



Mapplewells Primary and Nursery School Weekly Newsletter - Friday 26th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe we are another week gone and only two more weeks until half-term! Once again, it never stops at Mapplewells we lots of amazing learning happening throughout school. It has been wonderful to walk around school and talk to the children about their learning and marvel at their work.

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 18 weeks is 95% which is now above our floor target, well done! We want to work together to continue to improve this figure over the coming weeks. 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 - Caleb

Birch - Jack

Elder - Ada

Elm - Wilf

Hawthorn - Delilah

Hazel - Joel

Oak - Athena

Maple - Mya

Juniper - Sophie & Marshall

Pine - Iris

Rowan - Alessa

Willow - Lana



Co-opted Governor Vacancies

We currently have vacancies for up to two co-opted Governors 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 Vacancies¹

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.

Hot snacks

The following hot snacks are available to purchase at morning break time (please note slight price change):

Toast (with or without jam) 25p

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

Pizza muffin 40p

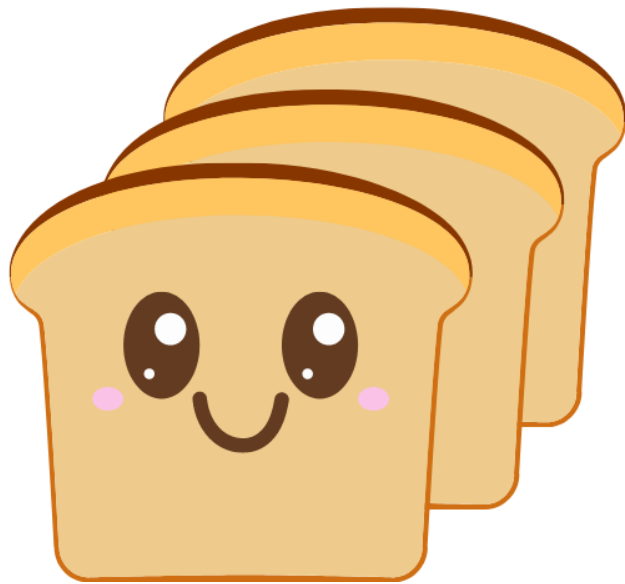
Half a toasted teacake 30p

Crumpet 30p

Also available: Juice carton 45p

Purchasing of a snack is completely optional and children are only permitted to purchase 1 food item and a drink each day so that they are not too full at lunchtime.

Please ensure that money is placed in a purse/wallet clearly labelled with your child's name.





Internet Safety



<http://www.netismartzkids.org>

Smart Phone Safety Tips for Young People

According to Ofcom, 69% of under-18s use a smartphone as their main method of going online. Additionally, 49% of children use them for online gaming – putting smartphones only behind consoles (59%) as the device of choice for playing games on. Most people won't require such statistical evidence, however, to acknowledge the huge importance of phones to young people.

Given that Santa's recent visit is likely to have bestowed smartphones on an even greater number of young people, it's a particularly opportune moment to ensure that children are able to use their handsets responsibly – and, above all, safely. From passcodes to parental controls, and from screen time to scams, our #WakeUpWednesday guide has the essential advice.

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 is needed. This guide focuses on use of many devices which we believe to be most widely used across the UK. Please visit www.nos.org.uk for further guides, links and tips for advice.

SMARTPHONE SAFETY TIPS

for young people

You may have been lucky enough to have unrapped a smartphone at Christmas, or you might be eagerly anticipating getting a new one at some point during this year. Whether it'll be your first ever phone or an upgrade on your old model, it's always useful to have a refresher about how to set it up and adjust the settings to keep yourself – and your valuable personal info – safe and secure. We've collected some expert tips to help you enjoy your smartphone in the healthiest way possible.

7 NEVER SHARE YOUR PASSCODE

Alongside face or fingerprint recognitions, your passcode is crucial to unlocking your phone and accessing your apps and personal information. You shouldn't give it out, even to close friends or other adults you wouldn't hand them a key to your house and let them go in for a noisy around! If a friend wants to use your phone, ask them why and make sure you can see what they're doing with it.

ONLY USE AGE-APPROPRIATE APPS

Before downloading a new app or game, check what age rating it has. Don't feel pressured into getting a particular phone or app just because your friends are using it. If it's intended for older people, there's a definite risk that it could include content (which is violent or frightening, for instance) or language which isn't suitable and may leave you feeling upset or disturbed.

RESPECT PARENTAL CONTROLS

If you're allowed to have a smartphone, it's because your parents or carers feel that you're mature and responsible enough to use it safely. They might set controls and boundaries on your device – not to spoil your fun but to help you avoid hazards like too much screen time or being a night-punk. Following these rules means you can enjoy using your phone while respecting their wishes.

REMOVE TEMPTATION

A good night's sleep is so important for concentration, mood and overall health. Unwinding properly before going to bed – which means not staring at a screen late at night – can help you sleep more easily. Put your phone on charge overnight, but not in your room. This means you'll have it for the next morning, but you won't be tempted to check any notifications, reply to messages or get caught up scrolling on social media.

TALK TO A TRUSTED ADULT

Whether it's to listen to music, play games, create content or chat with friends, using a smartphone should be fun. If you've ever felt anxious, worried or scared about going on your phone, there's something that's not right. It's important that you share these feelings with a trusted adult. Talk to a trusted adult about what's happening and how it's making you feel.

