



Maulden Lower School

SEPTEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER



INFORMATION

HEADLICE

If your child has headlice please treat them immediately, they do not need to be absent from school.

Children with long hair should come into school with their hair tied back. This will help prevent further spreading of the lice and eggs.

INFORMATION

UNIFORM

The children all looked so very smart coming in to school in their uniforms this week. For a full list of the items of school uniform please visit our website
<https://www.mauldenlower.com/parents-carers/school-uniform/>

VALUE THIS HALF TERM

INDEPENDENCE

Self-reliant, thinking and acting for oneself.

At home you can help your child with this value by:

- encouraging them to do things for themselves.
- talking to them about independence of thought and action.
- encouraging them to 'have a go' at things they find difficult before asking for help.



HEAD TEACHER UPDATE

A warm welcome back to everybody at the start of the new academic year. All the children are settling in well to their new routines. We return to a newly refurbished library which is both inviting and engaging. It now offers our children a diverse range of exciting literature. A huge thank you to Ms Street who volunteered her time to create this wonderful space for all the children. If your child took part in the summer reading challenge during the summer please send in their certificates next week.

It's the Maulden Fun Run this weekend and we wish our children the best of luck if they are taking part.

Library Refurbishment

We have had a busy summer break refurbishing our library. A huge thank you to Ms Street for all her hard work. We would also like to thank Less Stress Mortgages and The George for their cash donations and to the parents and staff who have donated books or bought books from our wish lists.

If you would like to buy a book from our wish lists please use the links below.



BIKES AND SCOOTERS

Please can all children who are scooting or cycling to school use the blue and black cycle racks on the front playground.

We ask that you do not leave your bikes or scooters in the Early Years area as they get confused with the school equipment which the children use during outside play.



PARENT COMMUNICATION

REACH MORE PARENTS

Reach More Parents (previously Weduc) is our parent communication app. Please make sure you download the app to keep up to date with what is happening in school. Parents of new starters will be sent a link for them to join.

Once you have downloaded the app you are able to scroll the newsfeed, sign digital permission slips, book into before and after school club, view the school calendar and message the office or your child's class teacher. Curriculum overviews and homework menus have been sent this week via Weduc. If you have any problems please speak to a member of the office staff.

And much more...
Download the app today

reach **more** parents
by weduc



The Hive – 5 star

We are very pleased to announce that following our recent Health and Safety Food Inspection we have achieved a five star food hygiene rating at The Hive. A huge thank you to all The Hive staff for all their hard work in making this possible.



LIBRARY AMBASSADORS

READ FOR GOOD

Just before the summer break we submitted a bid to Read for Good for one of their Brilliant Boxes of Books. We are very excited to say that we were successful and our box of books has arrived.

The school now has 4 Library Ambassadors, Cullen, Demi, Olivia and Freddie, who were very excited to open the box and discover what we had been sent. Our Library Ambassadors will be keeping our new library tidy, labelling new books, promoting reading across the school and recommending good reads to their fellow students.



SCHOOL LUNCHES

SCHOOL FOOD UNITED

Our school lunches are provided by Alliance in Partnership and are cooked on site. Our kitchen has a 5 star food hygiene rating and we are able to offer a hot cooked meal every day. As our meals are prepared on site we are able to cater for all diets including children with allergies, religious or ethical meal choices.

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are eligible for a Universal Infant Free School Meal. If you are in receipt of certain benefits your child may also be eligible for free school meal funding.

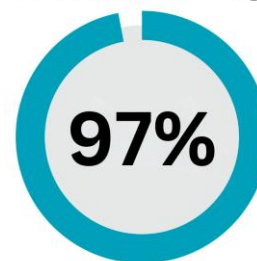
For a copy of the menu or for more information about school meals please visit our website or to order your child's lunch please visit School Foods United:

<https://www.mauldenlower.com/parents-carers/school-meals/>

<https://parents.schoolfoodunited.com/login>



Our Attendance Target



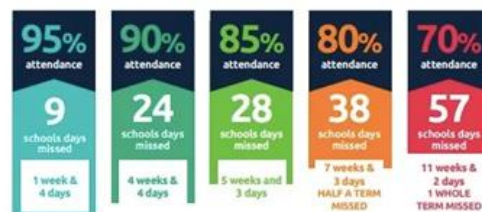
SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

STUDYBUGS

If your child is unable to attend school for any reason please contact the school office by 09.30. Please leave a message on the absence line stating your child's full name, class and reason for absence.

