

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**
Climbing the branches of success

Newsletter

Friday 16th December 2022



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD



These are the scenes that greeted us on Monday morning and the words 'all is calm, all is bright' from the carol Silent Night seemed so fitting. The field looked so beautiful and the children had a lot of fun chasing each other and throwing snowballs and making snowmen when we went out in it. Unfortunately the subsequently freezing



temperatures have left our back playground treacherous underfoot. I appreciate it has been an inconvenience for some of you not being able to enter via the back gate at pick up and drop off but have been grateful for your support in this. I would ask you all to read the Health and Safety section below though please so that we can continue to protect our community.

The children have continued to be involved in their Christmas assemblies and I have been really impressed by how well the classes have joined together as a team to present songs, jokes and stories to their audience. We kept the festive spirit going today when we held our Celebration assembly in which we recapped on a large number of events that the children have been involved in during this very busy term as well as listening to the choir and singing a couple of Christmas carols. We also had to say goodbye to Mrs Germany who is retiring - we do not envy her lie ins and longer breakfasts at all!! I am incredibly grateful to her for all her caring and nurturing of the many children she has seen grow over the years that she has been here. She has supported staff and parents and the number of lives she has positively impacted upon will be in the hundreds without a doubt. She will be missed but we wish her all the very best for the future.

Whilst talking about staff, I also want to share with you that our SENDCo, Mrs Pond, has completed training and is now a certified Mental Health First Aider. We are incredibly proud of her and want to thank her for the hard work she has put into her course. You will hear more about how she intends to develop this in school next term.

And finally, I want to thank all the fab staff at Maple Tree for their efforts this term; you are a great team who work so hard to provide learning opportunities for the children whilst caring for them all. Thank you! Thank you also to all our parents for your support over the course of the term too.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



HEALTH AND SAFETY

Please consider others when you are collecting or dropping off by car. There have been a number of parents who have driven into Hawk Drive and parked along the roadside or in front of the school gates to collect children whilst the back gate has been closed. The larger number of pedestrians using the main entrance, along with slippery pavements and roads, make for dangerous conditions. We would hate for any member of our school community to be involved in an accident. Please be very mindful of others, including the residents who live in the drive. **Dangerous parking will be reported.** We also politely request that you stick to the pathways that we have marked out as well to ensure safety. Thank you.

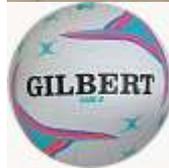
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Netball club

Thank you to my avid netballers who attended netball club this half term. We had a lot of fun and worked on our shooting, passing, moving and marking skills through drills and games. I will be running the club again in the Summer term and would love for more people to join us! Miss Hyde.



Santa Challenge 2022

Well done to everyone who rose to the challenge of travelling actively to school.

All names were put into a draw for the scooter and the winner was James in Aspen—enjoy your new scooter!



Together we travelled a whopping 3,088 miles in December, smashing our target of 2,027 miles!

Target: Lapland 2,027 miles

Miles recorded: 3,088 miles

Congratulations from everyone at Sustrans!



Afterschool Clubs in Spring:

SPORTS GAMES

With Mrs Payne



KS1

TO BOOK
£4 a session

Please use Parent-mail.

- Pe kit to be worn.
- Pick-up: Hall



WHEN

Tuesday 10th January – Tuesday 7th February

Tuesdays- 3.30pm - 4.30pm

KS1

Come join us for a variety of Sports Games using different equipment:

- Golf
- Tennis
- Fun Games
- Hockey
- Competitions
- Hula Hoops

KS2 DANCE CLUB

MONDAYS AFTERSCHOOL IN THE HALL
(starting 16th January 2023 until the Showcase in March)

3.30 - 4.30PM

KS2 Only

Please come to school in PE KIT
A one off payment of £5 is welcomed to cover running costs (via Parentmail)

Students to commit to participating in the Dance Showcase at Sandy Secondary School in March (Date TBC)



Are you a budding actor?

Would you like to develop your acting skills and confidence?

Drama Club

12.01.23 – 16.02.23

Years 3 – 6 with Ms. Cassidy

Thursday 3:30 – 4:30 in the hall

There are limited spaces – please see

Ms. Cassidy



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Mental Health Focus

November's Mental Health (MH) focus was laughter and classes shared jokes and 'Would you rather...?' questions and came up with some funny answers, e.g. Would you rather eat slugs or snails? Christopher in Fir Class said, 'slugs, as snails are crunchy!' Albert in Fir Class was asked 'Would you rather be in a bath of beans or jelly?' and answered 'jelly, as beans make you fart!'

December's MH focus has been dance and classes were invited at break times to attend a 'Just Dance' club, where they won house points. The Maple Tree Elf has visited and left lots of treats for children who could answer his Christmas riddles. Reception and Preschool children took part in the Elf Scavenger Hunt in their classes. Children were also invited to beat the Elf's Christmas Tree buzzer to win chocolate selection boxes. The staff had a go too!

Alongside weekly Head teacher Awards, Wellbeing Certificates are being awarded each week for children showing acts of kindness and resilience.



This Term's House Winners



Congratulations!

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Tues 3rd Jan - INSET day

Weds 4th Jan - new term starts for Reception to Year 6

Thurs 5th Jan - Mulberries start back

Thurs 5th Jan - whole school pantomime trip

Weds 8th/Thurs 9th Feb - Parents' Evenings

Mon 13th - Fri 17th Feb Half Term week

Dates can also be found on our [website](#).

Attendance Awards

Our target is 97%

Week beginning 12th December

The best attendance award is presented to: **Fir class!**

Blossom (Mulberries)	Berries (Mulberries)
85%	85.6%
Fir (YR) 93.3% 	Yew (Y1) 80.4%
Aspen (Y2) 83.9%	Rowan (Y3) 84.8%
Poplar (Y4) 83.3	Juniper (Y5) 72.2%
Cherry (Y5) 80%	Elder (Y6) 77.9%