



MAPLE LEAFLET

Maple Leaf International School
A Canadian International Program

MAIN CAMPUS
Tel: (868) 632-9578
633-3173
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Alyce Heights Drive, Alyce Glen, Petit Valley,
Trinidad, W.I.
E-mail: mlis@tstt.net.tt Website: www.mapleleaf-school.com

PRIMARY CAMPUS
Tel: (868) 632-8339/
633-9500
Fax: (868) 633-7330

SPECIAL POINTS

☺ Be considerate of our neighbours when it comes to parking or dropping off/picking up the children to/from school.

☺ We appreciate calls to let us know a child will be absent

☺ Making an effort to wear our school uniform appropriately and adhering to the uniform rules

☺ Please provide any new addresses or telephone numbers to the office for updating of our files

☺ Turn off your engines...please. When you're waiting to collect your kids in the driveway of the main campus, your kids can be affected by the fumes.

☺ Send library books found at home to the library. We have a "no questions asked" policy on book returns.

☺ Kindly remember that your school fees are now over due

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| October 11th | PTA Annual General Meeting at 6 pm |
| October 13th | Eid Holiday , Saturday (To be confirmed.) |
| October 27th | The "Cook Off" PTA fundraiser |
| November 1st | "Take Our Kids to Work Day" for Gr. 9 students |
| November 9th | Divali Holiday (To be confirmed.) |
| December 14th | Last day of school before Christmas Holidays |



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE.....

Welcome back to all of our MLIS family and a special welcome to our new staff and students. We are looking forward to a new school year as we continue focusing on literacy, student leadership, character education and elementary curriculum development.

To continue communication between home and school, we are asking all students to purchase an agenda book at a cost of \$25.00. The agenda book serves as a link between home and school and besides finding your child's homework assignments written in them, you may

write a note there for the teacher's attention. Additional communication networks are being established to keep you up to date with what is happening at MLIS through email, phone messaging and the MLIS website. We look forward to working with you and your child throughout the school year to provide a productive and safe learning environment that supports student success.

Janet Pomeroy
Principal



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

At MLIS, leadership development takes many forms. It begins in the earliest grades as students are given opportunities to assist others and assume helping roles in the classroom commensurate with their personal stages of development.

As they become older, leadership opportunities are provided through participation in the house system, in organizing class activities and by leading clubs and teams.

In secondary school, leaders continue to be provided opportunities to hone their skills. They may participate in such activities as the model United Nations, captain teams, lead clubs and produce or direct assemblies and shows. The student council provides major leadership opportunities. For details, please refer to the Leadership Development Program flow chart which lists an array of important school level committees upon which students may serve each other and the school / community at large. You may obtain the flow chart at the school office.

"Life affords no greater responsibility, no greater privilege, than the raising of the next generation."



Maple Leaf Guidance



Welcome back to Maple Leaf International School and to our many new Maple Leaf families, we hope your time is successful and satisfactory.

We are definitely underway:

- i. The timetables are set.
- ii. Students are confirming NOW their courses for second semester.
- iii. The college/university selection process has commenced.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 1. Graduating students and families: College/University Evening, October 10, 6:30—7:30
- 2. **U.S. College Fair:** September 29—30, 9-12 noon and 3-6 p.m. (TT\$10.00 fee)
Location: International School of Port of Spain.
- 3. **Canadian School Fair:** November 10—11
Location: International School of Port of Spain

Facts to Ponder:

The theory of multiple intelligences was developed in 1983 by Dr. Howard Gardner, professor of education at Harvard University. It suggests that the traditional notion of intelligence, based on I.Q. testing, is far too limited. Instead, Dr. Gardner proposes eight different intelligences to account for a broader range of human potential in children and adults. These intelligences are:

- Linguistic intelligence (“word smart”).
- Logical-mathematical intelligence (“number/reasoning smart”)
- Spatial intelligence (“picture smart”)
- Bodily-Kinesthetic intelligence (“body smart”)
- Musical intelligence (“music smart”)
- Interpersonal intelligence (“people smart”)