Another way of reporting absence is to use the Studybugs app. For more information regarding Studybugs and how to download the app please visit <https://studybugs.com/about/parents>

Every day in school counts...



and every minute counts...



PE KIT EXPECTATIONS

We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents/carers of our PE kit expectations. Children take part in one session of Physical Education a week. Please ensure that your child comes into school in the correct PE kit on their timetabled PE days.

It is essential for all pupils to wear appropriate kit for their PE lesson to ensure personal hygiene and safety. During PE lessons children are not allowed to wear jewellery of any kind, please ensure jewellery can be removed for PE. See the link below for PE kit requirements:

<https://www.mauldenlower.com/parents-carers/school-unifom/>

Thank you in advance for your support with ensuring your child is well equipped for PE lessons.

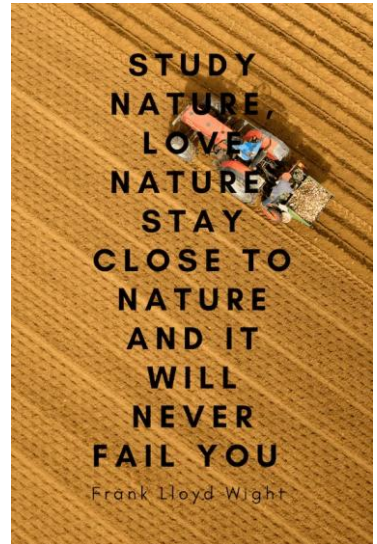


TINY FOREST DISCOVERY DAY

THURSDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER

We are very excited that the Woodland Trust will be visiting us again on Thursday 18th September. During the day the children will get an opportunity to spend time in our Tiny Forest carrying out a range of activities.

The children will need to come into school in non uniform wearing clothes that are suitable to getting muddy. We also ask that they bring in a change of shoes eg wellies or old trainers that they can wear whilst on the field that day.



ONLINE SAFETY GUIDANCE

WEBISTE INFORMATION



During the summer break many of our pupils will have been spending time on their devices. Please visit our website for helpful tips and advice for keeping you and your child safe while online.

A recent Ofcom report found that parents are increasingly worried about online risks:

70% - fear their child may see age inappropriate content

72% - worry about their child distinguishing real from fake information

69% - are concerned about online bullying

If you have any concerns please visit our website or speak to your child's class teacher.

<https://www.mauldenlower.com/parents-carers/online-safety-guidance/>



Healthy living and wellbeing



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators FOSTERING A SENSE OF BELONGING

Feeling a genuine sense of belonging is essential for the emotional and social development of children and young people. Belonging significantly boosts self-esteem, resilience, and mental wellbeing, reducing feelings of isolation and anxiety. This guide provides practical strategies to help parents and educators cultivate inclusive environments, enhancing both academic outcomes and overall happiness among young people.

