



MAPLE LEAFLET

Maple Leaf International School
A Canadian International Program

MAIN CAMPUS
Tel: (868) 632-9578/
633-3173
Fax: (868) 633-3068

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

☺ If you have not received emails from the school mailbox, mapleleaf3@tstt.net.tt; please add the email address to your address book and ensure we have your correct email.

☺ Did you get your invoice for your tuition fees? Please check with the office.

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

☺ Please telephone the office and let us know if your child will be absent.

☺ Take a look at our new website at:

www.mapleleaf-school.com

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

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|---------------|--|
| November 1st | “Take Our Kids to Work Day” for Gr. 9 students |
| November 5th | National Election, school will be closed |
| November 9th | Divali Holiday |
| December 14th | Last day of school before Christmas Holidays |
| January 7th | First day back after Christmas Holidays |



Maple Leaf Students Are Working Hard

This year, MLIS has included the Cooperative Education Program for high school students in Grades 11 and 12. This program allows for an integration of a student’s academic study with practical work experience. The students obtain two to four credits (depending on the number of periods spent in the work place) through supervised work. This program

gives the students the opportunity to experience future careers, develop employability skills and strengthen interpersonal skills. This semester, we have students in various fields including education, marketing, dentistry, small business operations, graphic design and office assistant. One of our students, Marie-Dorothy Simonet who has a position as a teaching assistant at an

international school describes the cooperative education program as “the best thing that has happened to me in my school years.” The feeling is mutual as her host teacher feels that she is an invaluable asset to her classroom. We look forward to a successful year for all of our students hard at work. If your company would like to participate in our program, please contact Joann Johnston.

IS IT FRIDAY YET?

This little guy has been circulating around the internet and has found his way into many email attachments. Is it Friday yet? Is it the end of the month yet? Don’t fret. Yes we have all been busy as we continue to work through our curriculum, support our fund raising events, encourage our sports team, get ready for our Model UN in Montreal, get word out about our Christmas Toy and Book Drive and so much more. Even though at times we become tired as this little one in the photo, tomorrow is another day and we continue to work together as a team to provide for our students the best and most professional education system available. From babies to grown teenagers, our children will move forward and with the encouragement and involvement of our parents and staff, they will pursue their dreams and reach their goals. Look out for a new segment of our newsletter called “Where are They Now”. We will be highlighting our past MLIS students and sharing with you their achievements and successes. We will also be highlighting our MLIS students who are now attending school and doing so much more!

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





Maple Leaf Guidance



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

“When we call someone lazy, we condemn a human being.” writes Mel Levine MD. In the Myth of Laziness, Dr. Levine shows that children dismissed as unproductive or “lazy” usually suffer from “output failure” - a neurodevelopment dysfunction that can continue to cause difficulties into adulthood if left unchecked. Children and adolescents with output failure have no glimmer of understanding when it comes to the reasons for their setbacks in school and in life.

Many low output individuals have been mislabeled by non-clinicians (sometimes even parents and teachers) with labels such as ADD, yet have only a vague sense about which breakdown trips them up when they set out to accomplish work.

These negative self-diagnoses drain motivation and sometimes bring on all sorts of hard-to-fix behavioral complications. Helping a kid understand and forgive himself through demystifications is a significant step in preventing him from plummeting ever deeper into spirals of failure. Here are the demystification steps to go through.

1. Celebrate strengths
2. Describe and put borders around weaknesses
3. Inject optimism.

One strategy to assist those in need is to establish a consistent decision-making model similar to the I.D.E.A.L. method, followed by a clear structure for goal achievement. Teens will need consistent encouragement to crystallize this style of thinking.

Give it a try! It works!!

After all, there is

**NO SUCH THING
AS FAILURE,
ONLY DELAYED SUCCESS.**

DECISION-MAKING

(Step 1)

Making good decisions helps you to reach your goals. By using the I.D.E.A.L. Decision-Making Model below, you will be able to make healthier choices, solve most of your problems, and, have more control over your health and well being.

I. IDENTIFY THE PROBLEM

What is the problem or situation that needs to be resolved?

D. DESCRIBE (DISCUSS) WAYS TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM.

List as many possible choices or alternatives that you can think of that may help you to solve the problem.

E. EVALUATE EACH SOLUTION.

By listing the positive and negative consequences for each choice or alternative, evaluate how each solution would make the problem better or worse and choose the best solution.

A. ACT ON A PLAN TO USE THE BEST SOLUTION.

Describe how you plan to use the best solution. Be specific. Act on your plan (try your first choice).

L. LEARN ABOUT YOUR PLAN.

Describe how you think your plan will turn out (how did it turn out?). Did you make the best choice? What would you do differently next time?

BEING A SUCCESSFUL LEARNER

(Step 2)

Make a Plan to Succeed

1. My goal for this course is: i.e. what mark will I achieve when finished?
2. What barriers might prevent me from reaching my goals? How can I overcome these barriers?
3. What people might help me reach my goal?
4. What resources do I need to be successful?
5. How will I reward myself when I am successful?