- Intrapersonal intelligence (“self smart”)
- Naturalist intelligence (“nature smart”)

Skills for Success

Career specialists indicate that there are six sets of skills required to enhance opportunities for success. Two of these sets are:

Communication Skills

- speak effectively to another individual
- write factual material clearly
- read with comprehension/speed
- question effectively
- listen intently/objectively
- explain concepts well
- express feelings appropriately

Problem-Solving Skills

- define problems
- exhibit intellectual curiosity
- think abstractly/reflectively
- distinguish between fact and opinion
- possess an open, receptive mind
- depend a conclusion rationally
- critique, edit and proofread
- bring reason to bear on a problem

These skills are addressed at Maple Leaf and can be enhanced by the families active involvement with their child’s education.

The Guidance Department is available to assist in establishing strategies for success and career selection. Please contact Mr. Crowder (Grade 11-12) and Mrs. Johnston (Grade 9—10) by calling the reception desk and making an appointment.

Guidance Mail: mapleleafguidance@tstt.net.tt

Character Education ProgramBob Fenton, Vice Principal

Our students are proven scholars who are admitted routinely to prestigious tertiary institutions. MLIS has a success rate of 97% on the annual literacy test administered by the Ministry of Education in Ontario and thirty per cent of students are honours students each semester.

We feel another aspect of **personal development** is essential as we prepare young adults for success in their personal lives and to assume important roles as professionals and community leaders.

Our Character Education Committee has selected 13 key character traits which we feel are important to the well rounded, values based person of high ethics. These include: Respect , Responsibility , Fairness , Integrity/Honesty , Empathy , Persever-

ance , Forgiveness , Courage , Citizenship , Optimism , Self-Control , Reliability/Trustworthiness , Conflict Resolution. In consultation with students, faculty and our parent group, we will reduce them to a group of ten, one per month for study.

Each month, one characteristic becomes the theme for school wide study and discussion. An assembly may be produced by students where skits, song, poetry or storytelling may be chosen to illustrate the trait under study. Prominent guest speakers can be invited. Students organize these activities under the auspices of our student leadership development program.

Character study is achieved at the classroom level among all subjects. In mathematics, character can be studied in the lives

of the great mathematicians. In English, ethics can be illustrated by themes in short stories and novels or seen to be lacking in Shakespeare’s tragic heroes. In physical education, lives of famous athletes may be studied under the conceptual lens of character education.

The most important role a parent or teacher can play is to **set a good example**. We are committed to fostering character growth in our students as we prepare them for success.

If you would like to have personal input for selection of character traits, simply cross out the ones you feel are least important and return this portion to your student’s teacher. We will include them in the final tally. Thanks in advance.

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| 1. Respect | 4. Integrity/Honesty | 7. Forgiveness | 10. Optimism |
| 2. Responsibility | 5. Empathy | 8. Courage | 11. Self-Control |
| 3. Fairness | 6. Perseverance | 9. Citizenship | 12. Reliability/Trustworthiness |
- 13. Conflict Resolution**



PTA KORNER....Patrice Riley

Welcome back parents and students. The MLIS PTA is in the process of getting organized for the new school year. We will be having our Annual General Meeting on Thursday 11th October 2007, at 6.00 PM. We will be electing a new Vice President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Fundraiser, Assistant Fundraiser/Treasurer and Grade Representative.

Please support the PTA by offering yourself for office or simply by attending the AGM and participating in the voting. Remember to vote or hold office you must be a financial member. To qualify to vote dues must be paid at least 10 days prior to the AGM. The annual fee is \$300 per family. Cheques can be sent to the office. Those of you who do not wish to hold office can serve as class representatives.

We have distributed the Constitution electronically and we have left a few hard copies in the office. We are continually trying to update our data base if you are not on our mailing list please forward your contact information to Sharon Shim at:

edshim@tstt.net.tt.

