



# Mapplewells Primary and Nursery School Weekly Newsletter - Friday 23rd February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back everyone, I hope that you all had a wonderful half term break. We look forward to lighter evenings as we head into the second half of the spring term. There are lots of exciting things planned for the term ahead, trips, residentials, sporting activities and theme days. Keep up to date by reading the weekly newsletter and checking in on Dojo.

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 21 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 - 95%

Elm - 97%

Hazel - 94%

Hawthorn - 95%

Oak - 94%

Maple - 96%

Juniper - 95%

Pine - 94%

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.

## SUCCESS is in our hands

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 - Hugo

Birch - Riley

Elder - Willow

Elm - Henry

Hazel - Jack

Hawthorn - Esme

Oak - Isabelle

Maple - Iris

Juniper - Tyler

Pine - Millie

Rowan - Grace

Willow - Owen



## Staffing Changes

It is with sadness that today we say goodbye to Mr Brown, who has been our site manager at Mapplewells for the past 18 months. Mr Brown has been a valuable member of staff at Mapplewells and done so much to keep our site well maintained and looking its best. Mr Brown is off to pursue new opportunities with the Police Force and we wish him all the best for the future.

In the meantime, the search is on for our new site manager with interviews taking place next week, so watch this space.

## Swimming Gala

This week our brilliant swimming team competed at this year's Swimming Gala against schools from across the district and finished in 5th place! There were lots of fabulous individual and team performances throughout the morning. An absolutely massive well done needs to go out to each member of the team; Madison, Sophie, Seren, Sienna, Kieran, Leanne, Evanie, Owen, Sam, Callum, Grainger, Poppy and Henry. We are all so proud of you, and you can all be very proud of yourselves too for doing so well. Thank you to all of the parents for all of your help and your absolutely amazing support! Go Mapplewells!!

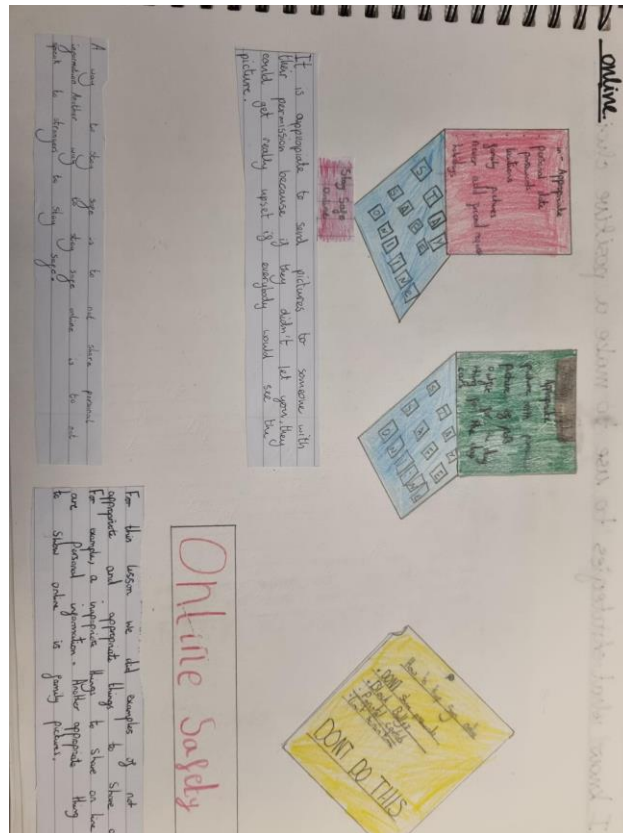
## ESafety week

Before half term the whole school performed ESafety lessons around the theme of Inspiring change. The children recorded their work in various different ways. In Year 3 and 4 the children took part in an online lesson about AI (artificial intelligence) discussing its benefits and dangers then how to be responsible &

stay safe when using it. In year 6 the pupils learned about keeping information safe and sharing their own personal details or details of other people they know.

During a whole school assembly for KS1 and KS2 we talked about ways the internet can influence you, social media apps and how to act responsibly online. Children answered questions throughout the assembly showing great understanding on how to use technology responsibly and stay safe online.

During this week votes were conducted to choose Digital Leaders to represent each class. The Digital Leaders will be responsible for running a lunch time computing club two days a week for pupils. In addition, the Digital Leaders be advocates for good behaviour with technology and support their fellow pupils where possible including proving updates of ESafety news & tips.

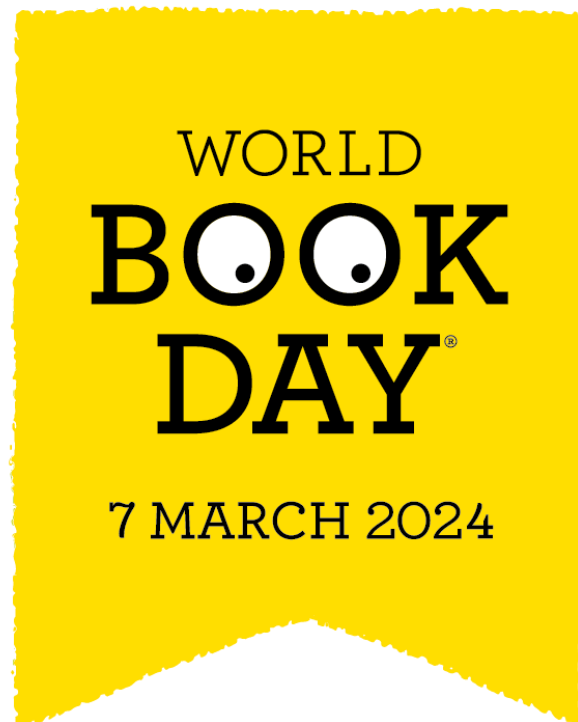




## World Book Day 2024

World Book Day will be taking place on Thursday 7 March 2024. This annual celebration of authors, illustrators, books and the joy of reading is about celebrating books and reading all year round.

