



# Mapplewells Primary and Nursery School Weekly Newsletter - Friday 10th May

Dear Parents and Carers,

Amazing things continue to take place at Mapplewells. This week Year 3 have enjoyed their residential to Sherwood Forest and Walesby, whilst Year 6 continue their preparations for next week's SATs. It continues to be very busy and there is lots more to come throughout the summer term...

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.



### The Importance of School Attendance

Our current school attendance after 30 weeks is **95%** but we want to aim for over 97%. With your continuing support we believe that this remains achievable for this academic year, and we will continue to provide your children with enriching educational opportunities every day.

Additionally, some children are missing out on part of their education by arriving late to school. The gates are open from 8:30am. Please make sure your child arrives before 8:50am when the gates close. We are monitoring punctuality very closely and may contact you if we have a concern

Our current attendance by class is:

Birch - 96%

Elder - 94%

Elm - 97%

Hazel - 95%

Hawthorn - 96%

Oak - 95%

Maple - 96%

Juniper - 96%

Pine - 93%

Rowan - 96%

Willow - 96%

Well done to Elm class 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.

## Stars of the week

SUCCESS stars of the week congratulations to the following children who were chosen by their class teacher as 'SUCCESS start of the week'. The children received their certificate in assembly today.

Ash - Ava

Birch - Bruce

Elder - Amari

Elm - Zach

Hawthorn -

Hazel - Pheobe

Oak - Mollie

Maple - Lucy-Mae

Juniper - Harley

Pine - Alfie

Rowan - Sophie

Willow - Harry



## ScoPay

We have been informed by ScoPay that they are making changes to their app that parents/carers use to make payments. Going forward all payments including school meals, breakfast club and trips will need to be made via the ScoPay website. If you have any issues with making payments via the website please let a member of the office team know.

You can login to the Scopay website here - <https://www.scopay.com/login>



## Year 6 SATs

The children in Year 6 have been working hard to prepare for their SATs which take place next Monday 13th May. As part of their preparations, they will have breakfast, provided by school (free of charge), each morning before their tests take place. Year 6 children will need to arrive at school for 8:10am to take part in the breakfast. Please remember them in your thoughts over the coming weeks

## 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.

## Nursery places available for September 2024

Applications are open for a place in our Nursery from September 2023. We offer 15 hours or 30 hours places.

F1 is open 5 days a week. 15 hours sessions are either morning or afternoon. The morning session is from 8.35am to 11.35am, and the afternoon session is from 12.35pm to 3.35pm. We also now offer 30 hours funded childcare. These sessions are 8.35am-3.35pm which are broken down into two 3 hour sessions with an hour lunch in between.

If you would like a place for your child then please contact the school office for an application form or visit our website. Further information about admissions to Nursery and Reception can be found on the school website <https://www.mapplewellsprimary.co.uk/admissions/>

Please note, a place in our Nursery does not guarantee a place in Reception





# Internet Safety



<http://www.netsmartzkids.org>

## **Supporting Children to Deal with Upsetting Content**

They might not be able to pinpoint its location on a map, and they might not fully grasp the historical and political drivers behind the conflict – but in this age where news, images and video can cross continents in seconds, many children are now aware of the terrible recent events in Israel. It’s a situation, of course, that could cause youngsters extreme distress and worry.

Our #WakeUpWednesday guide contains some valuable pointers for supporting children to deal with upsetting content they’ve encountered online – whether that’s the attacks in Israel, ongoing worries over the environment, or something else entirely. Our tips will assist trusted adults in helping young people to process any negative emotions that they may be feeling.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it needs. This guide focuses on one of many areas which we believe further adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nos.org.uk](https://www.nos.org.uk) for further guides, video examples for adults.

## SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO DEAL WITH UPSETTING CONTENT

### A Guide for Parents and Carers

Raising children in the digital age seems to be getting tougher, with the world currently experiencing so many uncertainties. From climate change to military conflicts around the globe, right now children across the globe can scarcely go online without being exposed to upsetting stories, images and ideas. Reassuring a concerned child can be difficult, especially when bad news feels omnipresent. We've put together some advice to help you in discussing upsetting events with young ones.

