

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 17th October 2025

### MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING HEAD

We have a jam-packed newsletter for you this week including updates from our music and history leaders, Juniper have shared about their learning and Elder about their exciting trip to Bletchley Park this week. We also have information about Harvest Festival, including our assembly and food collection and our Autumn scavenger hunt, our early years cultural day and posters for Kids Club and the FoMT Disco. I hope that you find all of this information useful. As always, please let us know if there is something that you need more information about.

During the last two weeks, I have had the pleasure of visiting all the classes to see children learning how to write. From mark making and learning initial letter formation in Mulberries, all the way up to writing extended pieces for a range of purposes in year 6. I was so impressed to see how hard the children work to produce good writing and how much progress they are making. I observed children in Mulberries taking orders of cake and 'writing' them down in notepads before serving their play food. Children in reception proudly showed me the new sounds that they had learnt and how to write the letters correctly. Year 1 were showing off their new learning of writing the split diagraph a\_e, like in 'lake'. Year 2 have been writing poetry, focusing on using questions correctly. Year 3 have been re-writing a story, based off a picture book, focusing on how to take the reader on an emotional journey. Year 4 were writing wonderful poems inspired by Maya Angelou. Year 5 were planning in readiness to write a descriptive scene, making careful choices in their vocabulary and sentence lengths. Year 6 have been writing diary entries based around their class book 'War Horse'.

I am looking forward to seeing lots of you next week for our first parents' evening of the year. Our October parents evening is focused on how the children have settled into their new class; they are a crucial opportunity for us to connect and work together to ensure your child is happy, thriving, and reaching their full potential. I will be present on both evenings and will be asking parents to complete a short survey.

We are already using our newly refurbished DT room and are incredibly thankful to FoMT, and the wider parent community for the funding to do this. It is already being used by sewing club and we are excited to have Mr Bygraves, supported by Mrs Jacobs, running a baking club after half term.

There are still places in our clubs for the run up to Christmas so I have added all the posters here in case you would like to sign up your child.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend. Miss Hyde

Maple Tree Primary School

# Baking Club

with Mr Bygraves and Mrs Jacobs

Years 5-6

**Thursdays 3:30-4:30pm**

6<sup>th</sup> Nov - 11<sup>th</sup> Dec

E4 a session with booking through parentmail  
Pick up from Cherry Class

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

Tel: 01767 699806 Web: [www.mapletreepriamaryschool.com](http://www.mapletreepriamaryschool.com)

Emails: [office@mapletreepriamaryschool.com](mailto:office@mapletreepriamaryschool.com) or [teacher@mapletreepriamaryschool.com](mailto:teacher@mapletreepriamaryschool.com)

**YEAR 1 AND 2**  
**ARTS & CRAFT CLUB**

Miss Cornfoot  
**TUESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER –**  
**DECEMBER 16TH**  
 Collection from Cherry Class  
 £4

**Dance Club** **FREESTYLE BALLROOM LATIN**  
 WITH MRS FACE

Starts Wednesday 5th November  
 3:30-4:15

**£4 PER SESSION**  
**BOOKING VIA PARENTMAIL**

**PICK UP FROM THE HALL**

YEARS 3,4,5 & 6

**KS2 Badminton Club**

**KS2**  
 Beginner, intermediate... professional?  
 No matter what stage of your badminton journey you are at, come along to Badminton Club with Mr Neill.  
 play games    run drills    develop technique  
 get fit    have fun

**You need:**  
 PE kit, trainers and a water bottle  
 (racquets provided but bring your own if you wish)

**To book:**  
 £4 a session  
 Please use Parentmail to reserve your spot.

**When: Mondays**  
 Week beginning 10th November  
**On: Mondays 3.30pm - 4.30pm**

. Pick-up : School Hall's external door

**KS2 Dodgeball**

With **Alfie** (Our Premier Education Coach)



**KS2** Boys and Girls who want to Dodge, Duck, Dip, Dive and Dodge!  
**You need:** yourself and a drink

**To book:**  
 £4 a session  
 Please use Parentmail



**When: Autumn Term 2 -**  
 First session - 4th November  
**On: Tuesdays**  
 3.30pm - 4.30pm

**Pick-up :** outside the hall

## History at Maple Tree

At Maple Tree, we provide a high-quality history education which helps pupils gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world. I have spent time talking to the children to discover what they have enjoyed the most this in their history learning, and what they are looking forward to finding out next.