With your help last year we were able to contribute significantly to the upgrade of the computer facilities at the school, we were also able to contribute to the library and we funded the purchase of a new communication tool "Synre – Voice" which will greatly assist the school's administration in keeping in touch with parents. This year we hope to impact on the primary campus by supplying them with some computers and we hope to impact on the extramural activities of the school community.

Our annual fundraising event will be the "Cook Off". This will be held on Saturday 27th October 2007. We have found that this event benefits the school not only as a fundraiser but it is also a great way of building community. Please look out for details of how to support this event.

See you at the AGM.

TRAFFIC

As you are aware, traffic is always a challenge. This, we believe, is because of the increase in student population as well as new parents who are not yet familiar with the traffic system. The following are problems we have identified and areas we would like to have improved, with your assistance.



PRIMARY

- ☺ Drop your child at the gate.
- ☺ Park on Schneider Gardens Road and walk your child to the school gate.
- ☺ Drop your child at the main campus for transport on the maxis to the Primary Campus.

Please do not park in front of the school as this does not allow the flow of cars to drop off quickly and causes congestion. The parking lot across from the school is not ours and we do not have permission to use it.

MAIN CAMPUS

- ☺ Please ensure that you drive right down to the first available drop off spot at main campus to prevent blocking the flow of other incoming vehicles.
- ☺ Please do not block the entrance or the exit.
- ☺ Students must exit from the left side of the vehicle only.

Dismissal Times

JK—2	1:30 p.m.
Gr. 3—5	1:45 p.m.
Gr. 6—12	2:00 p.m.



Please do not enter through the exit gate.

Please do not obstruct our neighbours' driveways.

Please do not enter Alyce Glen Plaza to cut the line and cross into the school's entrance.

If your child is not present for pick up, you will have to move along and circle around again.

Please stay in line and wait your turn. The guards are there to help; please follow their direction. If everyone follows the rules, the traffic will move swiftly.

1st Maple Leaf Cub Pack



Do you enjoy the outdoors, going on hikes, learning how to make neat things?

Then the 1st Maple Leaf Cub Pack may be for you. If you are between the **ages of 7 and 9 years** and think you may like to become a Cub you are invited to come to one of our meetings. Meetings are held every **Monday from 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. at the Main Campus in Building B.**

Encouraging Reading

Parents and educators alike often despair over the lack of interest children show in reading, but there are many ways of encouraging children to become life-long readers. The following tips are from the First Steps Literacy Resource. General tips that span all age groups are included.

- ☺ Read to your child every day or read to and with your child every day into adulthood.
- ☺ Read with expression when reading to your child to add to the enjoyment of the book. Change

your tone of voice for different characters, or to show emotion and excitement.

- ☺ Your child needs to see the adults around them reading at various times every day.
- ☺ Choose materials that capture your child's interest and allow older children to choose what they want to read even though it may make you cringe.
- ☺ Discuss the story with your child making connections to your own experiences or characters and experiences in other books or to movies.

☺ Give your child time to respond to the story.

☺ Encourage your child to read a variety of forms like magazines, newspapers and stories.

☺ Encourage your child to visit not only the school library but also the public library. The Port of Spain National Library is excellent.

Ensure that visiting a bookstore and buying a book is a regular part of your visit to the malls.



GRADE 9 TAKE YOUR KIDS TO WORK DAY



On November 1st, our grade nine students will be participating in Maple Leaf's first "Take Our Kids To Work" day. This program has been in place in high schools across Canada for 11 years. What we ask is that you, a neighbour or a family friend host your child at his/her workplace for a day. If you have difficulty finding a location for the day, please feel free to contact Mrs. Joann Johnston for assistance.

