

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



MAPLE TREE
PRIMARY SCHOOL
Climbing the branches of success

Newsletter

Friday 2nd October 2020



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

I hope that you are all keeping well and have had a good week. Things are really settled in school and the children are finding their way through the new routines well; concentration levels are increasing which is enabling learning to take place. The children are talking enthusiastically about what they are doing and are always keen to tell me whether they feel they are being stretched.

This week we have looked over our risk assessment to ensure that the protocols we have put in place are still essential. Largely things remain the same but I want to clarify a few things with you all:

Pick Up and Drop Off

The staggered starts and ends are working well to keep the flow of people moving around the school site so this will continue. We are hoping at some point that we may reduce it to two groups instead of three but for now, with the stricter measures in place, this remains unchanged.

I would remind you though that we ask that **only 1 adult drops off/picks up** and not two or more please. This is, again, to limit the number of adults we have on site. Of course, if there is a need for two of you to pick up and drop off then special consideration will be given but we ask that you have this conversation with a member of staff please.

Gate

Though we will try to ensure that a senior member of staff is standing on the front gate at the end of the day there will be days when we are unable to. Where this happens we hope that adults will **continue to respect the protocols we have in place and not dismiss the one way system in favour of using the nearest gate**. This is to keep the whole school community safe. I appreciate it may not always be convenient but with the R rate rising we endeavor to keep ourselves safe. There will always be a member of staff on the back gate before and after school whilst the one way system is in place.

Playground Equipment

Please ensure your children do not play on the play equipment before or after school. We have a rota system in place for the children to be able to use it during the day so that bubbles are not mixing. As soon as other children start using it the bubbles are compromised and the children will be unable to use it during the day until it has been thoroughly cleaned.

Communicating with staff

I appreciate that you will have messages that need to be passed on to the classteacher but **please** ensure you **do not step into the box marked on the playground outside of the classroom doors**. The distance has been marked to keep both you and staff at a 2m distance. Should there be a need to catch the class teacher then please respect the distance or you can ask a member of staff on gate duty to pass a message on for you, or call/email into the office and your message will then be passed on.

Uniform

It is so lovely to see the children looking smart in their uniform. We relaxed our policy during September to allow parents the time to purchase uniform following lockdown however, the expectation is that children should now be back in full school uniform. A full list of what this entails can be found on our [website](#).

Cont over the page

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

Tel: 01767 699806 email: office@mapletreepriamaryschool.com

www.mapletreepriamaryschool.com

Head: Mrs Cath Bainbridge Deputy Head: Miss Amy Hyde

Uniform cont...

It is great to see the children coming to school in their PE kits and they certainly seem to be enjoying their lessons, but please ensure that, whilst they are still doing outdoor PE, that they are dressed appropriately. They will need joggers, t shirts, a jumper or hoodie and trainers. They may also wear a waterproof jacket if it is damp.

Should we make additional changes then we will let you know with as much notice as possible.

I hope you all have a good weekend.

Remote and Blended Learning at Maple Tree

Given the current situation across the country, all schools have been asked, by the Department for Education, to create an offer to support children who may find themselves working at home due to either self-isolation or as part of a wider lockdown.

We had a lot of positive feedback following our use of Google Classroom last year and this is something that we plan to continue with. We have created a policy which sets out our expectations, whilst also recognising that the situation where a child needs to work at home could be really unique in that they are the only member of the class who is, at that point, needing learning to be set. This gives staff a balancing act to ensure that all children have opportunities to engage with meaningful learning.

With that in mind, we will be setting work that matches what is being covered in class on Google Classroom at the beginning of a week. This may be in the form of school PowerPoints or links to lessons from Oak National Academy/White Rose etc which match the content of the lesson in school. Should a child, or small group, be unable to attend school but are well enough to work, then the children would need to log on to Google Classroom and work their way through what has been provided. The teacher, or a known adult if the teacher is unavailable, will contact them to ensure they have what they need and feedback will be provided.

Should a bubble need to close or the school moves to another lockdown, then the expectations would be slightly different and teachers would be providing pre-recorded inputs and feedback to ensure that the children access what they need and communication would be timely too.

If you are unable to access Google Classroom then please let the school office know.

There is a handout which will explain in more detail the procedures that will be put in place for different stages of home learning and our policy is also on our [website](#). **This will start from Wednesday 7th October to ensure that all children have Google Classroom accounts.** If your child is in need of work before then, please contact the school office and work will be sent to you.



Check out our whole school topic on the book Here We Are by Oliver Jeffers - the work looks fab!

Click the picture to visit our website to open the presentation. We also have some great displays in the corridors too which look amazing!

Headteacher Awards

This week the award is for...		being kind to others.		Fir Class: ★ Moni
Birch Class: ★ Henry	Yew Class: ★ Evie	Aspen Class: ★ Niamh Piper		
Poplar Class: ★ Archie	Rowan Class: ★ Brandon	Hawthorn Class: ★ Richie		
Juniper Class: ★ Jessica W	Cherry Class: ★ Megan	Elder Class: ★ Chloe		



Congratulations!



Class Information

This year we have been unable to hold our 'Meet the Teacher' meetings where we would invite you into the classroom for the teacher to share important key stage information about your child's learning for the year.

The teachers have instead created a presentation that you can view. These can be found on the key stage pages on our website:

[Reception](#) [Key Stage 1](#) [Lower Key Stage 2](#) [Upper Key Stage 2](#)

If you have any further questions, these can be emailed in: office@mapletreprimaryschool.com



Accelerated Reader (AR) has started again this week so the children will be bringing home reading books and taking quizzes.

For a point of note, homework diaries and reading logs are for use by parents only. Staff will not be touching them though they will be using stamps to acknowledge that they have heard the child read and will be able to see your comments. This is to reduce the risk of transmission through multiple adults handling the books.