

Thought of the Week: "Don't walk in front of me; I may not follow. Don't walk behind me; I may not lead. Just walk beside me and be my friend." ~ Albert Camus

celebrating success

Attendance

Maple had the highest attendance last week with 95%. Whole school attendance was 90%. We have had a number of staff and children unwell last week, hopefully attendance will improve this week. Please don't forget to call 822326 if your child is unable to attend school. Thank you.

Designers of the Week

The following children were given Designer Awards by our Head Designer, Mr Sutherland at last Friday's Achievement Assembly following a recommendation from their Lead Designer: Josh Bell, Alex Roy, Sam Hardy, Chelsie Packer, Kayti-Lee Brown, Jess Sterry and Chloe Crosby. Well done to all of you and keep up the good work!

Manners the Monkey

Manners the Monkey is in our school to help develop good manners in all our children. If children are spotted demonstrating good manners they can enter the weekly prize draw to win a special prize to take home! Last week's winners were: Charlie Storey and Melissa Wilson.

Designer Desserts Friday

The following children all decorated cakes at Designer Desserts Friday last week: Emily Young, Abbie Gair, Shaun Spratt, Rebecca Hanlon, Andrew Dodds, Ellen Adey-Phillips and Lewis Archer. These children were rewarded because of their good attitude and their tremendous effort last week.

important information

School Meals at Bedlington Station – Exciting News

We will be launching our new menus on the first week back after half term, week commencing February 23rd 2015. We have listened to your comments and feedback and tried to incorporate as many of them as possible in the new menus. We now offer a main course or a Jacket Potato with a choice of filling but have also introduced as an extra option a fresh Wrap which will be made to order. We felt that this was a better option than a sandwich as the Wrap will be served hot and the children we have spoken to have indicated that this would be a popular choice. We will be providing a choice of vegetables and a Seasonal Salad bar. A Starter or Sweet option will also be served. Every Thursday we will have a Pudding of the Week, chosen each week by a class in turn. The first Pudding of the Week will be chosen by Year 6 Oak Class. The children can choose what to have and can also think up their own special name for the Pudding. Our new menus have been formulated in consultation with Northumberland County Council and include additional information regarding allergens and ingredients. I was determined that any changes we made to the menus would not affect the price we charge to you and I am delighted that the cost will remain at £2.00 per meal, which I believe to be excellent value. If your child is currently on a packed lunch, why not give our new menus a try for the next few weeks so that they can see the changes for themselves. We have purchased new trays in Bedlington Station purple, and new plates, bowls, cups and cutlery so I'm sure that everyone will embrace these changes positively. My aim is to ensure that children have the opportunity to have a hot meal at lunch time should they wish, with a decent portion size and to keep any waste to a bare minimum. To that end I and my Senior Leadership Team will be monitoring school meals very closely over the coming weeks. I also promised that parents would be offered the opportunity to come in and try the menus for themselves with their child and I will be making arrangements for this to happen later in the spring term.

Remember – if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 you are entitled to a Free School Meal under the Government's initiative, so if you are currently giving your child a packed lunch and would like to try the school meals please let the Office know. Please note that if you are required to pay for your child's school meals we would very much appreciate payment in advance, with any money placed in an envelope with your child's name and class clearly marked.

The new menus will be placed on our website and in the noticeboard of the school yard by the end of this week. At the bottom of each menu, you will see the week commencing dates that the particular menu applies to. I will be explaining the changes to the children at next Monday's whole school assembly. Children in Key Stage 2 will still have the opportunity to pre-order a Jacket Potato but I am hoping that they will give some of the other choices on the menu a try over the coming weeks.

I really hope your children enjoy the new menus and I thank you for your patience whilst we have implemented these changes. As always, I welcome any comments and feedback you may have.

BikeAbility Week at Bedlington Station – Week Commencing February 9th, 2015

Just a reminder that if you are in Years 4, 5 and 6, next week is BikeAbility week at Bedlington Station and if you have returned your consent forms you will be able to take part in this free cycling training. Its still not too late if you want to get involved. If you didn't get a letter for any reason then please ask at the School Office. For your information, years 5 and 6 will be working in their groups over three days, Monday to Wednesday with year 4 receiving their training on Thursday.

Mathletics at Bedlington Station

Following the recent successful trial of Mathletics by Year 4 (Sycamore), I have decided to implement Mathletics across the whole of Key Stage 2 (years 3, 4, 5 and 6) initially. The children really enjoyed using this free, web-based initiative at home, as well as at school. Mathletics helps to build confidence and speed, particularly around mental calculation, and is also a lot of fun. It allows for interaction between the teacher and pupil in that the teacher can set tasks and challenges for your child to complete based on their individual ability and it really helps us to identify and focus on any areas that might be causing difficulty. Your child will be receiving their own log in and trying out Mathletics in school over the next few days. I would be grateful if you could support your child and the school by perhaps allowing them to log on at home occasionally. If you have a tablet device then you can download the Mathletics App which makes accessing the site even easier. It is recommended that children access Mathletics around 3-4 times per week for 20 to 30 minutes per session. Any certificates they receive will be printed out in school and presented during Key Stage Assembly. In addition, we are looking at awarding a Mathlete of the Month trophy to the child who receives the most points in any calendar month. I am looking to perhaps implement Mathletics across the whole of the school from September 2015 should the next few months prove to have significant impact. If you have any questions on how to get the best from this resource, please speak to your class teacher, Mrs Liddicoat who is leading on Mathletics, or myself. We hope to start a Mathletics Club soon so keep reading The Station Voice to find out all the latest information.

PTA Meeting

If you would like to help out at any of our school fairs etc, then please come along to our PTA meeting in the Community Room Next Wednesday 11th February 3.00pm until 4.00pm.

Sainsbury's Active Kids

Active kids has once again returned this year, so if you can please collect the vouchers and hand them into school, there is a box situated in the foyer. Let's try and make this the most successful year yet for our school with your help we can maybe get some of the following items: sports kit, cooking or gardening equipment. Thank you.

The Salvation Army - Film Night

Please go along to the Film Night on Wednesday 11th February at 5.30pm The Unbeatables (£2 entry fee and tuck shop) at The Salvation Army, Hartford Road West, Bedlington, NE22 6HU Please call tel: 829356 for more details.

Coat Hangers

Do you have any plastic or wooden coat hangers that have the metal clips at each end (usually used to hang skirts on) if you have any spare please could you hand them into school. Many thanks.

A message from Olive Stein, Chief Designer at Portal Design.

Hello to you all.

I hope this message finds you well. I am very excited and proud to announce that Portal Design will be opening its doors to the public next Thursday afternoon between 1.30 and 2.55pm. I do hope you will be able to pay us a visit to see the creative talents of our designers first hand and to find out more about the work they have been doing. There will also be opportunities for you to try out the role of designer and show us your talents. I'm always looking to recruit new designers!

There will designers on hand to talk about their commissions and your designer will be able to accompany you during your visit before returning to their agency.

I do hope to see lots of you there. If you are able to attend could you please complete the attached slip so that I have an idea of how many hundreds of you will be coming!

See you soon Olive x

Portal Design Open Afternoon

Designer Name (Child's Name) _____ Agency (Year Group) _____

I would love to come to the Portal Design Open Afternoon next Thursday 12th February between 1.30pm until 2.55pm.

Please state how many visitors will be attending _____. Thank you.

Signature of Parent/Carer _____