

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



# Newsletter

Friday 29th November 2024

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

What a wonderful morning we had yesterday hosting breakfast for grandparents (and others). This is, without doubt, my favourite event of the year and it certainly didn't disappoint. It was lovely to see the children with family members enjoying the crafts that had been provided for them - some of them were particularly challenging but our value of perseverance ran deep! I would like to express a **BIG** thank you to the school staff who came in early to set up and run this popular event.

The school feels very Christmassy today; as I write, school staff are decorating classrooms and corridors. This carries us into this weekend when the choir will be performing at the Sandy Light Switch On event at 1.50pm on Sunday afternoon. Please do take the time to come down and listen to them and whilst you are there, take a walk over to Sandy Parish Church to look at our rainbow bright tree which will be proudly on display as part of the Christmas Tree Festival over the weekend.

Finally, a reminder to look at the list of dates over the page; there is so much going on in school during the coming weeks we would love you to be a part of.

I hope you all have a good weekend.



Thank you to everyone who donated to the recent Poppy Appeal in school. You helped to raise an amazing £298.79. This will make a great difference to the men and women that the Royal British Legion support throughout the United Kingdom. Thank you again.

## Two days left of the Book Fair

Our book fair continues on Monday and Tuesday next week, selling afterschool from the school library. To find the library, head down the right side of the front of the school after school where staff will be waiting to greet you. You will be able to pay via cash or on your phone via a QR code. Thank you to all who have already attended.



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## Survey: we need your help to be GREEN!



To ensure we are helping everyone in the Maple Tree community to travel as sustainable as they can, we would be really grateful if you could click on the link below and answer the five short questions. It will only take a couple of minutes but your response could make a big difference to the safety and health of the children.

Thank you. <https://forms.gle/BGs6xVsLc1CR4Ttz9>

### Christmas cards

Christmas cards can be exchanged in school again this year between children. This is something that we actively encourage as it is a good opportunity for writing practice. The cards will be posted into the post-boxes in school ready for selected children to hand out. Please ensure that on the front of each envelope is either the child's full name or their first name and their class. This will ensure that all the cards get to the correct children.



### Do you need any support with food this Christmas?

If you are worried about how you will be able to buy food for your family or a gift for your child this Christmas, then The Need Project can help. All you need to do is contact the school and ask to speak to Miss Hyde about the Need Project.



