



# Mapplewells Primary and Nursery School Weekly Newsletter - Friday 28th June

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fun and exciting week it has been at Mapplewells Primary and Nursery School! The children have been basking in the sunshine, working very hard, and experiencing some wonderful events that have made this week truly memorable.

We were thrilled to welcome a special visit from our local police officers. They spent time with the children, sharing important safety tips and allowing them to explore a real police car! The students were captivated by the officers' stories and demonstrations, making it a valuable learning experience that they'll surely remember.

Our Year 2 students had an unforgettable adventure on their residential trip. They engaged in a range of activities and the trip was packed with fun and exciting opportunities. We're so proud of our Year 2s for their enthusiasm and great behaviour throughout the trip.

Here's to more sunshine and more incredible learning experiences!

Read on for all things Mapplewells...

## Attendance

Children must attend school every day, on time (unless they are too unwell to do so). As you know, I am not permitted to authorise holidays in term time and leave of absence will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances and on a case-by-case basis.



Our current school attendance after 35 weeks is 95.35% We want to work together to continue to improve this figure over the coming weeks. Our current attendance by class is:

Birch - 95%

Elder - 94%

Elm - 96%

Hawthorn - 96%

Hazel - 95%

Oak - 95%

Maple - 96%

Juniper - 95%

Pine - 93%

Rowan - 96%

Willow - 96%

Well done to **Elm, Hawthorn, Maple, Rowan & Willow classes** on their fantastic attendance this week. Let's keep striving to improve our attendance, to continue to exceed that figure of 95%, and strive to achieve 97% attendance.

## Classes for Next Year

We are currently finalising staffing plans for the 2024/2025 academic year. We will confirm this very soon – so watch this space!

On Monday 22nd July children will begin their transition week, so children have the chance to get to know their new teachers and spend time in their new classes.

## Year 1 Phonics

Over the last couple of weeks, our Year 1 children embarked on an exciting learning journey of their own– the Phonics screening tests!

Miss Turner has been working diligently with each child, creating a supportive and encouraging environment for them to showcase their growing phonics skills. We have been truly impressed by the remarkable progress the children have made in mastering these foundational literacy skills.

The Phonics screening tests play a crucial role in identifying areas where each child excels and where they may benefit from additional support. Miss Turner and the Key stage 1 team have tailored their teaching throughout the year to address individual needs, ensuring a strong foundation for all our Year 1 learners. While we eagerly await the official results, we want to take this opportunity to celebrate the dedication and hard work demonstrated by both our children.

Seeing their confidence blossom as they tackle new challenges is truly rewarding. We will be sure to share the finalised results with you as soon as they are available. In the meantime, please join us in acknowledging the fantastic achievements of our Year 1 students!

## Safeguarding Tip of the Week

### **Safety in the Sun**

This week our safeguarding focus is on staying safe when out in the sun.

As the weather starts to warm up and the sun is shining, it is important that we protect our skin and our health in general. Here are some top tips for being safe in the sun: -

- Use a sunscreen with a minimum SPF 50 and at least 4 stars for UVA protection
- Reapply sunscreen if you have been in the water
- Wear sunglasses with UV protection
- Wear a sunhat and loose clothing made of breathable material
- Stay in the shade during the middle of the day when the sun is at its strongest
- Drink lots of water to stay hydrated

## Spotlight on British Values

### **Democracy**

During the next few weeks, our pupils will be taking part in citizenship lessons around our British Value of 'Democracy'.

The announcement of the general election, on the 4th July 2024, has provided the perfect platform for our school to explore the British democratic system.

Pupils will have the opportunity to express their views in respectful classroom debates whilst also learning about voting; parliament and government.



## Forest school & the foundation playground

A reminder that the play equipment in the Foundation play area should not be used at all before or after school as the staff work very hard to set up activities for the session which are often spoilt if the resources have been used or moved.

The same applies for Forest School - this area should not be used before or after school session times.



# Internet Safety



<http://www.netsmartzkids.org>

## **What Parents and Carers need to know about Online Gambling**

Online gambling has become more prevalent over the years, with such practises widely advertised on social media and even incorporated into various apps and games. It's growing easier for children and young people to come across opportunities to gamble online, putting parents at greater risk of financial loss or mental and emotional strain.

That said, there are steps you can take to keep these youngsters as safe as possible from the impacts of gambling, and our free guide details these for you. At the same time, our expert points out the most significant risks posed to under-18s, to help you keep these damaging pitfalls to a minimum.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formally delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, have a look at [www.wakeupwednesday.com](https://www.wakeupwednesday.com).

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about GAMBLING

Gambling can be defined as betting or risking money or something of value on the outcome of a situation involving chance. Under current regulations, gambling is legal for adults in the UK. Its potential impacts on the wellbeing of individuals, families and communities are well documented – emphasising the importance of safeguarding children and young people against these harms.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

**MANIPULATIVE ADVERTISING**  
 Adults in video advertisements and betting exchanges can raise concerns about targeting vulnerable groups, causing addiction, promoting misleading expectations, impacting mental health, affecting social norms, creating negative changes, influencing minors and other ethical issues. Effective regulatory intervention, including guidance and public education, are essential to mitigate these concerns and address the potential harm associated with addictive features to manipulative advertisements.