SMART GOAL SETTING FORMULA

- S- SPECIFIC**
- M- MEASURABLE**
- A- ATTAINABLE**
- R- REALISTIC**
- T- TIME FRAME**

Guidance email: mapleleafguidance@tstt.net.tt



The Intermediate School - Grades 6 - 8

The Fifteenth Inter-American Water Day Celebrations School Competitions

The Grade 8 students were given a great opportunity to participate in The Fifteenth Inter-American Water Day Celebrations this month. Students participated in the writing and poster competitions organized by the Caribbean Water and Waste Water Association, the Water and Sewerage Authority, the Pan American Health Organization and the Ministry of Education. Schools from across the country were asked to send their best work on the theme "Water: A scarce resource—Do not pollute it". Under the guidance of the Grade 8 Language and Art teachers (Mrs. Liverpool &

Ms. O'Brien), the following MLIS students were represented in the competitions:

Writing: Damon Agostini, Colin Aking, Kirstyn Church, Craig De Freitas, Leah Govia, Jabrille Kabli, Simone Kennedy-Doig, Charlotte Morrison, Johanna Nahous.

Poster: Dominic Cavalho, Simone Kennedy-Doig, Elizabeth Lloyd, Chelsea Mohammed, Charlotte Morrison, Johanna Nahous, Alexandra Warner.

Four students emerged winners! Charlotte Morrison copped the second place in the writing competition. Johanna

Nahous won the poster competition while Dominic Cavalho captured second place. In addition, Simone Kennedy-Doig was awarded a special prize in the poster competition.

Congratulations to all the grade 8 families! The competitions' results reflect students' effort and ability. Furthermore, all grade 8 students benefited from completing an authentic task that connected with an audience beyond the classroom. The submissions are displayed in Bldg B for all to see. In addition, Charlotte's winning piece titled RUN OUT is printed on this page...enjoy!

RUN OUT

Charlotte Morrison, 13 years old, Second Place Winner

This dry season was long and severe. It had been a traumatic time for the people of Carenage, especially Vanessa and her family. Vanessa was a tall girl of thirteen who knew nothing about water conservation.

In the beginning of the season W.A.S.A had told people not to waste water. In Carenage people had wasted water and polluted their river. Some days there was no water to bathe. "Who cares? Ah go bathe in de mornin!" was Vanessa's retort. Things continued in this manner. Eventually W.A.S.A. stopped sending water to households for weeks at a time. Everybody had to go to a central pipe for any water but they knew they couldn't go to the river; they'd probably get poisoned! Still, most used the same amount of water.

One morning Vanessa woke up to the smell of smoke. Through the window Vanessa could see the beginnings of a bush fire. She dressed for school and went outside to get a maxi. The school day passed and she was walking home.

As she turned the corner, her sight made her dumbstruck. Her house was burning down. She started running frantically towards the house.

"Where – is my – my family? What is – goin on?" she gasped.

"Bush fire."

"Why dey doh do anything?" she screeched

"No water! Where dey gettin water from? We use it all up!"

"De river!" she wheezed out

"Ha! Dat River full of rubbish, not water!"

Vanessa ran around the crowd frantically looking for somebody who could help. The firemen stood still and the people became a blur. Only the angry flames ate away at her house.



Our winning students!!

The Junior School Grades 3–5

On Thursday 18th October, the Junior Department attended a French film at the European Film Festival held at Movietowne. In keeping with our character education drive this year, this cartoon which was set in Africa, was chosen as it depicted a young African boy Kirikou, small in stature, but large in positive character traits, who teaches his entire village a myriad of life lessons. Students, teachers and parents alike agreed that the outing was a success. A special thank you to the Junior staff and class representatives who, on that day, ensured the safety of our students.

Soccer Tournament

Grades 3 to 5 are currently engaged in a lunch time soccer tournament. Mr. Ragbeer has graciously offered to referee the games and the students have been organized into 6 teams. The tournament continues daily until the playoffs at the end of October.



There has been some difficult weather this season as our four teams have practiced hard. Coaches Perkins, Simpson, and Pimento along with the players and supporters (our biggest fan is security guard, Lowell) endured pouring rain, ankle deep water and high winds but the results have been well worth the trials.

FOOTBALL AT MAPLE LEAF -SUCCESS

As of this writing, the under 15 girl's team has been victorious in securing the league title. The under 16 boys have a good chance to win it all as well. The under 19 and under 14 boys have both played with distinction and have represented Maple Leaf well.

Whatever the results, our players have learned new competencies as well as the importance of teamwork.

The many other skills they have learned are not only consistent with what they have been taught about character education but will be of much use in later life.

Thanks to all parents who have allowed students to participate. Your support is critical and much appreciated.

MAPLE LEAF INDOOR HOCKEY TEAM

PRESENTING ... the Maple Leaf Hockey Team! Over the past year, this team of 16 players has been learning the skills of this sport. They have participated in indoor tournaments, playing against other primary schools of Port of Spain and were able to attend a Skills Workshop Session to develop and enhance their skills and talents. These players have been dedicated and committed to this sport and as a result, they perform at quite high levels.

