



Message from the CEO

Dear Maple Bear Global Community,

As we proudly unveil the pages of our 20th-anniversary magazine with a fresh new design, I am happy to extend a warm welcome to each member of the Maple Bear family, past and present.

Reflecting on two decades of educational excellence, this magazine is not just a collection of stories; it's a tribute to the shared journey that has made Maple Bear a global force in education. From our humble but ambitious beginnings 20 years ago, we've witnessed growth, innovation, and a steady commitment to providing the best of Canadian education.

Our journey unfolds across these pages - a voyage that began in 2004 with a vision to transform education, reaching milestones that shaped our identity. The past is rich with challenges, triumphs, and the unwavering dedication of educators, leaders, and students who have been at the heart of Maple Bear.

Today, our global footprint reflects the vast network of schools, each contributing to a shared mission of nurturing young minds. From Angola to Poland, Australia to Peru, the Maple Bear family spans continents, united by a commitment to fostering a love for learning and embracing diversity.

As you explore these pages, read the interview featuring Martine Lewis, our recently appointed Chief Academic Officer, recruited in 2023 to strategically align our academic initiatives for future readiness.

We delve into the essence of our educational model with practical, thought-provoking articles for educators and parents. We share valuable insights for parents that will help them unlock the full potential of their young learners as they begin school.



“Connecting Math to our Natural World” explores our teaching methodology that makes meaningful connections between math and the wonders of our environment.

This magazine is a tribute to every student, parent, teacher, administrator, trainer, school owner and global partner who has contributed to the Maple Bear story. Your passion and dedication are the roots that have supported the growth of our success.

To the next 20 years and beyond, as we continue to inspire, innovate, and instill a love for learning in the hearts of the global Maple Bear community.

With sincere appreciation,

José Henrique Del Castillo Melo
CEO, Maple Bear Global Schools

A Celebration of our Past, Present and Future

From its inception in 2004 to the present day, the trajectory of Maple Bear has been marked by innovation and an unwavering commitment to providing top-tier Canadian-based bilingual education on a global scale.

FROM INSPIRATION TO CREATION

Rodney Briggs, Founder of Maple Bear Global Schools, was inspired by an idea that evolved from many conversations with education leaders around the world. It was clear that there was a global need to fill the gap for high-quality preschool education based on a model that differentiated itself from all others in the market - the best of Canadian education.

It is an exceptional and innovative model that would prepare children and adolescents for life and to be successful as students, professionals, citizens, and family members in their home countries or wherever they choose to live.

With this purpose in mind, Maple Bear developed an educational approach based on the best practices that have contributed to placing Canadian education among the best in the world. This approach, alongside a world-class program in traditional subjects like math and science, aims to instill in students a real passion for learning and prepare them for an environment where skills such as autonomy, critical thinking, collaboration, understanding of different cultures, resilience, and others are crucial for success.

IMPACT THROUGH GROWTH

From inspiration to creation, Maple Bear Global Schools has established a solid legacy of educational excellence that spans continents.

In the early years, building a global presence posed formidable challenges. Overcoming geographical and cultural barriers demanded innovative approaches and a deep understanding of diverse educational landscapes. Yet, it was precisely these challenges that laid the foundation for our growth.

From the signing of our first school in Delhi in 2004 to the current addition of 31 countries to our



global family (plus eight coming soon), Maple Bear's footprint has expanded exponentially.

This growth is not just a numerical feat; it reflects our ability to adapt, evolve, and meet the diverse needs of students worldwide.

This unparalleled global footprint reflects our commitment to providing high-quality bilingual education and signifies Maple Bear's adaptability and resonance on a truly global scale.

IMPACT THROUGH GIVING BACK

For Maple Bear, Giving Back isn't just a concept; it's foundational to our commitment to instilling values of empathy and social responsibility in our students. Through these endeavours, Maple Bear fosters a sense of global citizenship, illustrating the transformative power of collective action in creating a positive impact on the world.