**ADDICTIVE FEATURES**  
 All gambling products carry safety concerns. The same can be seen in retail and social networks. The regular nature of rewards, which public bets can encourage them to do so often, with instant game and multiple betting options, for instance, betting on sports events, reacting to odds for play, and social features, can be highly engaging and addictive. The 24/7 availability of betting products can also increase the risk of excessive gambling, particularly among young people.

**PEER PRESSURE**  
 Exposure to gambling through friends, influencers or social circles can normalise it as a harmless and enjoyable activity. Normalisation of the chance of winning, advertising and influence requires support services, responsible gambling practices and effective education on the potential harm and the impact on children and provide healthier choices.

**IMPACT ON MENTAL HEALTH**  
 Gambling can exacerbate mental health issues such as anxiety, depression, and stress – especially if linked to financial loss. Individuals with existing mental health conditions may see gambling as a coping mechanism. In the cycle of gambling can worsen their symptoms, leading to increased support and overall wellbeing. Support should be offered to these individuals to help them manage these interconnected challenges effectively.

**GATEWAY BEHAVIOURS**  
 Certain features of other products – such as when games that offer an in-game purchase can lead to gambling, entering on any parents, their or children's devices, or being targeted to exploit psychological vulnerabilities, encouraging repeated spending to secure virtual items or achievements. Such practices can normalise the opportunity and encourage young people to put their or their family's money at danger.

**FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES**  
 The most common impacts of online betting come in the form of financial losses and debt. This, in turn, can lead to disrupted perceptions of income, decreased responsibility, social isolation, and poor economic and career outcomes. Beyond gambling can even influence other daily behaviours by making it seem less significant – potentially leading to a cycle of health issues and financial loss.

### Advice for Parents & Educators

**ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS**  
 Sporting events can be a good opening for conversations about gambling, as some parents may not realise and even opportunities to talk to children about their preferences may arise. Adults, educators and young people can also discuss gambling practices. As a child grows, it's important to encourage their critical thinking skills to help them become more informed by this type of marketing.

**KNOW THE WARNING SIGNS**  
 Parents and educators should be vigilant for signs of gambling harm among young people, such as changes in their behaviour such as increased money, loss of money, mood swings or withdrawal from their usual activities. Open conversations about gambling, risk and emotion is supportive, non-judgemental and essential. To facilitate parent with resources and helpline for assistance and advice.

**MONITOR SPENDING**  
 In-game purchases can be appealing to children, allowing them to unlock new features or cosmetic items. It's important to be aware of the time it could take to see them for paying. Talk to children about how they spend money online, an interest in what video games they play can encourage the conversation. Consider setting up restrictions on their devices, requiring their parent or carer's permission before making any purchases. Talk about finance regularly and openly.

**GET FURTHER SUPPORT**  
 Support and treatment for young people is available via the Young People's Support Service or GamCare, who are contacted at 0800 800 023. It's important to note that the helpline is available 24/7. If you're looking for more information, please visit [www.gamcare.org.uk](https://www.gamcare.org.uk) or [www.nhs.uk](https://www.nhs.uk). Open lines of communication are essential to help them manage their financial situation.

**Meet Our Expert**  
 Ygam's mission is to prevent children and young people from experiencing gambling harm through education, raising awareness, and research. The charity was established in 2014 as a result of our lived experience of their industry.

WakeUp Wednesday The National College

Source: See full references at [www.wakeupwednesday.com/gambling](https://www.wakeupwednesday.com/gambling)

@wakeup\_weds www.thenationalcollege @wakeup.wednesday @wakeup.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 28.08.2024

## Car parking

In response to concerns from local residents, please can I ask parents and carers to be considerate when parking if you are driving to school, please do not to block driveways or pavements when parking.

We ask that parents do not park on Mapplewells Crescent or Henning Lane as we need to ensure that access to school is clear and that children are able to walk safely to and from school.

We highly recommend that where possible children and parents walk to school. This is to ensure the safety of all our fellow Mapplewellians.

Thank you in advance for your continued support and co-operation in this matter.



## Visit from the police

We absolutely loved our visit from the police this week! We talked about how the police keep us safe and how to know when we need to talk to them about an emergency. We tried on police clothes and we had a go in the police car too!

Check out the website next week for more photos!













## Can you help F2?

The F2 staff are wanting to improve the writing area within the unit to encourage children to do more independent writing and we need your help! If you have any of the following items, please could you give it to a member of the EYFS team:

- \*notebooks
- \*coloured/fancy paper
- \*pencil crayons
- \*range of pens/pencils
- \*cards/envelopes
- \*to do lists/shopping lists
- \*party invitations

Thank you for your continued support, we really do appreciate it!

## Sports day

Please see the timings below for Sports Day which is taking place on Monday 1st July.

F1, F2 and KS1 - 9.30-11.30am. Parents will be able to access the allocated side of the field from 8.45am once the children are in their classrooms.