- FIND OUT WHAT YOUR CHILD KNOWS**  
There are many ways that children are exposed to upsetting content in the media, both online and offline. Before approaching your child with information, find out what they know to avoid overwhelming them. Practice active listening and try to gauge how much your child has been exposed to so far. It's best to start with a conversation about upsetting content probably far from the place where you'd like to go. Choose a time when they're relaxed and have their full attention. Remember, these conversations can become more frequent as your child feels safe and comfortable.
- RIGHT TIME, RIGHT PLACE**  
Start with a conversation about upsetting content probably far from the place where you'd like to go. Choose a time when they're relaxed and have their full attention. Remember, these conversations can become more frequent as your child feels safe and comfortable.
- KEEP IT AGE APPROPRIATE**  
With younger children, try not to keep the conversation more general and avoid leading questions and complex details. You can go slightly deeper into the specifics with young teenagers but keep involving them. You can be more open about the realities and consequences of what's happening, but again, do stay aware of their emotional state.
- EMPHASISE HOPE**  
Upsetting content can make children feel angry, scared, sad or overwhelmed. Try to find stories of hope, generosity and strength related to the content you're discussing. Children often feel reassured when they know they can do something to help, so encourage your child's sense of emotional resilience. With older teens, you can be more open about the realities and consequences of what's happening, but again, do stay aware of their emotional state.
- MONITOR REACTIONS**  
All children react differently, of course, and your own reaction might directly affect how they feel. Be calm, steady, attentive and uncomplaining. Emotional reactions are normal when discussing upsetting stories, so take note of your child's body language and reactions. Allow them to express their feelings in a non-judgmental space and try to remain mindful of how they might be feeling.
- CONSIDER YOUR OWN EMOTIONS**  
It's not only young people who find upsetting news difficult to process: adults also have to deal with strong emotions in moments of stress. Children develop coping strategies by mirroring those around them, so staying on top of how you appear to be regulating your emotion on the outside is important by supporting your child through worrying times.
- SET LIMITS**  
Managing screen-time and content can be difficult even in normal circumstances, let alone in times of uncertainty. Be clear about the extent of the problem, for example, it's virtually impossible to keep children away from social media content completely, but it's important to try to limit exposure by using parental controls, talking about the dangers of harmful content and enforcing screen-time limits.
- TAKE THINGS SLOWLY**  
Try not to overwhelm your child with information all at once. Instead, take the discussion one step at a time. You could raise the first conversation subject and then wait until your child is ready to talk again. Encourage your child to have the conversation and demonstrating that your child can talk to you about this type of issue is a vital first step.
- ENCOURAGE QUESTIONS**  
Online, troubling images, posts, videos and stories are often shared on multiple platforms, many of which your child might access. Even if they're not, it's important to encourage your child to ask questions rather than instead of being angry at them for seeing it. Children are still learning that not everything online is accurate - you want to be their ultimate source of information, not their device.
- FIND A BALANCE**  
There's often a tremendous temptation to stay right up to date with events. Our phones frequently send us push notifications, and it's easy to read the latest article or video that's been shared on social media. It's essential to remind your child that it's better to take breaks, and to focus on positive events instead of doomscrolling, and risks becoming overwhelmed by bad news.
- BUILD RESILIENCE**  
News has never been more accessible, while our emotions may be to blame, children from upsetting stories, it's important that they're equipped with the skills to manage the bad news when content more generally with your child and emphasize that they can always talk to you, and a trusted adult if something they've seen makes them feel uneasy.
- IDENTIFY HELP**  
It's highly important that children know where to find support if they're struggling with upsetting content online. Encourage them to speak to an adult that they trust, and make sure that you're the one who their trusted adults are. It's essential that children understand that they're not alone, and that help is available if and when they need it.

**Meet Our Expert**  
Cathy Jorgensen is the director of FocusUp South Africa, which is a reporting system that is currently being used by schools and companies to help building a safer world. Cathy helps give advice to bystanders by encouraging them to speak up and get help that not only occurs but needs.

**National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

Twitter: @nationalonline\_safety | Facebook: /NationalOnlineSafety | Instagram: @nationalonlinesafety | TikTok: @national\_online\_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 18.10.2022

## 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.



## 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!

## Breakfast Club

We are delighted that Breakfast Club has become increasingly popular provides a valuable service to our Mapplewellian children and families.