An example of how much this belief impacts our operations can be found in the inspiration Maple Bear took from the spirit of Terry Fox, a Canadian hero whose Marathon of Hope ignited the nation.

In 2018, we launched a global fundraising initiative in the name of the Terry Fox Foundation - an organization supporting cancer research in Canada and abroad.

Since then, the program has grown and, in many countries, has evolved into a cherished annual event, weaving a thread of community spirit within and beyond our school boundaries.

The impact has been profound, with Maple Bear Global Schools collectively raising over





I'm proud of all the Maple Bear school owners around the world for the terrific job they have done in delivering what we promised when we began the company 20 years ago. The success of Maple Bear is based on the reality that we have people who truly believe in what we are doing, and in what we are trying to achieve. And that is an incredible strength.

Rodney Briggs, Founder

\$700,000 (CDN) in donations for the Terry Fox Foundation and various regional cancer research organizations.

Alongside this project, Maple Bear promotes countless initiatives to foster in students the perception that they can and should be agents for transformation in their surroundings, contributing to building a better society at all levels.

IMPACT THROUGH COLLABORATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Our Canadian Faculty are critical members of the Maple Bear family. They are responsible for training our teachers and school administrators around the world, performing quality assurance checks, and writing the curriculum that forms the foundation of our education model.

Recognizing the invaluable role they play and to further support their continuous professional development, we instituted an annual Symposium in 2015.

Once a year, our faculty come together to share ideas, motivate one another, and improve our processes and practices that subsequently enhance the teacher and student experience. This annual gathering served as a platform for knowledge-sharing and fueled the collaborative spirit that defines our global educational community.

As Maple Bear evolves, so will our Symposium. In 2024, the first-ever Global Conference will be held in Niagara-on-the-Lake, and the participants will expand to include our global partners and school owners from around the world, in addition to our faculty.

It is an opportunity to reframe our annual gathering that seeks to support all the stakeholders at Maple Bear, provide everyone with the benefit of best practice sharing, and be active participants in building a future that benefits our educators and students worldwide.

IMPACT THROUGH COLLECTIVE PASSION

Our celebration of the past would be incomplete without acknowledging the dedication of our Maple Bear community.

Teachers, trainers, administrators, school owners, parents, and students have been integral to our journey. Their collective passion has been the driving force behind every success, turning challenges into opportunities and fostering a vibrant global learning community that reinforces our dedication to shaping the minds of future generations worldwide.

Here's to celebrating our past, embracing our achievements, and looking forward to the endless possibilities that the future holds for Maple Bear Global Schools.

MAPLE BEAR



60k+

STUDENTS

400+

SCHOOLS IN
OPERATION

180+

SCHOOLS
COMING SOON

39

COUNTRIES

5k+




TEACHERS

150+

CANADIAN
FACULTY

AROUND THE WORLD



-  Existing Schools
-  Opening Soon
-  Head Office

Here's a glimpse into the heartwarming messages that poured in from our Maple Bear community worldwide - a testament to the impact Maple Bear has made on countless lives over the past 20 years.



20TH ANNIVERSARY



BEST WISHES

Embarking on a remarkable journey with Maple Bear Canadian School Indirapuram, now celebrating its 20th anniversary, has been nothing short of extraordinary: two decades of shared dreams, laughter echoing through hallways and the resilience of a community dedicated to education.

Here's to the countless stories written, rhymes and lessons learned. A heartfelt salute to the visionary brand masters and dedicated educators who have sculpted Maple Bear's path to greatness over the past two decades. We all wish for a brighter future for Maple Bear.
*Jaya Prasad, School Owner
Maple Bear Indirapuram*



Happy 20th Anniversary Maple Bear!

It's an incredible milestone, and we couldn't be more proud of the journey we've embarked on together. Over the past two decades, we've weathered challenges, celebrated successes, and built a legacy that we can all be truly proud of.
*Crystal Han, Managing Director
Maple Bear Korea*

As the Chair of the Board, I wholeheartedly congratulate Maple Bear on reaching its 20th anniversary.

