



# Mapplewells Primary and Nursery School Weekly Newsletter - Friday 21st December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our final newsletter of what has been an amazing term here at Mapplewells. The children have achieved so much in such a short space of time. In the past couple of weeks the children have come to the end of their autumn term enquiries and presented their authentic outcomes. This has included a visit from a local MP, our very own Mapplewells Museum and a visit from a police riot van!

As always it has been a busy run up to Christmas, with no less than 11 nativity performances, a whole school trip to the pantomime in Mansfield, a Christmas concert in Sutton, an amazing Christmas Fair and Christmas Carol at St. John's church.

We are incredibly proud of all of our children and the wonderful work, amazing progress and what they have achieved this term. We are sure they are looking forward to a well deserved Christmas break with family and friends.

Please read on for an update on all things happening at Mapplewells Primary and Nursery School..

## Attendance

### **The Importance of School Attendance**

Our current school attendance after 14 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 - 95%

Maple - 96%

Juniper - 96%

Pine - 95%

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 on Thursday.

Ash - Harvey

Birch - Dylan

Elder - Laney

Elm - Rowan

Hawthorn - Emily

Hazel - Parker

Oak - Isabella

Maple - Colby

Juniper - Grace

Pine - Layla

Rowan - Noah

Willow - Evanie



## Sickness and Absence from School

Over the last week we have seen the effects of seasonal illness impact pupil attendance. Attendance is important at our school, however we understand that children need to appropriately rest and recover during illness and this is something that we emphasise as a school.

Thank you for keeping us up to date with their progress throughout their illnesses and returning them to school once they are well enough to come back. Despite seeing this larger than normal period of absences, Mapplewells is still above the national average for daily attendance, so it just goes to show that we as a school have not been alone in this prolonged period of ill health.

As we return to school in the New Year and Spring term 1, we again ask you to be vigilant when children fall ill with a vomiting/diarrhoea bug. We are guided by the HSC Public Health Agency who advise that children be kept at home for 48 hours following the last bout of illness. Whilst this can at times seem unnecessary, and a child may appear fully recovered before the end of the 48 hours, we strongly request that you support this guideline to keep the spread of germs at bay for the whole school community.

To aid our attempts to keep bugs at bay, please let the school office know immediately of any illness affecting your child and discuss their treatment. If we can support your child in school with medicines, please again let the school office know.

Please look out for links being sent by email giving you some useful tips on general illnesses and how to cope with them and children attending school.



## KS2 Autumn enquiry

As part of our authentic outcome from our Autumn enquiry, the children presented their book of double page spreads to the wonderful staff at the ATTFE hub in Idlewells Shopping Centre. The book showcases the children's knowledge of WW1 and also answers the enquiry question, 'Is Conflict Necessary?' The book was presented to Linda and Laura from ATTFE by our Head Boy and Girl, Joshua and Jessica, and the book will be displayed in the hub window so if you're passing by, please take a moment to read the fantastic work the children have produced.







# Internet Safety



<http://www.netsmartzkids.org>

## **Top Tips for Setting up Parental Controls on New Devices**

At this time of year, it's highly possible that you have a new phone, games console or other digital device stashed somewhere at home, ready to be unwrapped. Many parents also prefer to place some protective measures on those gifts – to keep their child shielded from potential #OnlineSafety risks – while others would like to, but aren't sure where to begin.

Our guide shepherds you through the process of establishing parental controls on new internet-enabled devices, from smartphones to laptops to consoles. Simply find the device in question and read on to find out what options you have and how to enable them – letting children enjoy their shiny new gadget, without so much of the worry over where it might lead them.

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 one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [nationalonsafety.com](http://nationalonsafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for others.

## Top Tips for SETTING UP PARENTAL CONTROLS ON NEW DEVICES

In children's eagerness to start enjoying new digital gadgets immediately, it can be easy to overlook setting up the type of parental controls that can help to protect them online. If you don't sort those out from the very start, it can be an uphill battle – technologically and psychologically – to impose such controls later. Here's our rundown of what to look for when setting up the various internet-enabled devices that might be lurking under the tree at this time of year.

### IPHONE

If your child's lucky enough to be getting their own iPhone, parental controls can help avoid issues like screen lockouts and unmanageable content. Go into the settings and scroll down to "Screen Time". From here you can customise important settings including time limits on using the device, communication restrictions and content blockers. You can also lock your changes behind a passcode.