In **Reception** they have been peeking into the past. They have been comparing old and current photos, looking at toys that they played with when they were babies and toddlers. They have looked at their own photos from the past.

**Year 1** have been learning about how we make history. They have made a class memory box where they have added some of our baby photos. They have also learnt how people celebrate different special events and they have been using new vocabulary, such as living memory and have begun to use a timeline .

"We have been learning about events like birthdays, bonfire night and Christmas. We have thought about memories from a long time ago." **Ada**

**Year 2** have been looking at the history of Maple Tree which is now 25 years old! They have been discovering how modern schools differ from the schools in the 1900s. The children have been shocked to learn that pupils couldn't speak until spoken to.

"In the early stone age they didn't live in houses like we do. In the later stone age they had houses made from twigs and dead animals." **Sophie**

In **Year 3** they have been finding out about the Romans invasion of Britain and the reasons behind this. They have looked at the chronology and have discussed the empire.

"In the 1900s it was different to our school. The children used to use chalk boards not white boards."

**Lana**

"In the Victorian age, children had to go and clean the chimneys. They also had to work in the coal mine." **Tom**

**Year 4** have been learning about how children's lives have changed over time. They have been focusing particularly on Victorian and Tudor children. They made comparisons of what leisure activities have changed over time and what are the same in modern lives. They explored what a Tudor apprentice had to do and what rules they had to abide to.

We have been learning about the stereotypes of Vikings. We have looked at trading routes. It has been really interesting." **Nicole**

**Year 5** have been discussing about whether Vikings were traders or invaders. The children have been looking at sources of evidence and then making inferences about Vikings.

The children in **Year 6** have visited Bletchley Park where they found out about coding and the Enigma machines used in WW2. They discovered that it was top secret location where men and women deciphered messages sent by the Germans.

"We found out that after WW2 had finished the workers at Bletchley could go home but they weren't allowed to tell their families what they were doing until 2009." **Maya**

# Harvest Assembly

Friday 25th October at 9:15am  
Open to parents and carers of children in  
years 3-6.

Come and join us to celebrate Harvest Festival  
with songs, poems, music and more!

## Food Drive

We will be collecting food donations for the need project, a wonderful charity who provide food donations to people needing support in Bedfordshire, including families in our school community.

We have decided to run a house competition again to see how many items of long-life food we can collect before half term. Each item donated will equate to a house point! Please bring your donations to the class teachers and ensure that all donations are in date.





# Maple Tree

## Autumn Scavenger Hunt

This October half term we are inviting the children of Maple Tree to take part in a sponsored Autumn scavenger hunt. It will involve finding as many of the 50 items on the sponsorship form as they can. As we have a wonderful new DT/Art facility in Cherry class, we would like to purchase some more resources. The money the children raise will go towards funding the consumables such as cooking ingredients, wood, construction card, fabric . Any amount of sponsorship will be greatly appreciated and thank for your support. A form will be coming home with the children so they can all join in if they wish to. Thank you in advance for your continued support for Maple Tree.

**Please can sponsorship money be returned to school by Friday 14th November 2025.**

# Early Years Cultural Day

## Poland



On Thursday 16th October, children in Mulberries and Fir will be experienced their first cultural day! We chose to look at Polish culture, and we invited children to come to school wearing the colours of the polish flag—red and white.

Activities included tasting some traditional Polish food, making Polish dishes and speaking to Polish staff to learn more about the culture.

We hope your early years child enjoyed their cultural day!

Mrs Darnell



# Music

**Juniper** is exploring the associations between music, sounds and colour. In this unit we will compose our own musical composition to represent a festival of colour. So far, we have learnt about 'synaesthesia' where you 'see' music as colours. Also, we've learnt about major and minor. This is where the music sounds happy or bright or the music sounds sad or tense.

