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



Climbing the Branches of Success

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 22nd September 2017

MESSAGE TO PARENTS AND CARERS FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

It was great to hear so many of you attended the KS1 Meet the Teacher meeting this morning, my apologies for not being able to join you. I am sure that you will hear from your children what they are doing in class each week. We are also hoping to update the website more regularly this year so you will be able to catch up on news there. Please do join us for the KS2 Meet the Teacher morning next Friday from 9.00-9.45am if you are able.

I have been working with the Senior Leadership Team to analyse the responses from the parent survey that I put out at the end of last year. One of the main concerns identified was homework. We have updated our homework policy this year and you will find a copy of this on our website. Homework will be the discussion at our next parent drop-in on Wednesday 4th October and it would be great to see some of you there to discuss this further. If you are unable to make the drop-in then please do send your thoughts into the school office or you can email them in.

Have a good weekend.



KS1 Phonic Session for Parents

Wednesday 27th September

9.00-9.30am

As you may know, Year 1 children nationally are given a Phonics test at the end of Year 1.

Mrs Vickery-Cox will be running a phonics session to demonstrate our phonics programme and to share ideas with you as to how to support your child with this at home. It will be lovely to those of you who can attend. This will be held in Sycamore Class.

Lining Up

From Monday we would ask that you leave your child in the line when the 1st bell goes at 8.53am and then move to the back or side of the playground so that the children are standing in the line on their own. We have some children who are struggling to leave their parents at the 2nd bell and this would be easier if no parents were standing alongside them. KS1 will earn house points next week for coming into school independently. If you have any concerns regarding this, please speak to the class teacher.

Be in the line by 5 to 9!



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

Tel: 01767 699806 email: mapletree@cbc.beds.sch.uk

www.mapletreelowerschool.com

Executive Head: Mrs Kim McCamley

Head of School: Mrs Cath Bainbridge

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SMSC Snapshot

Every week we like to share with you how we are covering aspects of the curriculum that go deeper than the National Curriculum. SMSC is the spiritual, moral, social and cultural elements that we teach to help the children to become well-rounded individuals, it is the values-based education that we teach them.

This week the children have learnt to become 'bucket fillers' and to fill other people's buckets with kindness.

BUCKET FILLING IS:
SHOWING KINDNESS &
RESPECT FOR OTHERS

BUCKET DIPPING IS:
BEING MEAN TO
OTHERS ON PURPOSE



They have also taken part in the story of the enormous turnip to look at how working together co-operatively makes things much easier.



Please talk to your child about how they can show Kindness and Co-operation.

AR Information Evening for Parents

**Wednesday 11th October
6.30pm**

Mrs McCamley is holding a meeting for parents who are new to our AR (Accelerated Reader) scheme or who would like a refresher. Please do come and join us in the school hall. We value your support with your child's reading.



IMPORTANT DATES

Autumn 1

- Tuesday 26th September FoMT AGM 7.30pm
- Wednesday 27th September KS1 Phonics session 9-9.30am
- Thursday 28th September Macmillan Cake Sale 3.30pm
- Friday 29th September KS2 Meet the Teacher 9-9.45am
- Wednesday 4th October Parent drop-in 9-10am
- Tuesday 10th October School photos
- Wednesday 11th October AR Parent meeting 6.30pm
- Wednesday 18th October Parents' evening 4-6pm
- Thursday 19th October Parents' Evening 5-7.30pm
- Friday 20th October Harvest Assembly 2.30pm

Half Term 23rd – 27th October

Autumn 2

- Thursday 2nd November KS1 History off the Page
- Wednesday 8th November Parent drop-in 9-10am
- Thursday 30th November Grandparents' Breakfast 8.15 – 10.30am
- Wednesday 6th December Parent drop in 9-10am
- Wednesday 13th December Reception Performance 2.30pm
- Friday 15th December Nursery Performance 11am
- Monday 18th December KS1 Performance 9.30am and 5.30pm
- Tuesday 19th December KS2 Performance 9.30am and 6pm
- Wednesday 20th December Term Ends 3.30pm

Christmas Holiday 21st Dec – 3rd Jan

Spring 1

- Wednesday 3rd January INSET day
- Thursday 4th January Children return to school
- Wednesday 7th February Parents evening
- Thursday 8th February Parents evening

Half Term 12th – 16th February

Spring 2

- Monday 19th February Children return to school
- Friday 9th March Family Fun session 2.30pm
- Wednesday 28th March Easter Bonnet Assembly 9.15am
- Thursday 29th March Term ends

Easter Holiday Friday 30th March – Tuesday 17th April

Summer 1

Dates for this term to be confirmed later in the Autumn Term

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Message from Friends of Maple Tree

The AGM is on Tuesday 26th September at 7.30pm. It will be held in the school meeting room. The AGM is open to everyone and we hope to see some new faces.

We wanted to take this opportunity to tell you about the Match Funding scheme and how a little bit of your time could raise double the funds for the PTA.

If you work for an organisation that has a match funding policy, any money you raise could be matched by your employer. Companies may match the fundraising total for an event, or for the stall that their employee is working on. Usually, the employee will need to supply them with a letter from the PTA detailing the date and nature of the event, together with the total raised.

We understand that the high street banks, building societies, supermarkets and large corporations are likely to do match funding, but these schemes are not exclusive to the major corporate giants. If you work for an independent company, they may be interested in charitable giving through match funding too.

We would be grateful if you could see if your employer has a match funding scheme, or if they are willing to match fund any of our events. This could be a really large source of income for the PTA and help us raise money for the school playground.

If you are able to help us this way, please let us know and we can discuss your companies' requirements.

As we approach Christmas we also wanted to bring your attention to the website www.easyfundraising.org.uk. The site is free to use and if you select Friends of Maple Tree Lower School as your cause for every purchase you make via this website a small percentage is given to us. So whether it is presents for the children, a new home appliance or even that big Christmas food shop please take the time to shop via [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and raise some money for Friends of Maple Tree.

Thank you for your support.

Friends of Maple Tree Committee

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