This remarkable two-decade journey reflects our steadfast dedication to educational excellence, marking an extraordinary milestone with global impact. Our path has been characterized by growth, resilience, and an unwavering commitment shared by all members of our community.

Let us celebrate our past achievements while looking forward to the boundless possibilities that our future in education holds.
*Thamila Zaher, Board Chair
Maple Bear Global Schools*

Congratulations to Maple Bear Global Schools on your incredible journey towards being a global education force. From the initial steps as a franchisee of the first preschool worldwide to being the Director & COO of Maple Bear South Asia, witnessing this growth has been truly gratifying. I wish Maple Bear continued success as it transforms each step into remarkable leaps!

Shalini Jaiswal, Chief Operations Officer, Maple Bear South Asia

Thrilled to be part of Maple Bear's incredible journey! Over the past two decades, we've witnessed the establishment of a standard of excellence in bilingual education. Committed to upholding Maple Bear's legacy, we take pride in the far-reaching impact that extends beyond the classroom, preparing children for a successful future and fostering a global mindset. As we look forward to the next 20 years, we remain dedicated to shaping the educational landscape in Central and Eastern Europe.

Yann Bidan, General Manager Maple Bear CEE

With great joy, I wish the Maple Bear Global Schools family a happy 20th anniversary! I cannot imagine how challenging the first years would have been, but I feel fortunate to belong to such a passionate global community, 100% committed to life-long learning!

Natalia Tieso, General Manager Maple Bear LATAM

Congratulations to Maple Bear Schools on the past two decades of inspiring minds and fostering a love for learning without borders. Maple Bear's commitment to excellence in education is evident in the countless young minds that have thrived under its guidance. May the next 20 years be brightly marked by even greater achievements, innovative educational practices, and continued dedication to shaping a bright and promising future for generations to come!

Patricia Koh, Chief Executive & Education Ambassador Maple Bear Asiawide



Time flies when you are having fun! I have spent 12 years teaching at Maple Bear and I have fun and grow out of every experience. I cherish every moment spent here. Maple Bear is not only a place where children develop their potential but also a place where teachers develop their careers. I love Maple Bear! My heartfelt congratulations to Maple Bear on its 20th birthday!

Alice Li, Head of Teaching and Curriculum Development Maple Bear Zhengzhou



Congratulations to Maple Bear for bringing this excellent Canadian program that makes kids so happy coming to school every day to the world. Thanks to all our colleagues at MBGS Team for bringing an outstanding curriculum and excellent activities so kids have fabulous memories in their daily studies. Big thanks, and I am looking forward to the years to come.

Pierre Colliot, General Manager Maple Bear Hong Kong

Congratulations to Maple Bear Global on 20 incredible years of excellence in early childhood education! To the leaders who have steered this ship, thank you for your vision and commitment. May the next decades bring continued innovation and success.

Ms. Nhan, Principal Maple Bear iBSB, Vietnam



Vibrant Learning Communities

Imagine over 400 schools with 60,000 students bustling, hustling, learning and embracing a love of learning!

In our schools, education goes beyond the ordinary, transforming into vibrant academic communities that cultivate creativity, curiosity, and critical thinking, thanks to the tireless dedication of our teachers, who play an indispensable role in shaping these environments.

These examples of Maple Bear ingenuity not only showcase the vibrancy of our learning communities but also underscore the profound impact of our educational approach, which is made possible by passionate and dedicated teachers. Our approach nurtures well-rounded individuals equipped with the skills and values needed for a dynamic and interconnected world.



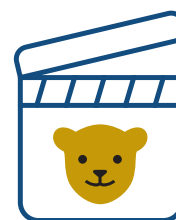
Playful Entrepreneurs - A Food Hall Activity

Maple Bear SIA, Singapore

The Senior Kindergarten class at Maple Bear Singapore transformed a learning corner into a bustling food hall, thanks to imaginative minds.

Mini entrepreneurs emerged as they set up food stalls, playing the roles of buyers, sellers, and delivery staff. The lively atmosphere echoed with laughter as children practiced social skills—learning to buy food independently, master the art of queuing, and interact graciously.

