

# **Newsletter**

Friday 15th March 2024

# **MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD**

It has been great to see the children supporting Comic Relief today with bright clothes and coloured hair and noses! We will share the total raised with you next week but am sure it will be put to good use and is a great way for the children to support those in need.

I also want to thank you all for the support you have shown over the last couple of weeks whilst we have been dealing with a really unpleasant outbreak of sickness and diarrhoea. We know that a lot of our families have been impacted by this, but sticking to the measures we have had in place, and your commitment to following the 48-hour rule, has had a positive impact and the number of current cases in school is very small. We will be reintroducing assemblies next week but will be keeping a close eye on this as it is important for us all that the children remain healthy. Hopefully the warmer weather we are all craving will arrive soon and we can put this nasty winter virus behind us.

As of next week, the back gate will not be manned in the morning; a member of staff will remain on the front gate at the beginning and end of every day. We will continue to open the playground gates in the morning but would politely remind parents that they are not to open the side gates unless a member of staff has agreed. We have a responsibility to make sure the grounds are safe and a visual check takes place in the morning prior to allowing our school community into the playground. If you find the gates closed when you are expecting them to be open, please report to the school office.

There is some real positive energy from the children in school at the moment and the approaching end of term is not doing anything to slow them down! They are keen to talk about what they are learning and are using such specific and technical vocabulary they sound extremely knowledgeable - ask them about what they have been learning and be prepared to be impressed!

I hope you all have a good weekend.

## **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

Thursday 21st March 2.30pm Parent Forum

Monday 25th March 3.30-4.30pm Mulberries parent drop in

**Thursday 28th March** 9.10am Reception and KS1 Easter assembly - parents welcome

**Thursday 28th March** 9-10.30am Pre-school Easter activity session. If attending the Easter assembly, please do feel free to join us afterwards.

Thursday 28th March FoMT Easter activity afterschool

Friday 29th March Easter holiday begins

Term dates for 2024-2025 can be found here.

# This week's House Winners Congratulations!

Maple Tree Primary School, Hawk Drive, Sandy, Bedfordshire, SG19 2WA Tel: 01767 699806 Web: www.mapletreeprimaryschool.com

Emails: office@mapletreeprimaryschool.com or teacher@mapletreeprimaryschool.com

# **Tag Rugby Competition**

Last Friday, Maple Tree played host to King James Academy (Royston) for a friendly Tag-Rugby competition (7-a-side). King James brought two squads of eight and Maple Tree fielded their own squad - many of whom had not played tag-rugby before. All of the children involved were incredible ambassadors for Maple Tree from their behaviour on the pitch to their individual and collective performances, which got better with every minute they played. By the final game, the ball was being moved between hands confidently and the tries were being racked up using a mixture of some hard running and some silky footwork. Thank you to Mr Neill for organising and hosting the event.



Squad: Ennis, Krystal, Charlie, Isla, Luca, Remi, Lottie, and Oscar.

# Yew class Year 1

# **English**

In English we have been looking at Traditional tales, we have looked at the features and discussed how they can change over time. We have learnt that some traditional tales are very different now than they were when they were first written.

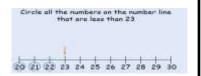


# Design Technology

We have been designing and making puppets, we have learnt and practised different ways to join fabric.

## Maths

In maths we have been learning about place value within 50. We have begun using number lines and have been practicing where the numbers are placed on the number line.



### Science

In science we have been looking at the seasons and how they change. We have written a weather diary comparing how the weather changes day by day.

# Message from the Office

Please remember to let the School Office know if you have moved address or changed your phone number so we may update our records.

Please also let us know if your emergency contacts have changed.



# School-run clubs for Summer term



· Pick- up : Cherry Class

TO BOOKS

£3.50 a session

Please use Parentmail

Summer Term 1 -

First session starts 19th April 2024 Last Session-24th May 2024



Fridays - 3.30pm - 4.30pm

# STEM CLUB

Science, technology, engineering, maths

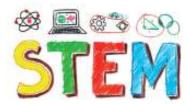
With Mrs Darnell

UKS2 Years 5 and 6

3.30-4.30pm Hawthorn

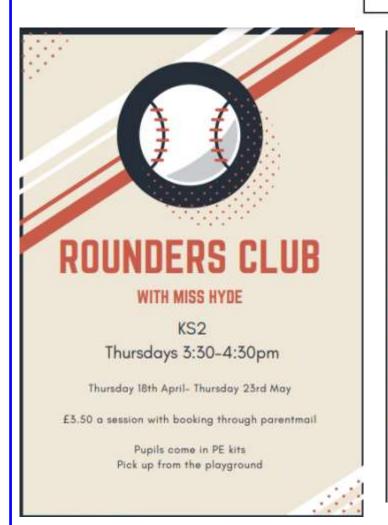
Collect from Hawthorn class on main playground

Wednesdays 17th April -Wednesday 22nd May



Make gliders, investigate hailstones, test your senses, measure sneezes and more!