- 1 CELEBRATE INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES**
 Acknowledge and celebrate the uniqueness of every child. Promoting diversity and inclusion creates an environment where differences are valued rather than stigmatised. This acceptance empowers children to confidently express their identities and feel genuinely included, fostering a robust sense of belonging within both school and home settings.
- 2 CONSISTENT COMMUNICATION**
 Regularly communicate and actively listen to children, showing genuine interest in their thoughts and experiences. Creating open communication channels helps young people feel heard and valued. This approach not only builds trust but also reinforces children's perception of themselves as a vital part of their family, school and community.
- 3 MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION**
 Give children opportunities to actively participate and contribute, whether in classrooms, at home, or in community activities. Meaningful participation helps children feel their input matters, reinforcing a sense of purpose and value. Including them in decisions and responsibilities enhances their self-worth, promoting a deeper sense of belonging and inclusion.
- 4 FOSTER STRONG RELATIONSHIPS**
 Support and encourage positive relationships between peers, educators, and families. Strong, healthy relationships significantly impact a child's sense of belonging, providing emotional support and reducing feelings of loneliness. Facilitate social interactions through group activities, teamwork, and collaborative learning to strengthen these vital connections.
- 5 CREATE INCLUSIVE SPACES**
 Design environments that reflect diversity and are welcoming for everyone. Inclusive spaces where all children see themselves represented can dramatically improve their feelings of safety and acceptance. Consider classroom displays, books, and resources that celebrate various cultures, abilities, and backgrounds to visibly reinforce inclusivity and belonging.
- 6 MODEL POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR**
 Adults play a crucial role by demonstrating inclusive, empathetic, and respectful behaviours. Modelling positive interactions and attitudes sets a clear standard for children to follow. Children are likely to replicate inclusive behaviour, creating a supportive community atmosphere where everyone feels accepted and valued for who they are.
- 7 BUILD EMOTIONAL LITERACY**
 Teach and encourage emotional expression and understanding among children. Developing emotional literacy enables young people to articulate their feelings and empathise with others. An emotionally intelligent environment cultivates mutual respect and compassion, fostering a deeper sense of belonging and interpersonal connection within groups.
- 8 SUPPORT PEER MENTORSHIP**
 Encourage peer mentorship or buddy systems within educational settings. Peer support enhances feelings of connectedness and security, reducing feelings of isolation. When children support one another, they naturally build community bonds, nurturing a supportive culture where belonging and friendship thrive.
- 9 RECOGNISE EFFORTS REGULARLY**
 Consistently acknowledge children's contributions and achievements, however small. Recognition reinforces a child's understanding that their presence and efforts are important. Celebrating individual and collective successes helps cultivate a positive environment where children feel acknowledged, motivated, and deeply connected to peers and adults around them.
- 10 ADDRESS BULLYING PROMPTLY**
 Quickly address any incidents of bullying. Promptly intervening demonstrates a clear commitment to an inclusive and safe environment. Creating a culture where incidents are swiftly and effectively addressed reinforces trust, security, and a sense of belonging for everyone involved.

Meet Our Expert
 Anna Bateman is Director of Halcyon Education Ltd and Director for Wellbeing and Family Services at Leigh Trust. With extensive experience in systemic mental health in schools, she supports educational leaders across the UK to develop inclusive, resilient, and supportive learning environments. Anna is also the lead expert for mental health at The National College.

#WakeUpWednesday
 The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: nationalcollege.com/guides/fostering-a-sense-of-belonging

The Hive

The Hive is our before and after school club run by our friendly and enthusiastic school staff.

Before school club includes breakfast and the children will be able to take part in games and craft activities.

After school club includes a healthy snack or tea if your child is staying after 17:20. Activities include outdoor play, story time, crafts, table tennis and board games.



BOOKING SESSIONS

PARENTPAY

If you would like your child to attend before or after school club please book your sessions via the Weduc app.

Sessions costs:

Breakfast club - £5.00 (07:30 - 08:45)

15:20 - 16:20 - £5.50

15:20 - 17:20 - £11.00

15:20 - 18:00 - £15.00

Late collection fees after 18:00 - £5.00 for every 5 minutes
late eg collection at 18:03 £5.00, collection at 18:07 £10.00
etc.

Free breakfast club provision available to children in Year 1 - Year 4 from 08:10-08:45.

Please contact the office for more information or to book a place.

MAULDEN SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

The MSA AGM will be held on **Tuesday 30th September at 19:00 in The George**. All parents, carers, grandparents and members of the local community are welcome to join us to help form our new committee for the new academic year. During this meeting we will be electing a chair (or co-chairs), vice chair, secretary, treasurer and class representatives.

If you would like to be considered for any of the above roles but are unable to attend the AGM please contact the school office on mauldenoffice@mauldenlower.com. We would also like to hear from you with any ideas or suggestions for fundraising events. Volunteers are always needed for our events so even if you do not wish to take on a formal role please come along and meet other parents, carers etc and the school staff who help the MSA run throughout the year.

Without your support we will not be able to run so many fun activities for your children or raise money for additional resources.



If you have a child in Year 2 to Year 4 who is interested in instrumental or singing lessons in school please visit the Inspiring Music at

<https://www.inspiringmusic.co.uk/lessons-schools/overview>.

The more children that sign up for lessons the wider choice of instruments we are able to offer. Instrumental lessons available include piano, guitar, drums, violin and woodwind.



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1	2	3 Return to school	4	5
8 Hot Shots taster sessions	9 Y3 Swimming	10	11 MSA AGM	12
15	16 Y3 Swimming FGB Meeting	17	18 Tiny Forest Discovery Day	19
22	23 Y3 Swimming	24 KS2 Singing Club starts	25 Open Morning	26 Dinosaur Day
29	30 Y3 Swimming			