This week, they were invited to compete in the Trinidad & Tobago National Primary School Hockey Tournament. They competed against 6 other primary schools. Thanks to the A Team, the team scored 9 goals altogether, qualifying us for the Finals of the Nationwide Primary School Hockey Tournament which will take place in November. Stay tuned for more details.

Congrats players and we wish you all the very best!

PLAYERS: *Johnathan Riley (Gr.5); Shayne Sharpe (Gr.6); Michael Nahous (Gr.6); Andrew Thomas (Gr.6); Ross Abraham (Gr.6); Justen Diaz (Gr.6); Khaleel Khan (Gr.7); Ryan Hamel-Smith (Gr.7); Jerome Marfleet (Gr.7); Erin Affonso (Gr.7); Christina Ferreira (Gr.7); Kirron Kirpalani (Gr.7); Jeffrey Kelshall (Gr.7); Bruce Riley (Gr.7)*

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.

NEWS ALERT!

Congratulations go out to all of our cubs who participated in a knock out football tournament against all the other District Cub Packs on Saturday 27th October, at the La Puerta Government School's grounds. Our boys demonstrated great skill, determination and teamwork in all of the games that they played, and in their final match against the Cocorite Cub Pack won 2—0. Well done boys, we are very proud of you.



*Maple Leaf Cub Pack Winners.
Congratulations!!*

I'VE LEARNED.....

I've learned...that opportunities are never lost; someone will take the ones you miss.

I've learned...that when you harbour bitterness, happiness will dock elsewhere.

I've learned...that I wish I could have told those I cared about that I love them one more time before they passed away.

I've learned...that one should keep his words both soft and tender, because tomorrow he may have to eat them.

I've learned...that I can't choose how I feel, but I can choose what I do about it.

I've learned...that under everyone's hard shell is someone who wants to be appreciated and loved.

I've learned...that God didn't do it all in one day. What makes me think I can?

I've learned...that to ignore the facts does not change the facts.

I've learned...that everyone you meet deserves to be greeted with a smile and that it is also an inexpensive way to improve your looks.



Cyberbullying

While we are all too aware of bullying among our children, and as worrying as it is, it is within the experience of many of us and therefore we can give our children the help and support they need to deal with it. However, how many of us have never heard of cyberbullying, far less know what it is all about. Our children are not only taught how to use the internet at school for inquiry and research, but are encouraged and expected to do so. However, the internet has also become the source of a new social world for our children where they are able to communicate instantly using e-mail, instant messaging, chat rooms and text messaging with old and new friends. This ability to communicate at any time of the day or night can also leave our children vulnerable to a different type of bullying—cyberbullying.

What are forms of cyberbullying?

- * Sending e-mails or instant messages containing insults or threats directly to children or teenagers.
- * Spreading hateful comments about a child or teenager through e-mail, instant messaging, websites or online diaries.
- * Stealing passwords and sending out threatening e-mails or instant messages using an assumed identity.
- * Building whole websites, often with password protection, to target particular children or teenagers.

(Taken from www.bullyfreealberta.ca)

Websites with further information:

www.bewebaware.ca

www.media-awareness.ca

www.stopcybrebullying.org

www.cyberbully.org

The Primary Campus

Computers

Our Primary Campus classrooms are being outfitted with new computers and printers courtesy of the school and the PTA. In total, 12 new computers and three laser printers have been ordered for the Primary Campus.



Science Curriculum

The Grade 2 students have taken on the job of revamping the garden bed just outside the Junior Kindergarten classroom. This project is part of their Science curriculum and the children will be preparing the existing bed by weeding and adding new soil, and then will be planting a variety of flowering plants.



What Can Parents Do?

Get involved and be aware. Learn everything about the internet and what your children are doing online. Be aware of the sort of sites your children are visiting and what they are posting.

Do not overreact! Children often will not confide in their parents for fear that their parents will respond to inappropriate events on the internet by banning them from the computer or removing their cellular phone privileges. Remain calm. Instead, encourage your children to come to you anytime they feel uncomfortable or threatened about anything they see or hear on the internet.

Encourage your children to develop their own code of behaviour. Help your children understand that with freedom comes responsibility. Your children should never post or say anything on the internet that they would not feel comfortable you reading.

Do not allow your child to be bullied. Watch for signs like a sudden reluctance or a new indifference to internet use. If you think the bully may be a student at your child's school, speak to the school administration about it.

Mrs. Fenton's Choir Debut

Maple Leaf's tiny perfect choir made its debut at the RESPECT assembly on Monday and received encouraging reports on their performance. We welcome new members. We practice on Thursdays in Room 308 in building B at the Main Campus. Practice time is from 2 until 3. If you like to sing, please come and join us.

Mrs. Fenton

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE AT:

www.mapleleaf-school.com