



# Mapplewells Primary and Nursery School Weekly Newsletter - Friday 8th December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to another edition of our weekly newsletter. The festive period is in full swing with nativities underway, panto visits and our very own Christmas Fair. Once again, thank you for all your support with these amazing events.

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 12 weeks is 96% 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 - 95%

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 96%, and strive to achieve % attendance.



## F1 and F2 Nativities

The F1 and F2 children were superstars throughout their Christmas performance of 'Christmas with Aliens' and 'Born in a Barn' this week. Everyone learnt their lines, sang and danced to the songs and got up on stage in front of everyone so brilliantly. All of the children were absolutely fantastic

We are very proud of everyone!









## Christmas Fair

Our Christmas Fair well underway with families enjoying the games, stalls and pizza! We hope you all have a fab-yule-us time. Thank you to all the volunteers to came to help us set up this afternoon - we couldn't do it without you.





# Internet Safety



<http://www.netsmartzkids.org>

## **What Parents and Carers need to know about Disney+**

In 2019, media titan Disney launched its own streaming platform, intending to challenge the likes of Netflix and Amazon Prime. Giving (often exclusive) access to shows and movies – such as the legendary studio’s animated classics and the revered Star Wars back catalogue – Disney+ has been a colossal success, proving popular with viewers of all ages.

Despite Disney’s reputation for wholesome, child-friendly content, however, there’s far more material available on their platform – some of which is aimed exclusively at adults. This could easily fly under the radar, given the company’s general image. Our #WakeUpWednesday guide has useful tips to help your family sit back, relax and enjoy what Disney+ has to offer.

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 the need. The guide focuses on one of many platforms which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [nationalonline-safety.com](http://nationalonline-safety.com) for further guides, links and updates.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about DISNEY+

The Walt Disney Company's streaming service, Disney+, combines entertainment from the famous animation studio itself with Pixar, Star and National Geographic, plus the Marvel and Star Wars franchises. With access to the latest releases, Disney classics and original series, there's plenty of content to explore. While parents may have noted that adverts have now been introduced on some versions of the service, the platform is – unsurprisingly for a Disney product – designed to be appropriate for the whole family.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### LESS SUITABLE CONTENT

While Disney+ is predominantly family friendly, there are some reviews and shows in its library which are aimed at an older audience. These may scare younger ones or contain themes or language that you or other family members may not be comfortable with. You could avoid such situations by enabling 'Junior Mode' (see 'Adjust content settings' below) or specifying a content age rating for your child's profile.

#### BINGE WATCHING

With the option to view content on any internet-enabled device and a growing catalogue of movies, cartoons and documentaries, Disney+ can make binge-watching screen time difficult. This could result in children binge-watching content, distracting them from activities like homework or studying. Too much screen time has also been shown to negatively impact mood, sleep patterns and weight.

#### PHISHING EMAILS

Be especially cautious if you receive email or text messages purporting to be from Disney+. It has been reported that numerous reports of online scammer impersonating Disney+ staff in an attempt to gain access to subscribers' personal information. Disney+ states it will never email or call customers asking for their payment details, their private information or their password.

#### ENCROACHING ADVERTS

Disney+ has introduced a new subscription package – Disney+ Standard with Ads – which plays commercials before movies and during shows (like many TV channels). There are no adverts in Junior Mode, but profiles with a content rating of 8+ years will see ads appropriate for that age category. Adults who give consent will see personalised adverts based on their location and viewing history.

#### ACCESSING ADULTS' PROFILES

If adults don't set a PIN for their profile, children could access it and encounter content which isn't age appropriate. In the settings, Junior Mode has a toggle titled 'Kid-Proof' that, when enabled, is used to keep four words (numbers, spelled out) for other children who can read. Though this isn't secure enough – so using a PIN for adult profiles is recommended.

### Advice for Parents & Carers

#### ADJUST CONTENT SETTINGS

When setting up an account, there's an option to create profiles in Junior Mode. This generally covers material that's suitable for children up to age 8 and is therefore fairly limited. You can give older children a wider choice of viewing by building a standard profile, then going into the settings and choosing a content rating from one of the pre-set alternatives: 6+, 8+, 13+ or 14+.

#### ADD PIN PROTECTION

Disney+ enables you to effectively lock profiles behind a four-digit PIN. In particular, some of the shows on the platform's Star content hub are for more oriented to adults (including several hard-hitting dramas from CBS networks). By protecting parents' or other siblings' profiles with a PIN will help to prevent younger children stumbling across material which isn't intended for them.

#### TURN OFF AUTO-PLAY

When a cartoon, show or movie finishes, Disney+ uses algorithms to identify content with similar themes, which it thinks your child will also enjoy. This suggestion will then automatically begin to play by default. There's an option to turn off this auto-play function in the profile settings, which will encourage your child to take a break from the screen and move on to a different activity.

#### ENJOY AS A FAMILY

When your child watches a movie or show on Disney+ for the first time, you may want to sit with them to ensure it's suitable. You could do the same when introducing them to older films that you haven't seen for years: your perception of what's appropriate has very probably changed, and some of the language and attitudes in movies from your own childhood may seem quite shocking today.

#### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire is qualified in an online safety consultancy, education and awareness work. She has worked with a range of organisations including the Home Office, Police, Fire and Rescue, the NHS, various charities, schools, parents and children. She has also been involved in numerous government projects, including the 'Safer Schools' initiative, which aims to reduce the risk of online grooming and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

#### National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 00.00.2023

## Inclement weather

In the event that school is closed due to inclement weather we will notify parents and carers via text message. Could I please remind you to inform the School Office immediately if you change your mobile telephone number. Should we have any need to contact you regarding bad weather (fingers crossed this is not the case!) then this is the system by which we do so, therefore it is very important that you ensure that your details are always up-to-date. Our text messages are sent to contact 1 on our system.



## Car parking

I would like to take the opportunity to remind families that parents/carers should not park in the staff car park during pick up and drop off times.

Only parents or carers whose **children have a blue badge** can use the two allocated spaces within the staff car park.

Please do pass this information to on any family or friends who drop off or collect your child(ren).



## Christingle celebrations

On Tuesday Mapplewells held our annual Christingle celebration and had the privilege of having Rev. Peter Taylor join us from St John's Church. Earlier in the week the children had great fun making their Christingles and learning about what they represent at this special time of year. Rev. Taylor delivered a lovely service during the assemblies and then the Christingles were lit - it looked beautiful and very festive!



## Smoking/Vaping

A reminder that smoking and vaping are prohibited on school premises.



## 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>December</b>	
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Y5 Christmas Carol concert
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas meal (pre-orders only)
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Christmas party
<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

Thank you for your continued support

Mr Whittle

Headteacher

Mr Latkowski

Deputy Headteacher