Beyond the adorable façade of playful food stalls lay invaluable lessons in independence, financial literacy, cooperation, turn-taking, and the joy of shared experiences - learning through play at its best!



How Movie Awards Showcase Language Arts

Maple Bear Natal, Brazil

Watch out, Academy Awards! Aspiring filmmakers are honing their craft at Maple Bear in Natal, where the recent short film

competition, the Urso de Ouro (Golden Bear) Movie Awards, showcased the remarkable creativity and dedication of students in grades 6-9.

Portuguese Language Arts teachers helped the students engage in various creative stages of movie making, narrative production, script writing, filming, and editing. Students also created movie posters to advertise their original short films, and they learned how important time management is to complete a project successfully.

The red carpet was rolled out for a gala award ceremony at a local cinema. Parents and special guests celebrated the winners in categories such as Best Director, Best Film, Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Costume/Makeup, Best Editing, Best Cinematography/Photography, and Best Soundtrack. Winners were selected by a panel of teachers and specialists in the local film industry during a private screening.

Creating a movie as a school project provides a holistic learning experience that integrates critical competencies like technical skills, creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking. It allows students to express themselves, explore their interests and develop their skills that will contribute to their future lives in meaningful ways.

he turned it into a meaningful experience by planting a jasmine tree.

It also provided a learning opportunity to explore the connection to the ecosystem and environmental stewardship, math and measurement, life cycle and growth, as well as teamwork and collaboration.

What an endearing activity that symbolizes not only student growth but also the tree's growth and all the benefits it provides.

sustainability in its instructional program and its operational and commercial footprint. Parents are also noticing the positive impact, with children eagerly sharing their newfound knowledge and habits related to environmental responsibility.



Fine Arts Class That Makes a Difference

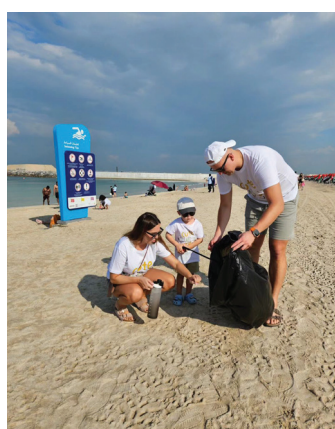
Maple Bear Guatemala

Maple Bear Guatemala's students recently undertook the project, "Pintando Sonrisas con Cascarones" (Painting Smiles with Eggshells), a Fine Arts initiative where they donated 2,834 creatively decorated eggshells to Guatemala's AYUVI foundation. This foundation supports low-income families dealing with childhood cancer by providing essential therapy and chemotherapy.

In the Fine Arts class, students explored the philosophy that palliative art serves to help people heal. This experience not only enriched their understanding of the power of art but also highlighted the practical applications of their skills in making a positive difference in the world.

Each child prepared the shells at home, cleaning and decorating them with paint, confetti, and tissue paper and infusing them with hope and smiles. After being creatively adorned by the students, the donated shells played a crucial role in funding therapy and treatment for children with cancer.

The "Painting Smiles with Eggshells" project at Maple Bear Guatemala exemplifies how Fine Arts can be a powerful tool for social change, instilling in students a sense of purpose, empathy, and a broader understanding of their role as compassionate global citizens.



Sustainability Takes Root in a Beach Cleanup

Maple Bear Dubai, UAE

Maple Bear nursery schools in Dubai actively foster environmental consciousness among its young students.

The staff at Maple Bear UAE organized a beach cleanup for their students ranging from 2 years to 6 years old, with over 100 families turning up for the activity.

All set with cleanup equipment generously sponsored by Noon (an e-commerce site in the UAE), the Maple Bear family took over the Umm Suqeim beach adjacent to the iconic Burj Al Arab and safely collected litter found in the sand and near the shore.

After the successful cleanup, the nursery staff organized activities, games, and music, providing an opportunity to celebrate the small yet significant lessons learned by the young environmentalists.