What we want students to get out of the program is:

1. An understanding of the importance of staying in school;
2. A comprehension of the skills required in today's workplace;
3. An appreciation for their parent's role in making a living and supporting their family;
4. An opportunity to make the connection between education and their future;

5. A chance to explore career options in practical ways.

Classroom teachers will do some in-class preparation prior to the day. More information will be sent home in the beginning of October with your grade nine student for yourself and the workplace supervisor. For more information on the "**Take Our Kids to Work**" program, please use the following website:

<http://www.takeourkidstowork.ca>

Security

SECURING STUDENT PROPERTY

To minimize the loss of student property, please label all your belongings, including books, clothes, laptops, calculators etc. Students are responsible for their own belongings whether they are locked in their locker or in their possession.

Locks can be bought to secure the laptop to a desk and students are reminded not to leave their items where others may have access to them.

SECURITY TIPS

1. Instruct your children to never give information about themselves, their home address or their parent's names to strangers. Do not take directions from strangers.
2. Follow a defined route when walking home from school. Do not take short-cuts.
3. Your children should never accept gifts or rides not planned specifically by parents.

4. They should never let a telephone caller know that they are home alone. Teach them to say, "Mom is not available to answer the phone right now."

5. Teach them rules of conduct when they are on the internet.



CONCERNED ABOUT THE EARTH'S DWINDLING RESOURCES

.....then read on

MLIS will be reestablishing a comprehensive recycling program at our school's campuses in order to continue to recycle paper and begin recycling newspaper, plastics, aluminum cans, glass and e-waste as well as organic matter.

The entire school community from JK to grade 12 will be involved in the project. There will be a student leadership development component to this project. Student leaders will be selected from all

grades to implement and monitor this exciting program.

A comprehensive education program along with colour coded bins and proper signage will be some of the tools used to ensure all recycling efforts are successful.

We know that amongst the MLIS family there are many parents with recycling knowledge and some who may have access to resources necessary to ensure a successful project. Please call our recep-

tionist and leave a message for Ms. Chuckaree if you would like to lend a helping hand. It would indeed be appreciated.

So get your sorting bins out and get ready to start at home. Let's do our part to reduce, recycle and reuse.

So...stay tuned to find out more as we launch this valuable and sustainable project.



SHORT STORY COMPETITION

Once again, MLIS students demonstrated their outstanding creativity and writing skills when they participated in the first annual Short Story Contest, held in June 2007. The judges had great difficulty choosing the winners, as all of the stories were filled with excitement, adventure, emotion, and characters. Thanks to the generosity of the P.T.A., all winning entrants received gift vouchers from the Reader's Bookstore. Congratulations to all participants. Keep writing, and watch for this year's contest to be held later in the year!

JK—SK

1st Jessica Hupp
2nd Felix Antoine Lauziere
2nd Aliana Welch
3rd Suryaa Maharaj
3rd Justine Joseph

Grs 1 & 2

1st Andrew Hupp
2nd Renee Bones
3rd Matthew de la Bastide
3rd Lauren Assing

Grs 3 & 4

1st Asia Ifill
2nd Sonrisa Chuckaree-Hopkins
3rd Jeanne Maxwell Smith
3rd Timothy Haskell

Grs 5 & 6

1st Amy Gopaulsingh
2nd Evan Bruchet
3rd Justen Diaz

Grs 7 & 8

1st Josefina Dominguez
2nd Brittney Santos
3rd Charlotte Morrison

Secondary School

1st Thomas Haskell

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

The most important role a parent or teacher can play is to set a good example

Bob Fenton

WHY, WHY, WHY ????????

Why do people keep running over a string a dozen times with their vacuum cleaner, then reach down, pick it up, examine it, then put it down to give the vacuum one more chance?

Why is it that no plastic bag will open from the end on your first try?

How do those dead bugs get into those enclosed light fixtures?

If people evolved from apes, why are there still apes?

MAIN CAMPUS
Tel: (868) 632-9578

VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

We are looking for parent volunteers for the library. Volunteers are needed to re-shelve books, set up displays and assist in the re-arranging of shelves so that books are more accessible to students of all ages.