**Poplar** are exploring body percussion and will be replicating the sounds of a river by composing a piece as a group. The class started by considering tempo and pitch of choir recreating a thunder storm with just body percussion, and we tried as a class with great success. The children will be learning to create and perform a piece with a variety of ostinatos, listening to each other and work as a group.

**Elder** have been listening and learning about WW2 songs. They have been discussing the musical vocabulary to identify the different eras of music, focusing on the song 'Pack up your troubles in your old kit bag' and 'We'll meet again'. We have been singing 'White Cliffs of Dover', developing accuracy in pitch and control and the ability to sing with expression and dynamics

This half term, **Fir** have been exploring sounds, including vocal, body, environmental and nature sounds. For this we have been focusing on our listening skills. We also have been singing nursery rhymes with numbers as part of our maths curriculum, and been listening to popular music during our daily Funky Fingers session!

In **Yew** they have been learning how to find the beat of different pieces of music. To do this they have used their hands and feet to follow the beat, they have also learnt how to use their voices to make different sounds. The aim of the unit is to listening with concentration to short pieces of music or excerpts from longer pieces of music.

**Aspen** have been thinking about patterns and sounds. They have been using the call and response technique. The teacher has clapped certain rhythms and the class have been clapping back together with their given pattern. Individual children were also able to start the call. They all worked really well together and could hear the patterns clearly.

**Rowan** have been learning about ballads such as 'Space oddity by David Bowie' and 'Unchained melody by The Righteous Brothers', identifying the key features of a ballad. The class have also developed a series of actions to perform to a ballad, some of which are very creative. We will be looking to write a story for a piece of music considering the tempo and words.

## Year 6 Bletchley Trip

Elder class had a fantastic trip to Bletchley Park on Monday. The weather held out for us as we toured around this fascinating site.

First, the children learn about the role Bletchley had during World War II.

Did you know the men and women signed the official secrets act and could not tell ANYONE what they did during the war. They could not talk about it until after 2009!

We firstly found out about how the messages were received at Bletchley and how the men and women were chosen to work there—many top mathematicians, scientists and linguists from Cambridge and Oxford universities were chosen— including Alan Turing.

We then took part in a fun, engaging code breaking workshop. Here, we were able to try out an Enigma Machine.



When touring in our groups we were able to find out more about the 'computer' built to break the codes—this is called The Bombe.

There is also an exhibition explaining where AI has its roots—and what AI can do for us in the future.

As always, the children were an amazing credit to our school and the behaviour was exemplary.

Ms Cassidy



## Juniper Class this half term so far.....

### Religious Education

We have been learning about the aspects of Gods and what we think they should be like. We have learnt Gods can be spiritual beings.

### English

We use our neat writing skills to write a story or poem. We have used figurative language to write a descriptive scene. In English, we have looked at a book called Cloud Tea Monkeys.

### DT

We are learning about the structures of bridges. We are in the middle of making a truss bridge out of spaghetti.

### PE

We are learning lots of different sports such as, football tennis and dance.

### Music

We have been trying to see colours when listening to music!

### History

In history, we have been learning about the Viking times e.g. trading routes.

### Computing

In computing we are thinking about...

ONLINE SAFETY!

### Science

In science we have been learning about the Solar System and the planets. We have also been learning about how many phases the moon has.

### MATHS

We are studying addition and subtraction. Also we have just finished a unit on Place Value.

### PSHE

We have learned about different relationships. We have also looked at how different things effect people and how to solve friendship problems.

### Art and Design

In Art year 5 have been learning to make marks visually stronger.

Mrs Jacobs

# Headteacher Awards

This week the awards are for...

showing positivity in everything they do and for showing good manners!

<b>Fir:</b> Walter Conan	 <b>Yew:</b> Mia Effie	<b>Aspen:</b> Lola Lana
<b>Rowan:</b> Layla Harry	<b>Poplar:</b> Ava Amber	<b>Juniper:</b> Elliott Hazel
<b>Elder:</b> CJ Mason	Well done to you all!	