The turnout and enthusiasm from families were overwhelming!

The event aligns with Maple Bear UAE's eco-conscious ethos, emphasizing



Planting a Jasmine Tree for Kindergarten Graduation

Maple Bear Zhengzhou, China

Through Teacher Don Park's unwavering commitment to building respectful and trusting relationships, he has become a role model for his students.

A testament to his creativity and thoughtful approach, with a 100-day countdown to graduation just weeks away, Don didn't just mark the occasion;

PISA



2022



RESULTS



ARE



IN



In an ever-evolving world, the importance of a robust education system in shaping the future workforce cannot be overstated. The Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) serves as a critical barometer, gauging the competencies of 15-year-old students worldwide.

Canada's participation in PISA 2022 represented its commitment to a collective effort toward benchmarking educational performance and policy-oriented international indicators of skills and knowledge - essential steps toward identifying the factors contributing to successful students and school systems.

Overall, Canada ranked in the top 10 of all 81 participating OECD member countries.

Across 10 Canadian provinces, approximately 23,000 students from 850 schools participated to represent a reliable sample covering English and French school systems.

Overall, Canada ranked in the top 10 of all 81 participating OECD member countries. The Canadian cohort showcased commendable proficiency across reading, mathematics, and science.

Interestingly, when looking closer at the provincial level, French language school systems (Quebec) had a greater proportion of students attaining the highest levels of performance in math. There is variability between provinces depending on how each Ministry of Education prioritizes certain aspects of learning.

The framework of the assessment incorporated the strength of key future-ready skills like critical thinking, creativity, research and inquiry, self-direction, initiative, persistence, information use and reflection.

The strength of the Canadian education system, evidenced by Canada's PISA ranking, can give Maple Bear parents the confidence that the Maple Bear curriculum is developed with academic rigour and excellence.

In addition, Maple Bear's curriculum and methodology deliver a strong program for all our students that incorporates the critical competencies needed to adapt and thrive in the constantly changing reality of today's digitized and knowledge-driven society.

As the global education landscape evolves, PISA remains an invaluable tool for policymakers, educators, and stakeholders. At Maple Bear, recognizing the dynamic nature of education, our focus continues to ensure that our students are armed with the problem-solving, critical thinking, and communication skills necessary for a best-of-Canadian education, preparing them for a global future with competence, resilience and creativity.

* Read the full report: doi.org/10.1787/53f23881-en

81

OECD COUNTRIES
AND PARTNER
ECONOMIES*

700k

STUDENT
PARTICIPANTS*

An Interview with our CAO Martine Lewis

By Romina Mendez, Marketing Analyst,
Maple Bear Global Schools

An Interview with Chief Academic Officer Martine Lewis

Maple Bear Global Schools will be celebrating its 20th Anniversary in 2024. From modest beginnings in India and Brazil, it has evolved into one of the world's leading global education brands, with over 400 schools in 39 countries.

Dr. Martine Lewis was recently appointed Chief Academic Officer to guide the academic vision into the next 20 years.

We reached out to Martine to learn more about what has shaped her as a leader and her vision for the future.

Q: Can you tell us about what inspired you to pursue a career in education?

A: After earning my Honours Bachelor of Arts, I taught English in Japan, sparking a passion for bilingual education and cross-cultural communication. I later pursued a Master of Education in the United States and, armed with my certificate, taught grade three in Ecuador. These early experiences laid the foundation for my career in education, fostering a commitment to lifelong learning and a vested interest in teaching and educational research.

Q: Given your extensive experience, what is your philosophy on education?

A: My experience in education has emphasized the importance of student-centred approaches and staying adaptable to evolving methodologies. I bring this insight to Maple Bear by working with the team to ensure we are integrating three primary objectives:

- Develop and support new and revised curriculum with personalized learning initiatives
- Foster a culture of continuous professional development
- Ensure continued excellence and quality in all aspects of the Maple Bear programs

These objectives will be supported by integrating and leveraging the latest technology.