### DATES FOR THE DIARY

**Sunday 1st December** Sandy Christmas Light Switch on and Christmas Tree Festival

**Monday 2nd December** Year 6 trip to Bletchley Park

**Monday 2nd December** FoMT Craft Fair 6-8:30pm

**Wednesday 4th December** Year 3 and 4 Faith Tour trip

**Wednesday 11th December** School Pantomime

**Thursday 12th December at 2.30pm** Parent Forum

**Thursday 12th and Friday 13th December** FoMT Elfridges shop

**Friday 13th December** UKS2 Christmas assembly – 9:15-9:45am

**Friday 13th December** Mulberries Christmas songs and stay – 11am-12pm

**Friday 13th December** Carols on the playground- 3:40pm

**Monday 16th December** LKS2 Christmas assembly – 9:15-9:45am

**Monday 16th December** Mulberries Christmas songs and stay – 2:30-3:30pm

**Tuesday 17th December** Rock Steady Concert

**Tuesday 17th December** KS1 Christmas assembly – 9:15-9:45am

**Wednesday 18th December** Reception Christmas assembly – 9:15-9:45am

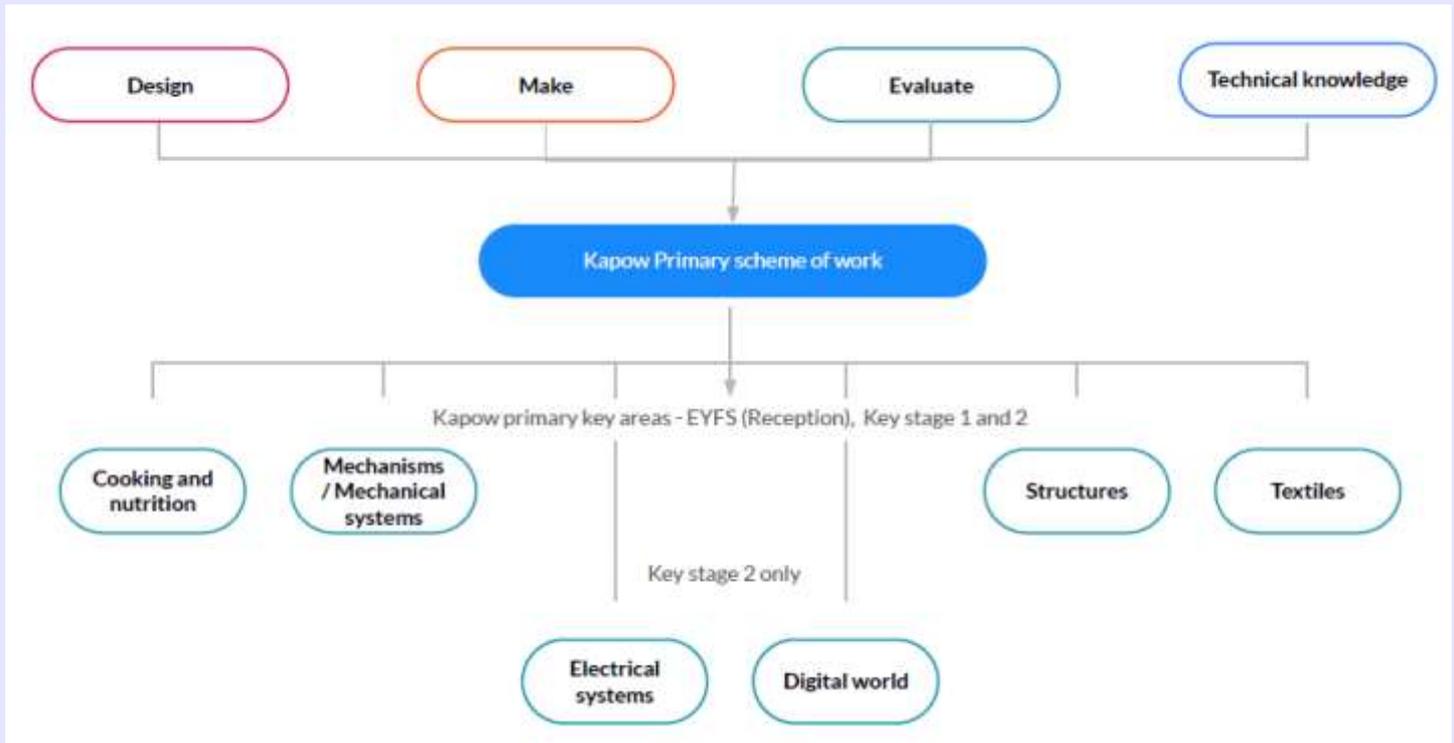
Term dates for **2024-2025** can be found [here](#).

# Design & Technology

At Maple Tree Primary School

Here at Maple Tree, to ensure we teach DT confidently, we follow a scheme of work <https://www.kapowprimary.com/subjects/design-technology/> this enables us to be

## How is the DT scheme of work organised?



## What are the key areas of work?

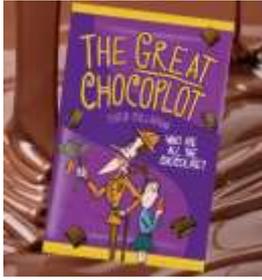
EYFS (Reception) Key Stage 1 and 2

<b>Cooking and nutrition</b> Where food comes from, balanced diet, preparation and cooking skills. Kitchen hygiene and safety. Following recipes.	<b>Mechanisms/ Mechanical systems</b> Mimic natural movements using mechanisms such as cams, followers, levers and sliders.	<b>Structures</b> Material functional and aesthetic properties, strength and stability, stiffen and reinforce structures.	<b>Textiles</b> Fastening, sewing, decorative and functional fabric techniques including cross stitch, blanket stitch and appliqué.
	<b>Electrical systems</b> Operational series circuits, circuit components, circuit diagrams and symbols, combined to create various electrical products.	<b>Digital world</b> Program products to monitor and control, develop designs and virtual models using 2D and 3D CAD software.	