The library continues to improve and expand. New books and resources are bought throughout the year. Our soft easy chairs that students use to lounge or curl up with a good book, have been recovered to add charm and warmth to the library. A parent volunteer will be decorating the library in themes to reflect important events throughout the school year.

Parent volunteers will be asked from time to time to read stories to the students who come in for book exchanges. We would love fathers particularly to volunteer for this so that our students are exposed to different role models who enjoy reading.

Important: The library is looking for a parent volunteer to run the library between 2:00pm and 3:00pm for five days of the week or any part of the week they can assist.

LIBRARY NEWS



The Who, Where, When, and Why of our Library

Who runs the School Library?

Teacher-Librarian: Gisele Hobday

Library Technician: Suzanne Nock

Who uses the school library?

All the students of MLIS use our library. Students on the Primary Campus are brought up to the library in maxi-taxis. Each grade comes to the main campus once a week to read books, and to borrow and exchange books from the library. Students from JK to Grade 3 may borrow one book per week. A borrowed book must be returned before the student may borrow another book. Grades 4 to Grade 8 are allowed two books per week and Grades 9 to 12 may borrow three books per week. All students use the resources in the library for research.

Teachers use the library for resources for their teaching and for their students.

Parents are welcome to visit the library.

Where is the school library?

For families new to MLIS, the school library is on the Main Campus in Building B.

When can we use the library?

Opening Hours: 7:00am – 3:00pm

Students are often waiting to come in to the library as it opens at 7:00 am. Older students use it to organise homework or projects and younger students use it to read and chat quietly until school starts. Apart from classes, older students use the library throughout the day for studying and work. Younger students enjoy playing chess during their breaks and lunchtime. Many students use the library between 2:00 and 3:00pm to do their homework and research.

Why do we have a school library?

A school library not only provides an environment for students to explore their world through reading, and to develop a deep love of reading, becoming literate members of society, but as importantly, it provides the resources and skills students need through information studies and technology. These resources and skills enable them to learn through inquiry and research ensuring that they are information literate as well.

School libraries are different to public libraries because they focus on providing the resources and skills required by the curriculum documents.

GREAT BOOKS

Picture Book – JK to Gr. 6

Mabel O'Leary Put Peas in Her Ear

by: Mary Delaney Ill by: Kathy Couri

Poor Mabel can't leave the dinner table until she eats all her peas. When she decides to hide them in her ears instead, Mabel can't hear a thing her mother says: This causes quite a mess!

This is a wonderful read with zany rhyme that develops phonemic awareness in little ones, but familiarizes older students with story through rhyme.

Grade 7 and up

Johnny Kellock Died Today by: Hadley Dyer

Winner of the Canadian Library association Book Award 2007.

Rosalie Norman is 11 years old, the afterthought in an already grown-up family. Confronted with a mother who's not only old but also a no-nonsense authoritarian, Rosalie retreats into the long, hot Halifax summer of 1959 with her drawings. But because of Rosalie's carelessness, her mom falls and breaks her leg. Now, to help out, the family has hired the strange new neighbour, a boy named David—or "the Gravedigger," as other kids cruelly call him. Even worse, Rosalie's favourite cousin, Johnny, has suddenly disappeared. Unsure of herself in a clan that's never quite what it seems, Rosalie not only uncovers family secrets as she searches for Johnny and befriends David, but also finds her own special place in the world.

Above review from:

www.amazon.ca

GRADE 11 & 12 (and Adults)

How Soccer Explains the World: An (Unlikely) Theory of Globalization

By: Franklin Foer

The Search: The Story of How Google and Its Rivals Changed Everything

By: John Batelle

The Tree Bride

By: Bharati Mukherjee

In this sequel to *Desirable Daughters*, and her best work to date, Mukherjee writes a suspenseful story of treachery and enduring love that goes to the heart of the East Indian culture.