To make World Book Day exciting, we would like the children to come to school dressed as their favourite book character or in pyjamas to enjoy a book comfortably. Look out for more details on Class Dojo next week.



## Co-opted Governor Vacancy

We still have vacancies for one co-opted Governor to join our Mapplewells Governing Body. Please see the advert below and if you are interested or require any further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Please follow the link below for more information:

Co-opted Governor Vacancies<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup><https://mapplewellsprimarynurserysutton.secure-primarysite.net/governing-body-vacancies-1/>

## Sports kits

It has come to our attention that we are missing quite a lot of our new sports kits. If anyone has any sports kits/items at home, please return them to school as soon as possible. The kits are in a numbered drawstring bag.

We have events coming up shortly and currently don't have enough kits to go around.

## Online Safety



# Internet Safety



<http://www.netsmartzkids.org>

### 12 Social Media Tips

Being active on social media is a great way to show others how much fun you're having, but it's important that you know how to use these apps safely and securely so that bad things don't happen. By following our social media safety tips below, you can make sure that your personal information stays private, your postings are positive and that your social media use overall is responsible, healthy and most of all enjoyable.

In the social media safety guide, you'll find tips such as don't accept friend requests from strangers, block online bullies and to never share your personal information with people you don't know.



## 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.



## Spring 2024 Parents' Evenings

**We have sent you an email regarding Parents' Evening. Please ensure you have received this email. If not, do call the Office to check your details.**

We will be using an online booking system on our school website so you can choose the slot that suits you best. The booking slots will be released at 6pm on Monday 4th March. You will receive an email from Primary Site, our web host, inviting you to book your slot. Please ensure you book by Monday 17th March at the latest.

We are offering meetings as follows:

- Tuesday 19th March - meetings in person
- Wednesday 20th March - Online meetings via Microsoft Teams
- Thursday 21st March - meetings in person

On each day the time slots will be from 3.30pm to 5.20pm.



## Parents' Evenings

### Copper Challenge

Friends of Mapplewells have arranged a Copper Challenge for March. Each class will be allocated a jar and during March the children are being asked to bring in as many copper coins as possible to fill it (English currency only please!). The class who raises the most money by the end of the month will be rewarded with a prize.

The jars will be available daily in the classrooms for children to make their deposits from Friday 1st March up until Thursday 28th March.

We would be very grateful if you could please support our school by saving your loose change for your child's/children's class to collect – thank you!





## Eco Team

Introducing Mapplewells' very own Eco Team!

- Kobi
- Maisie
- Laura
- Mya
- Henry R
- Callum K

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.

Every Friday, the Eco Team will look around the classrooms to decide which class is being the most eco friendly and looking after their environment the best! The winning classes will receive a certificate in SUCCESS Assembly to display in their classrooms.

This week's winners are:

Miss Morrell and Oak for KS2 and Mrs Holmes and Birch for KS1 and EYFS!

Well done everyone!

## Flying High Partnership Awards Evening

We are proud to announce that we will be hosting our annual Flying High Partnership Awards Evening on Thursday 18th July, 5:30pm-7:30pm. Our awards evening will be held at the Motorpoint Arena Nottingham.

During the evening there will be music, speeches and most importantly recognition and celebration of children, staff, families, governors, and community members across all 33 schools. To identify the winners to be invited to receive their award, we need your help.

Please can you use the link below to submit any nominations you wish to put forward – you can put forward as many nominations as you wish

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=4MQ8K0TtE06j7kRzuVcCGkJYpzlhZHZKlcr4-Vg9ieFUOExCMTVXMUtVNFdYQTNVSDNNTko5OFRKNy4u>

Please see the dojo post for further details



## Year 3 and 4 D&T

Year 3 and 4 have been designing and creating an erupting volcano as part of their D&T project.

Today, we have erupted each volcano. Children took it in turns to add the ingredients, before standing back to watch the lava erupt. We then evaluated how well we think the reaction between the Bicarbonate of Soda and vinegar went and what we could do differently next time to improve our final project.

## Key Dates

Please keep updated with our key dates as we will add to this over the coming weeks. The school term dates are on the school website <https://www.mapplewellsprimary.co.uk/useful-information/>

Diary Dates	
2023-24	
<b>February</b>	
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup>	INSET day
<b>March</b>	
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Red Nose Day
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Spring 2024 Parents' Evenings – in school
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Spring 2024 Parents' Evenings – online
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Spring 2024 Parents' Evenings – in school
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>	school photos
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of spring 2 term
<b>April</b>	
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	First day of Summer term
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 residential
<b>May</b>	
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 residential
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
<b>June</b>	
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	First day of Summer 2 term
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Year 6 residential
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 residential
<b>July</b>	
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Flying High Partnership Awards Evening
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of summer 2 term

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

Mr Whittle

Headteacher

Mr Latkowski

Deputy Headteacher