I am committed to enhancing Maple Bear's educational framework with a focus on holistic education, global awareness, and inquiry-based learning to ensure we build the skills our students will need for their future.



I am committed to enhancing Maple Bear's educational framework with a focus on holistic education, global awareness, and inquiry-based learning to ensure we build the skills our students will need for their future.



One of the most unique benefits of Maple Bear is that we have so many people working together globally to improve education for children around the world.

Q: What are the main trends and challenges that you see in education now?

A: Current trends in education include personalized learning approaches tailored to individual needs, an increased emphasis on developing key skills such as critical thinking, creativity, communication, and collaboration, and a significant focus on technology integration. These trends represent a shift towards more dynamic and student-centered education models.

However, the education sector faces challenges in adapting to the rapid pace of technological advancements, ensuring equal access to educational resources across diverse demographics, and effectively preparing students for the complexities of an interconnected global landscape. Maple Bear Global Schools is working to strike a balance between innovation and addressing the needs of a diverse student population with a global footprint.

Q: How does your philosophy align with the Maple Bear program?

A: At Maple Bear, fostering a love of learning is central to our approach. We cultivate curiosity by integrating engaging curriculum and relevant content into our curriculum. We do this using the most up-to-date pedagogy. Our educators use interactive teaching methods, encouraging student participation and exploration.

We create a positive and supportive environment where students feel empowered to express themselves, fostering a sense of joy and curiosity that extends beyond the classroom. This approach instills a lifelong passion for learning in our students.

Q: As a parent and an educator, what advice can you share with our Maple Bear parents?

A: I want to congratulate them for choosing a school where their child can learn a second language; this is a gift for their future. I know first-hand how a second language can open a window to the world. As an educator and Mom of two school-aged children, I am fully committed to the bilingual learning environment. My children attend bilingual schools here in Ontario, becoming fluent French speakers - an official Canadian language. I know that the benefits of a second language go far beyond the classroom walls.

Q: How do you encourage children to do their best academically?

A: Encouraging children to excel academically at Maple Bear involves a multifaceted approach. We emphasize personalized learning, tailoring instruction to individual needs and learning styles. Our educators create a positive and engaging classroom atmosphere, fostering a love of learning. Recognizing and celebrating each student's achievements, providing constructive feedback, and setting realistic goals are integral parts of our academic strategy. We want to inspire students to achieve their best.

Q: Any final thoughts you'd like to share?

A: One of the most unique benefits of Maple Bear is that we have so many people working together globally to improve education for children around the world.

Having a network of teachers, trainers, academics, and school owners committed to bringing the best of Canadian education to students is incredibly powerful.

I am very excited to be part of this Maple Bear global family.



CONNECTING MATH TO OUR NATURAL WORLD

Close your eyes and picture math class. What comes to mind? Are you visualizing your experience as a student where you sat in rows, facing a chalkboard, listening to a teacher go through examples? Are you working on math problems by yourself?

At Maple Bear, we want to bring math to life!

FINDING THE JOY AND WONDER IN MATH

We know math is much more than answering questions and practicing arithmetic. Math is about having experiences and making connections. Sometimes, we connect math concepts to other mathematical ideas; other times, we join math to other subjects. We can also connect math to the world around us.

We encourage students who can find joy and wonder in mathematics. We want them to know that math is present in the world around us. We want them to have a natural curiosity, knowing that patterns and regularities in nature are truly mathematics at work!

MAKING CONNECTIONS BETWEEN MATH AND THE WORLD AROUND US

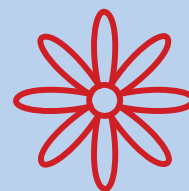
At Maple Bear, we help students make connections to the world around them. This approach was missing in traditional math classes, and it is likely why so many people have difficulty seeing mathematics in a positive way.

When Maple Bear teachers take students outside the classroom on a shape, number, or pattern hunt, they reveal just how much math there is around us. They will notice three-dimensional shapes on play structures and buildings and patterns on animals or flowers. They will see numbers everywhere and be inclined to count and notice patterns as they count.