KS2 - 1.15-3.15pm. The gates will be opened at approximately 1pm once lunch has finished. Children will need to be collected as usual at 3.15pm.

For parents with children in both key stages, parents will need to leave at 11.30am and return at 1pm. On the day, all children may come to school in their school PE kit. Please ensure that children come with a sun hat and a water bottle too.

We welcome parents to come, watch and cheer on their children. It is extremely important that all children remain with their class during the sports day and parents, carers and spectators remain on the allocated side of the track. Children will not be allowed to cross the track during or after the sports day events. This is to ensure the safety and safeguarding of all children taking part.

Do bring a blanket or chair to sit on. We look forward to seeing you there!



## School Crossing Patrol vacancy

Via East Midlands is looking to recruit a School Crossing Patrol (Lollipop Person) to the site outside our school. The role is term time Mon - Fri £12.03 per hour. If you would like to find out more information, you can use the link below, or contact Via on 0115 9774373, or by email: [roadsafety@viaem.co.uk](mailto:roadsafety@viaem.co.uk)<sup>1</sup>.

To find out what current patrols like about their role in the community please visit Via's YouTube – Working for Via as a School Crossing Patrol – YouTube

<https://www.viaem.co.uk/services/road-safety/school-crossing-patrols/>



## Interoception and mental wellbeing in autistic children

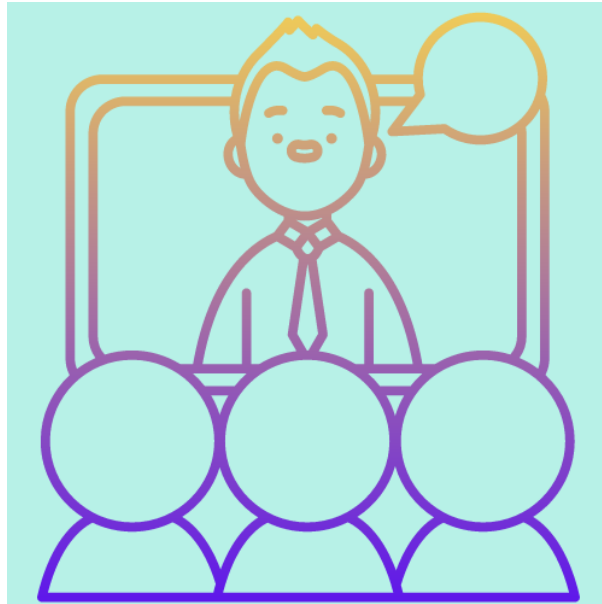
We are planning to arrange an expert to come into school in September to do some interoception training with our parents. This session will be open to all, whether your child has a diagnosis of autism or not. Our SenCo Mrs Richards thought it might be useful to share a link on interoception from the Autism Education Trust so you can read whether this may be of interest -

<https://www.autism.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/professional-practice/interoception-wellbeing>

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<sup>1</sup><mailto:roadsafety@viaem.co.uk>

If this training sounds useful to you or your family please let us know what time of day suits you best by completing this survey - <https://forms.office.com/e/ZONSEUNPU1>



## Fundraising

Friends Of Mapplewells are now registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! These donations really mount up and make a BIG difference to us, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment.

**And here's the best part: for the next two weeks, every supporter who signs up to support Friends of Mapplewells through easyfundraising will trigger a £1 bonus donation!**

Ready to make a difference? It only takes a few minutes to sign up. You can find our easyfundraising page at [https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friends-of-mapplewells/?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=pmc&utm\\_content=gs-email1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friends-of-mapplewells/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pmc&utm_content=gs-email1)

Thank you so much!



Please come and join us for a picnic!

We are delighted to once again invite you to join us for a picnic, which will be held on **Friday 19th July from 12.00 to 1.30pm**. There will be **no school hot dinners served on this day** and all children and parents will need to either order a Picnic Box or bring along their own packed lunch.

Please order by **10am on Thursday 4th July 2024**

**Foundation 2, Year 1 & Year 2:** Your child is entitled to Universal Free Meals. If your child would like a free picnic box from school, please choose their sandwich filling on Scopay. There is no charge for this meal.

**F1, Year 3, 4, 5 and 6:** The cost of the picnic box is £2.95, unless your child is entitled to income based free school meals. If your child would like a picnic box on this day you can make an online payment via ScoPay and indicate your child's choice of sandwich filling.



## Key dates

Please keep updated with our key dates as we will add to this over the coming weeks.

Diary Dates	
2023-24	
July	
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Sports day – EYFS & KS1 am and KS2 pm
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Summer fair
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup>	F1 trip to Tropical Butterfly House & Wildlife Conservation Park
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 trip to Robin Hoods Wheelgate Park
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Flying High Partnership Awards Evening
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Parent picnic
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Summer discos
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 treat night
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Start of class swap week
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of summer 2 term & non uniform day
2024-25	
September	
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	INSET day
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	INSET day
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	First day of Autumn term
February	
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup>	INSET day

Mr Whittle

Headteacher

Mr Latkowski

Deputy Headteacher