£4 a session—book via parentmail





# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Walt Disney Company's streaming service, Disney+ combines entertainment from the famous animation tudio itself with Pixar, Star and National Geographic, plus the Marvel and Star Wars franchises. With access to the latest releases, Disney classics and original series, there's plenty of content to explore. While parents may have noted that adverts have now been introduced on some versions of the service, the platform is unsurprisingly for a Disney product – designed to be appropriate for the whole family.

## LESS SUITABLE CONTENT

Desti While Disney + is predominantly family friendly, there are some movies and shows in its library which are aimed at an older audience: these may scare younger ones or contain themes or ianguage that you'd rather your child wasn't exposed to. You could avoid such situations by anothing, tuning, Mode. situations by enabling Junior Mode (see 'Adjust content settings', below) or specifying a content age rating for your child's profile.

# BINGE WATCHING DO

With the option to view content on any internet-enabled device and a growing catalogue of movies, cartoons and documentaries, Disney+ can make managing screen time difficult. This could result in time aimcut. Ins could result in children binge watching content, distracting them from activities like homework or socialising. Too much screen time has also been shown to negatively impact mood, sleep patterns and weight.

# PHISHING EMAILS

Be especially cautious if you receive emails or text messages purporting to be from Disney\*. There have been numerous reports of online scammers impersonating Disney+ staff in an attempt to gain access to subscribers' personal information. Disney+ states it will never email or call customers asking for their payment details, their private information or their password.

## ENCROACHING **ADVERTS**

Disney+ has introduced a new subscription package – Disney+ Standard with Ads – which plays commercials before movies and during shows (like many TV channels). There are no adverts in Junior Mode, but profiles with a content rating of 8+ years will see ads appropriate for that age category. Adults who give consent will see personalised adverts based on their location and viewing history.

# ACCESSING ADULTS' PROFILES

If adults don't set a PIN for their profile, children could access it and encounter content which isn't age appropriate. In the settings, Junior Mode has a toggle titled 'kid-Proof Exit' which requires the user to read four words (numbers, spelled out) and enter them to switch profiles. For older children who can read, though, this isn't secure enough – so using a PIN for adult profiles is recommended.

# Advice for Parents & Carers

## **ADJUST CONTENT SETTINGS**

When setting up an account, there's an option to create profiles in what's called Junior Mode. This generally covers material that's suitable for children up to age 8 and is therefore fairly limited. You can give older children a wider choice of viewing by building a standard profile, then going into the settings and choosing a content rating from one of the pre-set alternatives: 8+, 9+, 12+ or 14+.

# TURN OFF AUTO-PLAY

When a cartoon, show or movie finishes, Disney+ uses algorithms to identify content with similar themes, which it thinks your child will also enjoy. This suggestion will then automatically begin to play by default. There's an option to turn off this auto-play function in the profile settings, which will encourage your child to take a break from the screen and move on to a different activity.

Disney+ enables you to effectively lock profiles behind a four-digit PIN. In particular, some of the shows on the platform's Star content hub are far more oriented to adults (including several hard-hitting dramas from US networks), so protecting parents or older siblings' profiles with a PIN will help to prevent younger children stumbling across material which isn't intended for them.

# **ENJOY AS A FAMILY**

ADD PIN PROTECTION

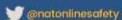
When your child watches a movie or show on Disney+ for the first time, you may want to sit with them to ensure it's suitable. You could do the same when introducing them to older films that you haven't seen for years; your perception of what's appropriate has very probably changed, and same of the language and attitudes in movies from your own childhood may seem quite shocking today.

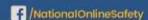
# Meet Our Expert



















# EASTOR CALLIS & EGG'SCAPE ROOM

COME ALONG AND ENJOY A VARIETY OF
EASTER RELATED CHALLENGES.
COMPLETE ALL THE CHALLENGES FOR AN
EASTER EGG!

€2.50 each

START AT 3:30PM

EASTER GAMES - PLAYGROUND EGG'SCAPE ROOM - HAWTHORN CLASS (YR 52.6)