# Autumn in Poplar Class

2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	2
3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	3
4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	4
5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	5
6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	6
7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	7
8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	8
9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	9
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		

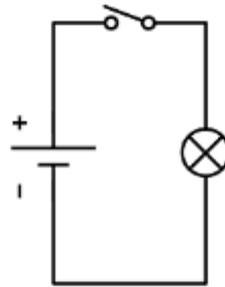
## English



Over the autumn term Poplar class have written poems about being strong, resilient and over coming problems. We have also learnt how to write a persuasive advert and what literate devices are used to convince people to buy products such as repetition, positive vocabulary and puns. We are currently reading The Great Chocoplot by Chris Callaghan and the children are continuing the story. There is a particular focus on punctuation of dialogue.

## Science

In autumn 1 the children learnt about common electrical appliances and how to construct simple series circuits. The children know what cells, wires, bulbs, buzzers and switches are. They had to build circuits and able to identify a complete circuit and about conductors and insulators. This term the children are learning about the human body and have undertaken experiments to see the effects of drinks on teeth!



## Geography

This term we are learning about the importance of rainforests. They are vital to the global for many reasons such as climate change and wildlife. The children have been looking at the structure of the forests and how the indigenous people sensitively use the rainforests. The topic was brought to life when we visited the biome and animals at Shuttleworth College.

## History

Our topic of the ancient Mayan civilisation compliments the learning about rainforests. The Mayan civilisation was very successful but also had a brutal side to it. The children have learnt about the creation of the Maya world, some of the gods and the glory of being sacrificed. Chocolate was so important to them and the wealth would eat it with chilli and honey.



# Computing at Maple Tree



## Fir

In Fir Class, we have been learning to follow one, two and three step instructions as the foundation of algorithms and coding.

## Yew

In Yew, we have been familiarising ourselves with the parts of the computer and how these components vary between different types of devices.

## Aspen

This term in Aspen, we have been looking into, in more detail, 'What is a computer?'. We began practising logging on with our own passwords and becoming fluent with this process before exploring different software such as Sketch Pad

## Rowan

In Rowan, we began the year with learning about online safety and the importance of strong passwords as well as limiting the information that we post about ourselves. This half term, we have been learning about data storing and analysis.

## Poplar

This term in Poplar we have been developing our coding - creating simple scripts in Scratch. TO achieve this we have been learning about using decomposition and understanding what variables are.

## Juniper

This term in Juniper we have been learning how we can keep ourselves and others safe online. We have learnt about cyber bullying and trolling, but also, ways to manage this and enjoy a positive relationship with technology.

## Elder

In Elder, we have been progressing our coding skills and linking our learning to our WW2 topic. We have delved into the coding which took place at Bletchly Park, some historical figures in computing and the evolution of computers.

# Headteacher Awards

This week the awards are for... ..being a good friend!



<b>Fir:</b> Kobi	<b>Yew:</b> Ivy	<b>Aspen:</b> Freddie
<b>Rowan:</b> Bella	<b>Poplar:</b> Ralphy	<b>Juniper:</b> Theo
<b>Elder:</b> Alfie	Well done to you all!	★

This week's House Winners



**Congratulations!**

Weekly totals:

Buzzards 240	Robins 348
Doves 254	Ravens 359
Kingfishers 259	Swallows 311

# Celebrations and Weekly Wins!

stars of the Week!

For amazing art this week!

Yew: Agamjot  
Aspen: Harry  
Rowan: Reggie  
Poplar: Harper  
Juniper: Mason  
Elder: Luke

## Attendance Awards

Week beginning 18th November 2024

The best attendance award is presented to:  
**Juniper** class this week!

<b>Mulberries</b> 91%	<b>Fir (YR)</b> 93%
<b>Yew (Y1)</b> 95%	<b>Aspen (Y2)</b> 96%
<b>Rowan (Y3)</b> 97%	<b>Poplar (Y4)</b> 97%
<b>Juniper (Y5)</b> 99% ★	<b>Elder (Y6)</b> 95%



**OPEN 12TH & 13TH  
DECEMBER**

# **ELFRIDGES'** *Gift Shop*

**£3.50 PER PRESENT**

*Scan here to pre-order!*



**PRE-ORDERING CLOSES ON  
6TH DECEMBER!**



# Christmas Craft Market

Come along to our fun filled festive evening, with amazing gift ideas and help show your support to small local businesses.

From bows to books, candles to colouring, we have a fab range of stall holders waiting to make your Christmas magical.

There will also be a raffle & refreshments available

**Monday 2nd December 2024 6-8:30pm**

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



**FREE  
ENTRY**