Did you ever stop and wonder about the perfect symmetry of a leaf or flower? Have you ever been amazed at the height of a giant tree? Have you ever become curious about why a group of flowers has the exact same number of petals in each flower?



*By Nicole Vinet,
Lead Numeracy Consultant,
Maple Bear Global Schools*





A POSITIVE MATH MINDSET IS TIED TO CURIOSITY

Inspiring students to be curious about the math around them is essential in bringing math to life and developing a positive mathematical mindset from the beginning. These observation skills help students see math everywhere and can help them make sense of mathematics as they learn it.

As students get older, we can continue to make connections by asking them to notice and wonder about things in the outside world. If we start working with prisms and pyramids, why wouldn't we show them some pictures from around the world and marvel at the perfect geometry we see in ancient architecture?

Maple Bear believes in partnering with parents to educate their children. Here are some ways parents can bring mathematics to life for their children:

- Weather forecasts use predictions and probability to forecast the weather
- Ancient cultures created perfectly symmetrical structures without the use of modern-day instruments
- The hexagon shape of snowflakes displays beautiful symmetry
- Bees make honeycombs with perfect tessellations
- Waves make patterns in the water
- Fibonacci Spiral patterns can be found everywhere in nature
- Spots or stripes create patterns on animals



MATH CAN BE EXPERIENCED BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

We do not have to limit these discussions to math class. Awareness and drawing attention to mathematical situations when you see them is what is important. Math problems and practicing math have their place, but without any joy or connection, the wonder and beauty of math will be lost.

Let's make it a habit to search for math in the world around us!



The Key to Children's Success in School

*By: Magda Chromik, Academic Coordinator,
Maple Bear Katowice, Poland*

Parent Involvement in the Early Years

In the early learning years, parents are their children's first and most influential teachers, playing an essential role in shaping their attitudes toward education. Their involvement goes beyond attending parent-teacher conferences; it is about ongoing communication and integrating learning into everyday activities.

Research indicates a strong correlation between parents' aspirations and their children's academic achievements. At Maple Bear, we know that the more support families provide for their children, the more likely these children excel in school and become life-long learners.

TIPS FOR SUPPORTING SCHOOL SUCCESS

Engaging with your child's school life can be as simple as extending learning to real-life situations at home. Discuss their day over dinner and use open-ended questions to encourage more detailed responses. Provide a learning-friendly environment with activities and resources for your child to develop their higher-level thinking skills through exploration, discovery, and imagination.

Helping with homework does not mean completing tasks for your child but providing guidance and support to help them take responsibility for their learning.



Parents are their children's first and most influential teachers.



Enhancing Language Skills

Here are some examples of how to foster a love for reading and writing:

- Make reading a daily habit, revisit your child's favourite stories as often as they wish, and support them in retelling them in their own words.
- Use different voices or incorporate your child's name to make stories more engaging.
- Encourage your child to express their creativity by saying or writing a different ending to the story.



Parental engagement in education is about embedding learning into everyday experiences.

Supporting Math Learning

Some practical strategies to support math learning at home:

- Demonstrate that math is important and enjoyable, highlighting how math is used in everyday activities.
- Integrate math into daily routines like cooking to explain fractions or shopping to teach budgeting and price comparisons.
- Engage in practical projects such as model building, sewing, or activities incorporating measurements and understanding of proportions.



ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT BOOSTS ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

Parental engagement in education is about embedding learning into everyday experiences. By actively participating in your child's education through these practical and fun methods, you can boost their academic performance and nurture a lifelong love of learning.



TERRY FOX

Every year since 2018, our Terry Fox global fundraising initiative has allowed our students around the world to meaningfully engage in learning about Terry and his legacy and understanding the principles he stood for: courage, hope, perseverance, and dedication to making a difference.

2023

We are so proud of how these countries have embraced this initiative, and their stories have significantly impacted cancer research globally.

HONG KONG

This year, Maple Bear Hong Kong held a Terry Fox Relay Race in combination with their annual sports day in November. Over 100 families participated and collectively smashed their fundraising goal, with over CAD 5,000 donated and directed to the Terry Fox Foundation in support of cancer research!