### NINTENDO SWITCH

Download the Nintendo Switch Parental Controls app on your phone and you'll be in control. You'll need to link it to the console. Once that's done, you can limit how long your child can play each day, decide what age ratings are permitted and more. You can also get weekly updates on how often they've used the device. These controls are accessible through the console itself, but the app is usually easier.

### ANDROID

With Android devices, Google's Family Link app is your friend. You'll need a Google account – and a separate one for your child, which you should use when first setting up the device. Then, in Family Link on your phone, select "Add Child" and enter their account details. This lets you specify limits on daily usage, restrict certain apps, block particular content and more.

### WINDOWS 11 PCs

On Windows 11, account management is by far the easiest way to set up the device with your own account as the admin. Then go to Settings > Accounts > Family and Other users and create your child's account. If you've already done this on a previous PC, just log in with those details. Microsoft Family Safety (either the app or the site) then lets you control screen time, what content children can view and more.

### PLAYSTATION

You can prep for a PlayStation before it's even unboxed. At my account, away from, create an account, then go to account Management > Family Management > Add Family Member to set up your child's account, which you'll use to sign in on the console. You can restrict the age ratings of the games they can play and, where it's possible, to the PSN. You can make exceptions for only games you think are acceptable despite their high age rating.

### CHROMEBOOKS

Chromebooks' parental controls are managed via the Family Link app, unlike an Android device. However, you need to set up the Chromebook with your own account first, then add your child's. Go to Settings > People > Add Person and input your child's Google account details (or create a new account). Your child can then log in and you can control what they're up to via Family Link.

### IPAD

iPad parental controls are identical to those on iPhones. However, if you've got a shared family iPad and want to ensure your children aren't seeing any age-inappropriate stuff you found them on, there's a feature called Content Restrictions (under Settings > Screen Time > Content Restrictions). With this activated, all young ones can only use the app that's currently open.

### MACS

Like iPhones, parental controls for Macs are managed via the Screen Time settings. Again, the trick here is to set yourself up as the administrator before adding any child accounts. In the settings, look for there's a group to create your child's account, then – while on their profile – use the screen time options to place any boundaries around apps, usage and what your child can communicate with. (And vice versa).

### XBOX

The Xbox Family Settings app helps you manage which games your child can play (and when). You'll need to set up the console with your own account and then add a child profile. Make sure your account's password protected, so your child can't enter your choices later. You'll be walked through the functions at setup, but you can also reach them manually via Settings > Account > Family Settings.

### SMART TVS

Smart TVs typically have their own individual parental controls. One of the most popular brands is Samsung – and on their TVs you can control the content available to your child. In the settings menu, under Broadcasting, you can lock channels and restrict content by its age rating. Even this isn't foolproof, however, some apps (like YouTube) might still let children access unsuitable material.

### Meet Our Expert

Sarah Collins is a technology journalist and author with more than 22 years' experience of covering IT and digital life for the popular press, where she's written for ComputerWeek, TechRadar, The Daily Telegraph, The Independent, The Telegraph, the BBC, the Daily Mail, the Daily Express, the Daily Mirror and the Daily News. She has also written and edited regularly on the subject of internet safety.

#WakeUpWednesday

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## Focus on British Values - Individual Liberty

There are lots of choices we make all the time. Having the freedom to make these choices is part of our individual liberty. Individual liberty is the belief that we should have the right to express ourselves and live our life as we choose while respecting and protecting the rights of other people. This forms part of our basic rights and freedoms. Our human rights are things we are all entitled to, to help us lead happy, safe and healthy lives.



## 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.



## Tins Not Tinsel Christmas 2023

Our heartfelt thanks and appreciation for all your kind donations. Miss Marshall arranged for a representative from The St. Mary's Food Bank to collect all the donations on Wednesday. They were so grateful for your kind gifts.

Also a big thank you to the Alfreton Road COOP for lending us their trolley.

Merry Christmas from the School Council!



## Key dates

Dates for your diary are listed below. You can also use the calendar on our website - <https://www.mapplewellsprimary.co.uk/diary/grid/2023/12/>

Diary Dates	
2023-24	
<b>January</b>	
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup>	First day of Spring term
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Foundation afternoon tea
<b>February</b>	
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup>	INSET day
<b>March</b>	
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>	school photos
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of spring 2 term
<b>April</b>	
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
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	INSET day
<b>June</b>	
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Year 6 residential
<b>July</b>	
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of summer 2 term



We wish all our Mapplewellian family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

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

Mr Whittle

Headteacher

Mr Latkowski

Deputy Headteacher