bree	Yew: Eleanor	Aspen: Saffie
Rowan: Olivia	Poplar: Karol	Juniper: Abigail
Elder: Noah	Well done to you all!	★

This half term's House Winners



Congratulations!

Half Term totals:

Buzzards 3833 Robins 3470
Doves 3670 Ravens 4199
Kingfishers 3324 Swallows 3763

Celebrations and Weekly Wins!

DATES FOR THE DIARY

- Friday 23rd May—Last day of half term.
- Mon 2nd June—INSET day
- Tues 3rd June—First day of half term**
- Mon 9th-Wed 11th June—Year 6 Residential Trip PGL
- Thur 19th June—Year 4/5 Camping Experience
- Wed 2nd July—Preschool Sports Day
- Thur 3rd July—Sports Day
- Thur 10th July—Parent Forum
- Fri 11th July—Open Afternoon and Proms on the Playground
- Tue 22nd July—Year 6 leaver's assembly
- Tue 22nd July—Last day of school year

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

Attendance Awards

Week beginning 19th May 2025

The best attendance award is presented to **Aspen class** for improving attendance!

Class Attendance Percentages for the whole year.

Mulberries	Fir (YR)
90%	95%
Yew (Y1)	Aspen (Y2) ★
96%	96%
Rowan (Y3)	Poplar (Y4)
96%	96%
Juniper (Y5) ★	Elder (Y6)
98%	96%

In lieu of our Dads n Lads gift shop...

***WE ARE SELLING KRISPY
KREME DOUGHNUTS!***

***DONUT
MISS
OUT!***

£ 1.50 for one

£ 8 for 6

£ 12 for 12



BOOKING CLOSES 6th JUNE

***No bookings after this date to ensure they
arrive in time for Father's Day***



order here





THESE ARE FOR SANDY
CARNIVAL & OUR OWN
SUMMER FETE

CAN YOU HELP US?

**WE NEED
DONATIONS**



WE ARE LOOKING FOR THE FOLLOWING
TO HELP US WITH OUR UPCOMING
FRIENDS OF MAPLE TREE STALLS.
GIFTS FOR OUR GAMES, SUCH AS:
PARTY BAG FILLERS, BOUNCY BALLS
ETC.

TATTOOS
SWEETS
BUBBLES

GOOD CONDITION TOYS/TEDDIES