BRAZIL

Maple Bear schools in Brazil continue to eagerly embrace the spirit of Terry Fox with enthusiasm and passion. Events were held in 37 schools nationwide, with more than 9000+ people participating. CAD 55,000 was raised to support Hospital De Amor (a hospital with cancer treatment centres in the states of São Paulo and Rondônia) and another CAD 22,000 toward other cancer-related institutions.

PERU

Maple Bear Arequipa in Peru hosted an incredible Family Day alongside their Terry Fox event, attracting 300 attendees of all ages. The day featured a Terry Fox run, a delicious lunch, a live rock band, and even a surprise visit from Chinook. This memorable event significantly contributed to supporting kids with cancer, raising 8,400 Soles (CAD 3,000) for Make-A-Wish and Magia.





⬇️ *Darrell Fox from the Terry Fox Foundation*



SINGAPORE

Maple Bear Singapore held their fundraising campaign for the Terry Fox Foundation in July of 2023. They were thrilled with the unwavering support of the Maple Bear families across all of their schools, raising an impressive CAD 180,000 for the Singapore Cancer Society. A special visit from Darrel Fox, Terry's brother, made the event even more inspirational.

TOTAL RAISED

\$267,500

92

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS

10k

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

8

CHARITIES SUPPORTED



Global Giving Back Initiatives

Join us as we shine a light on the remarkable stories within our school communities. We celebrate the collective spirit of generosity and community empowerment, as well as the stories of our schools that have embraced acts of kindness as a stepping stone toward a brighter, more harmonious future.



Box of Hope Program

Maple Bear Hong Kong

A notable initiative embraced by the Maple Bear Hong Kong community is the participation in the Box of Hope project, a fantastic cause aimed at teaching students the significance of giving and the ability to bring smiles to their peers in their city.

The Box of Hope is an annual charity project with a mission to provide practical, educational gifts to underprivileged children in Hong Kong and Asia.

The project strives to raise awareness among children about the challenges faced by those in their community who lack basic educational resources and empower them to understand how they can contribute to making a positive impact.

In 2023, the collective efforts resulted in over 100 caring boxes, each filled with notebooks, pencils, games, and more!

What an excellent way to instill and nurture values of empathy and compassion.



High School Students Enhance Life at School

Maple Bear Valinhos

The Junior Councilor Club at Maple Bear Valinhos (Brazil) is tasked with finding ways to improve the life of their school community.

Choosing to focus on recycling due to the substantial amount of paper consumption within the school, the group aimed to enhance the existing recycling program. While the school already had a recycling initiative, it needed to be more robust.

The implemented changes included redirecting kitchen leftovers to the compost used for the school vegetable garden, which is maintained by Year 1, 3, and 4 students.

Paper recycling boxes were introduced in every classroom, and the pages from the Student Learning Materials (SLMs) were repurposed as draft papers for students or printables. Students also recycle binders from their SLMs and repurpose boxes.

The Young Councilor Club students have also taken on the responsibility of informing the student body through assemblies and monthly updates.

What began as a project to strengthen the recycling program has evolved into a more extensive endeavour, contributing to the sustainability of their learning environment.



Entrepreneurship that Aims To Serve Others

Maple Bear Chihuahua

Maple Bear Chihuahua (Mexico) has created a unique initiative called Programa Emprendedor Social (Social Entrepreneurship Program). It helps reinforce their entrepreneurship program and foster the values of generosity and gratitude in children.

During this event, the students, with the help of their parents, create a mini-company, determine their product offering, set the prices and then sell their wares (a selection of food or toys they have made) to their classmates at the Entrepreneur Fair.

The unique thing about this initiative is that all profits are used to support social causes or charities. This year, all donations went to CRIT Chihuahua, an organization dedicated to children and teens with disabilities, cancer and autism.

What an exceptional educational experience for these students that goes beyond theory, instilling entrepreneurial skills and a genuine commitment to the well-being of others.