

Dear Everyone,

Working with you all over the last seven years, I have come to the conclusion that we are all learners and that learning happens best when everyone is learning together. I recently wrote a final thought for the Year 6 Leavers and, as I wrote it, I was struck by how the message applied as much to me and, in fact, everyone, as it did to the Year 6 children. So, I leave you with an amended version...

And so we go on...

I didn't want to start this reflection with a finite statement of success or congratulations as though we had finished something important. We are only just beginning to be what we can be and navigate our own lives. As your headteacher for 5 years and a member of your learning community for 7, you may not realise this, but we are the making of my own hopes and dreams, my own attempts at making the world a little better for everyone - of making a positive difference...

You see, though governments like unhelpful and unrealistic immediate data-sets to offer faux measurements of a school's success, the only thing worth anything at all is the future lives we all lead, the future decisions we all make (I hope so very much) future positive differences we will all make in the world as we become wives, husbands, parents, employees, employers, grandparents, role models and so on...

For some of us, this will seem like a very, very long time away. It is not. When it comes, we will feel like it was no time at all.

So I ask US this:

When things are difficult, will we have the right attitude to keep going?

When things are frightening or unjust, will we have the character to take a risk and fight for what we value?

When things don't make sense, will we always search for help and use our learning attributes to find the best answer?

When we make mistakes (and we will) will we

have the integrity to admit it and think about what the right thing to do would be, and then do that?

When someone says, 'No we can't', will we tell them, 'We can't, YET!'

And, when everyone is doing something we know is wrong, will we follow the herd, or will we be a voice of reason, willing to think things through before we act?

Maple Cross is an amazing community of learners, and a small part of an even bigger and wider community that we are all responsible for. We can only make a positive difference, if we understand what a positive difference will be. We can only make a positive difference if we never stop learning and thinking and reflecting.

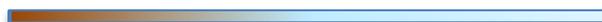
Maple Cross, we are on a journey and our paths diverge at this point. I have learned so much from my time with you and, I hope, you will take an understanding of your responsibility for learning with you, wherever you go and whatever you do. My hopes and dreams are that you will realise, that OUR hopes and dreams are unavoidably linked with OUR learning: that we can only continue to be the best that we can be, by being the best learners we can be. I wish you the very best of luck with your futures and, though I may well forget your names (and you, mine), should you be walking down a street in five or ten or twenty years' time, and you recognise a slightly more bald, more wrinkly Mr Roberts, you stop and say hello and we share our learning journeys.

Thank you all so much for your support in the hard times and your challenge in the good times. Schools in this country are facing ever increasing challenges. These are challenges we will only overcome if we remain united, working for our children's futures - our futures.

Thank you for making a difference.

Yours sincerely,

Duncan Roberts
Headteacher



Early Risers or Sun Setters Next Term

To book into Early Risers or Sun Setters for September please contact Mrs Bone by email lbone@maplecross.sch.herts.uk or call 07923455860.

Mrs Bone will be checking her email and voice mail regularly through the holidays so please book early to avoid disappointment.



School Uniform

The office will be selling uniform on Monday 3rd September from 10:45am – 11:45am. Please come with the correct cash or a cheque – order forms are available to download from the website.

Class/Group Photo Prints

These arrived on Thursday and were sent to class.

Sun Shine Holiday Club 20th August – 3rd September (Not including bank holiday)



8am – 5pm £25 (inc lunch)

8am – 12noon £10

1pm – 5pm £10

To book contact Lucy Bone
Email: lbone@maplecross.sch.herts.uk
Phone: 07923 455 860

Lost Property – End of Term

Any items left at the end of term will be disposed of.



School Dinners for Year 3 in September

Please note that school dinners will cost £2.45/day for our current Year 2 when they start in Year 3 in September.

Payable in advance (on a Monday morning please)

- weekly or
- monthly or
- ½ termly

On-Line via SchoolComms or
Cash or cheque made payable to *Hertfordshire Catering Ltd.*

Please ask your child to hand in to their class teacher at morning registration or place in the *white* post box in the school reception area.

On-Line you must create an account with School Gateway. Current minimum payment is £12.25 (one week of dinners).

Cash must be in a sealed envelope with your child's name, class, the amount enclosed and 'school dinners' written on it.

Cheques must have your child's name, class and 'school dinners' written on the back.

If you think you might be eligible for FREE SCHOOL MEALS please follow the link on the school website (www.maplecross.herts.sch.uk). Free School Meals are also one of the triggers for the Pupil Premium Grant which provides extra money for the school to support your child's education

Letters Sent Home This Week

Whole School	End of Year Letter from the Governing Body
Years 3 & 4	Swimming next term – reply needed
Years 2 & 3	Kew garden trip – reply needed
Years R to 5	Autumn Clubs letter – action needed

DIARY DATES

July 2018

Friday 20th PTA Disco 4:30pm – 6pm

September 2018

Monday 3rd Secondary School Applications
OPENS
Wednesday 5th **First day of term**
Wednesday 5th Club applications close
Monday 10th Start of swimming lessons
Monday 10th After-School Clubs start
Tuesday 11th Yrs 5 & 6 to Imperial War Museum
Wednesday 12th Yrs 3 & 4 to Kew Gardens
Monday 24th – Friday 28th
Year 5 Bikeability training

October 2018

Friday 26th – Monday 5th Nov – Half Term Holiday

Please note extra days!

Wednesday 31st Secondary School Applications
CLOSE

December 2018

Monday 10th LAST swimming lesson of term

New Parent Governor

We are delighted to announce that the ballot papers have been counted and Laura Whyte has been elected as Parent Governor. We offer her our hearty congratulations and also our thanks to the other candidates for offering their services.

School Returns on Wednesday 5th September

We will see you at 8:45am ready for the bell to ring at 8:50am

Nursery has a staggered start – Wednesday, Thursday or Friday (parents have received individual letters)

Have a wonderful summer!