THINK ABOUT OTHERS

Watching videos or scrolling through social media can be fun, but sometimes it can all help to pass the time while we're on the bus, waiting in queues or walking down the street. It's important to remain mindful of other people, though they might not want to hear your tunes or your conversations. Likewise, if you're scrolling from a public place then don't forget that anyone could overhear something personal about you.

STAY ALERT

Two words: look up. It might sound obvious, but it's so easy to get immersed in what we're looking at or listening to on our phones that we can become unaware of our surroundings – or when might be around us. People often think that their heads down, focusing on their phone, and it's difficult to see obstacles in their path, cars or other pedestrians coming towards them, which is clearly dangerous.

DEVELOP HEALTHY HABITS

Phones offer a vast amount of content and the chance to chat with friends whenever we feel like it, which can make it difficult to take time away from the screen. If that's something you struggle with, you could try setting time limits on certain apps. Putting our phones down for a while gives us more time to interact with others or do something physical that helps keep us fit and healthy.

IGNORE UNKNOWN NUMBERS

There are some scammers who might call or text calling you to share personal data or to click on a link and provide your details. Some may claim to be from a genuine company, but trustworthy businesses don't spontaneously call or message to ask for your information. It's safest to ignore calls or texts from unknown numbers, and never give your personal details out over the phone.

SWITCH OFF GEOLOCATION

In your phone's settings, you'll be able to disable geolocation (or individual apps and photos; this means that people online (including strangers) can't see information about where you are when you share or post a pic. On the subject of images, it's best to ask permission before taking or sharing a photo of someone – and don't store embarrassing images of your friends with others.

Meet Our Expert

Dr. Claire Ashworth is an online safety expert and author of the comprehensive guide to online safety for young people, *Staying Safe Online*. She is a member of the Australian government's Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) and a member of the Australian Government's Cyber Security Centre.

The National College

National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

Twitter: @nationalonlinesafety | Facebook: /NationalOnlineSafety | Instagram: @nationalonlinesafety | TikTok: @national_online_safety

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Recruitment Event

If you would like to learn more about the Flying High Partnership, why not attend our Virtual Recruitment Event on Thursday 1st February 2024 (6 pm – 7:30 pm). Visit Flying High Partnership Recruitment Event 2024 (canva.site)² to find out more! Whether you're dreaming of a fulfilling career in teaching or exploring the possibilities in support services, Flying High has curated sessions to align with your unique goals and aspirations. Get ready to embark on an exciting journey tailored just for you!

Flying High Partnership

RECRUITMENT 2024 EVENT

Thursday 1st February 2024 | 6pm - 7.30pm

[LEARN MORE](#)

#weareflyinghigh | #jobswithpurpose

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.

²<https://flyinghighpartnership.my.canva.site/recruitmentevent24#workshops>

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.



Free Safer Internet Day Webinar for Parents

The East Midlands Cyber Protect Network are holding a free webinar on February 6th 2024 at 7pm for Safer Internet Day. The webinar is aimed at parents and its purpose is to educate parents around keeping their children safe online. They have 1000 spaces and if demand is higher may offer another date.

You can sign up through their website below:

Webinars | EM Cyber Secure (eastmidlandscybersecure.co.uk)³

Or the below direct link:

Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams⁴

³<https://www.eastmidlandscybersecure.co.uk/webinars>

⁴<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/04ed8c6c-828a-470a-ac87-0511fdf217aa@15f7eba6-616e-465b-a3ad-912e8a6bbc5a>



Valentine Disco

Our Valentines discos this year will be held on **Thursday 8th February**. There will be a charge of **£2.50** for the discos, the children will be provided with sweets, a large cookie and a drink of squash which will be served during the discos (please note the cookies may contain traces of nuts. If this causes any concern please let us know).

On this day children can come to school wearing red and pink clothes or non- uniform. Whatever makes them happy!

Please ensure you arrange for your child to be collected after their disco. Children are not permitted to walk home alone.

If you are able to support us in decorating our school hall ready for the disco please do let us know, Friends of Mapplewells will be decorating from 9:00am on this day.



NSPCC number day

We are delighted to be supporting the NSPCC by taking part in **Number Day on Friday 2nd February 2024**. We will be taking part in Dress up for Digits. Pupils are asked to wear an item of clothing with a number on it (football shirt, cap, netball shirt or even a onesie!). You could even more creative by dressing in a maths or numbers theme. To help raise money for the NSPCC, we are asking for a suggested donation of **£1 (cash only)**, and we'd love everyone in the school to take part in this special event.

Full details have been posted on Class Dojo today.



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

Key dates

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

Diary Dates	
2023-24	
February	
Friday 2 nd	NSPCC number day
Thursday 8 th	Valentine discos
Friday 9 th	Last day of Spring 1 term
Monday 19 th	First day of Spring 2 term
Monday 26 th	INSET day
March	
Tuesday 19 th	Spring 2024 Parents' Evenings – in school
Wednesday 20 th	Spring 2024 Parents' Evenings – online
Thursday 21 st	Spring 2024 Parents' Evenings – in school
Thursday 28 th	school photos
Thursday 28 th	Last day of spring 2 term
April	
Monday 15 th	First day of Summer term
Thursday 18 th	Year 4 residential
May	
Thursday 9 th	Year 3 residential
Monday 20 th	Year 5 residential
Friday 24 th	INSET day and last day of Summer 1 term
June	
Monday 3 rd	First day of Summer 2 term
Monday 3 rd	Year 6 residential
July	
Friday 26 th	Last day of summer 2 term

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

Mr Whittle

Headteacher

Mr Latkowski

Deputy Headteacher