This week's House Winners



Congratulations!

Weekly totals:

Buzzards 310	Robins 298
Doves 222	Ravens 257
Kingfishers 254	Swallows 196

# Celebrations and Weekly Wins!

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

Tue 21st Oct – Parents evening 4-6pm  
 Thur 23rd Oct – Parents evening 4-7pm  
 Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Oct – Harvest Assembly (Year 3-6) 9:15am  
**Fri 24th Oct—Last day of half term.**  
 31st Oct—Deadline for applications to Secondary School (Y6)  
**Mon 3rd Nov—First day of half term**  
 Mon 3rd Nov—FoMT Disco  
 Fri 14th Nov— Reception and Year 6 height & weight screening  
 Fri 14th Nov—Anti-bullying open afternoon 2:30pm  
 Fri 14th Nov—Charity non-uniform day  
 Mon 17th, Tue 18th, Wed 19th Nov—Reception Phonics drop ins 9:10-9:30am  
 Wed 26th Nov —Book Fair opens  
 Thurs 27th Nov—Grandparents' breakfast  
 December dates coming soon!  
 Term dates for **2025-2026** can be found [here](#).

## Attendance Awards

The best attendance award is presented to **Aspen class** this week.

Class Attendance Percentages for the whole year.

<b>Mulberries*</b>	<b>Fir (YR)</b>
93%	96%
<b>Yew (Y1)</b>	<b>Aspen (Y2)</b> 
98%	99%
<b>Rowan (Y3)</b>	<b>Poplar (Y4)</b>
96%	97%
<b>Juniper (Y5)</b>	<b>Elder (Y6)</b>
97%	98%

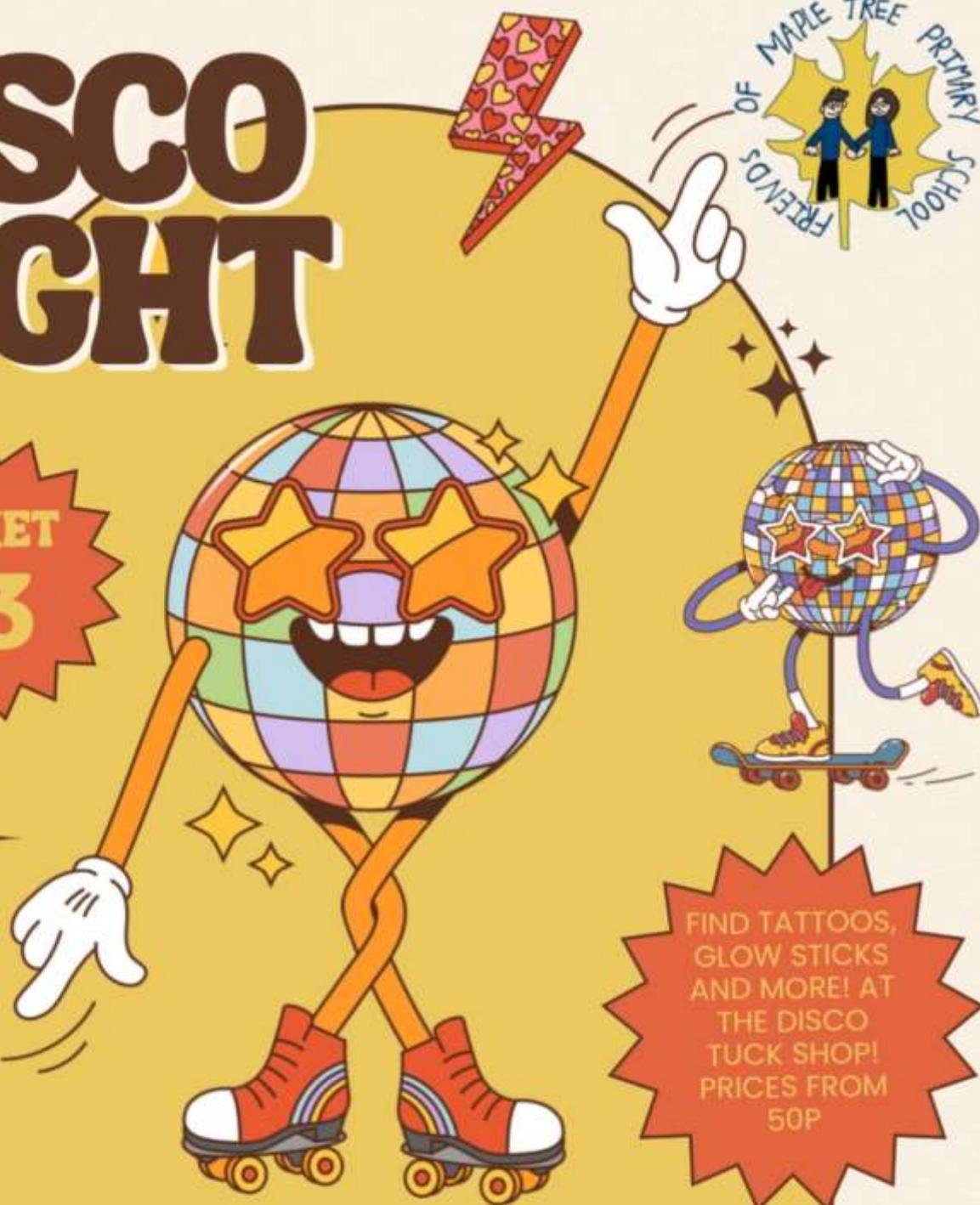
\*Attendance is not statutory in Mulberries.