Recently there has been a sharp increase in the numbers attending and this means that on occasions we have reached the supervision limit set within our Breakfast Club Policy. Owing to this, we will be

reinforcing the pre-book/pre-pay system that the club was initially set up with. **Starting from Monday 13th May** your child will need to be booked into Breakfast Club by the Thursday prior to the week they are attending in order for us to be able to make appropriate supervision arrangements. **Children will not be accepted to Breakfast Club without prior booking unless there are exceptional circumstances.**

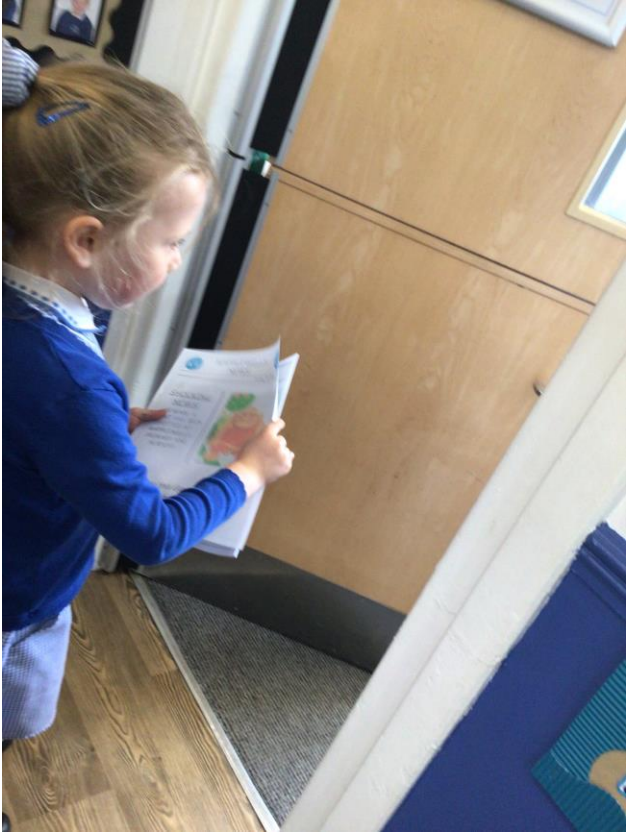
Parents/carers need to pre-book and pay for their child's place prior to them attending in order to maintain the correct staff/pupil ratio and first aid administration. As attendance was low, children were occasionally admitted on a daily basis without prior booking as there was no concern over reaching the supervision limit.

Bookings should be made via ScoPay up to 48 hours in advance, we understand with busy lives there may be an occasional need to book with less than 48 hours notice, if this is the case you will need to call the office team so we can book this for you.



## F2 Jack and the beanstalk

We have been very busy in F2 recently. We planted some seeds and a giant beanstalk grew! The giant came into our classroom and made a mess. He left us a golden egg and a letter! We wrote newspaper reports and created a newspaper for the school. We enjoyed delivering it around school.



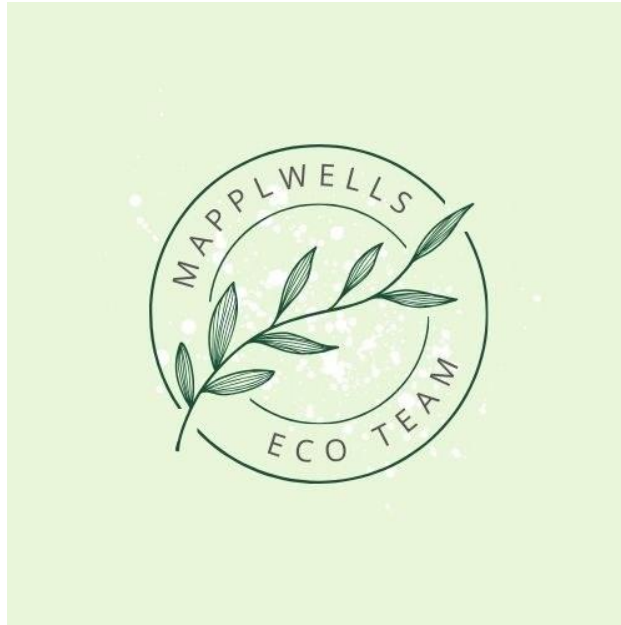




## Eco Team

Children from each key stage will be working together with Miss Joy to look after our environment and to innovate ways to keep Mapplewells as eco friendly as possible.

New member this week is Arthur - welcome to the team!



## Key Dates

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

Diary Dates	
2023-24	
May	
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 residential
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 SATs week
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 residential
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	last day of Summer 1 term
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	INSET day
June	
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	First day of Summer 2 term
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Year 6 residential
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Class photos & Year 6 leavers photos
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 residential
July	
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Sports day – EYFS & KS1 am and KS2 pm
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Flying High Partnership Awards Evening
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Parent picnic
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of summer 2 term & non uniform day

Thank you for your continued support - SUCCESS is in our hands.

Mr Whittle

Headteacher

Mr Latkowski

Deputy Headteacher