# DISCO NIGHT



**MONDAY 3RD NOV**

**TICKET  
£3**



**FIND TATTOOS,  
GLOW STICKS  
AND MORE! AT  
THE DISCO  
TUCK SHOP!  
PRICES FROM  
50P**

**Mulberries/  
Reception  
4pm-4:45pm**  
*(Parents required to  
stay)*

**YR 1/ YR 2 / YR 3  
5pm-6pm**

**YR 4/ YR 5 / YR 6  
6:15pm-7:15pm**

Tickets can be purchased via the QR code or form in the office.

For any questions, please contact:  
[fomtprimary@gmail.com](mailto:fomtprimary@gmail.com)





**October holiday club !**

**Monday 27th - Friday 31st**

**8am - 4pm**

**£28 per / per day .  
(discounts available for siblings)**



**New children will need to register with kids club.**

**If your child/children are 3-11 years old, come and join in with the fun activities that holiday club offer .**

**To book your child/children's space please email**

**[mapletreekidsclub@gmail.com](mailto:mapletreekidsclub@gmail.com)**

**Activities for all age groups to enjoy !**

**Spooky biscuit making , toffee apples, indoor/ outdoor football, dancing, badminton, wii games, messy activities, scavenger hunt and much more.**

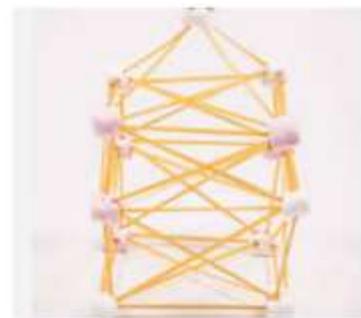


**Have fun with your friends, and  
make new friends.**





*7th November 2025  
Fireworks arts/crafts and decorating  
chocolate sparklers.*



*14th November 2025  
Construction challenge.  
Can you build with spaghetti and  
marshmallows?*

# Friday Fun Club !

**Organised by Kids Club ( no need to register)  
Open to ALL children at Maple Tree .**

**For enquires and bookings , please email  
[mapletreekidsclub@gmail.com](mailto:mapletreekidsclub@gmail.com)  
(This is subject to sufficient numbers)**

**3.30pm - 4.30pm**

**Please meet at reception corridor.**

**Only £5 a session for each child .**

**Please book by Friday 17th October 2025 to secure  
your child/ children's space.**

*28th November 2025  
Crazy science experiments.*



*21st November 2025.  
Pizza time .  
Create a pizza and  
have fun with  
friends.*

