



Mapplewells Primary and Nursery School Weekly Newsletter - Friday 1st December

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to another edition of our weekly newsletter. We are now entering the busy festive period – an exciting time of year for our pupils.

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

SUCCESS is in our hands...

SUCCESS Stars of the Week Congratulations to the following children who were chosen by their Class Teacher as 'SUCCESS star of the Week'. The children received their certificate in SUCCESS Assembly today.

Ash - Arthur

Birch - Joshua

Elder - Alana

Elm - Finley

Hazel - Gabriel

Hawthorn - Eli

Juniper - Thea

Maple - Claudia

Oak - Chloe

Pine - Chloe

Rowan - Coby

Willow - Sophie



Attendance

The Importance of School Attendance

Our current school attendance after 11 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 - 94%

Hawthorn - 95%

Oak - 96%

Maple -96%

Juniper - 96%

Pine - 96%

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 97% attendance.



Christmas Fair

Our Christmas Fair will be held on Friday 8th December 3:30-5:30pm. We need of items for the following stalls:

- Toiletries-Bubble bath, shower gel etc
- Tinned and packet food items for hampers (to be in school by Friday 1st December)
- Teddy Bears

- Raffle Prizes
- Tombola Prizes
- Chocolate and Sweets (for tombola)
- Jumble and Books (no clothes or electrical items)
- Bottles of fizz
- Bottle Bags

This year we are introducing “Chocolate and Sweet Tombola” if you are able to, please assist us with this stall through donating any kind of chocolates and sweet. We appreciate anything you are able to donate! If you are able to donate any of the above items, please could you bring them into school by Monday 4th December.

We will have a lot on offer this year, including cones of chips and pizza which will be served from the kitchen. Yum Yum!

If you are able to support us in preparation for the fair beforehand and setting up for the fair from 1pm on Friday afternoon, please see Miss Christie. Any support is always appreciated.

Everyone should have received some raffle tickets. Please put the name and address of the person buying the ticket on the front of the stub of the raffle ticket and your child’s name and class on the back of it for **each** ticket. Please go to Reception if you would like to buy more tickets!



Foundation Library visit

This week EYFS were lucky enough to have a visit from Kerry who works at the Library. Kerry read the children a story and then they played her game using their fine motor skills. Kerry said she would love to see lots of Mapplewellians at the Library soon!



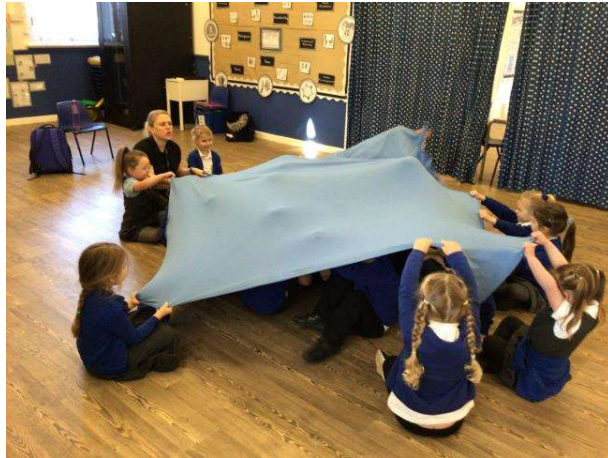












School Lunch Price Increase

A reminder that from Monday 4th December, Nottinghamshire County Council will change the price of a school meal for F1 and years 3 - 6 to £2.95.

For F2, Year 1 and Year 2, school meals are still free of charge under the Universal Infant Free School Meals scheme.





Internet Safety



<http://www.netsmartzkids.org>

Online Safety for Under 5s: 10 Top Tips for Parents and Carers.

According to Ofcom's most recent research, a significant proportion of children are already online by the time they start school, with 17% of 5-year-olds owning their own mobile phone and 50% using messaging platforms. As becoming familiar with technology is generally encouraged in younger children – and has been essential for education during the pandemic – it is essential that trusted adults recognise both the benefits and the risks of infants and toddlers going online. We've compiled our top tips to help the under-5s start their online safety journey.

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 need to. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guidance, tips and updates.

ONLINE SAFETY FOR UNDER 5s

10 Top Tips for Parents and Carers

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- USE DEVICES TOGETHER**
This lets you monitor and control what your child is using the device for. Most parents use the restriction that supports children's understanding of what they're seeing – allowing them to ask you questions, and so on.
- ACTIVATE PARENTAL CONTROLS**
Most digital devices have built-in parental controls that can limit the type of content children have access to, or limit time on any device (even borrowing yours). It's a good idea to activate these whenever the device has access to it.
- MANAGE SCREEN TIME**
This can be tricky, especially if your child is interested in a certain video, app or game. Try to agree on some ground rules and get your child into a routine which includes screen time at the end of the day when they go without devices.
- TALK ABOUT BEING SAFE ONLINE**
Just like we teach children about being safe in the real world, we need to educate them about how to be safe online. Use age-appropriate language & limit their online time to 30 minutes. Try to know the same rules that you've set for them. Let them see you following your own online with interacting with people in real life, too.
- SET A GOOD EXAMPLE**
Children often learn by watching and copying those around them, and using video as evidence is no exception. When you're around your child, try to know the same rules that you've set for them. Let them see you following your own online with interacting with people in real life, too.
- PARENT CODE: *******
- BLOCK IN-APP PURCHASES**
If your child uses a device that's linked to a payment method (such as a bank card) it can be accidental to make purchases. Turn off in-app purchases, as well as in-app purchases, to prevent your child from accidentally spending money while on your device.
- CHOOSE SAFE APPS AND SITES**
There are some fantastic apps and platforms that are specifically designed to be safer for children. Always check the app rating before downloading an app, and set 3 years+ before allowing your child to use it.
- INVOLVE THE FAMILY**
If your family has older siblings, it's likely that their rules for device use will be different, and that's okay. It's important that they're responsible for younger ones. (A parent's app entry if they're using a phone, and not 3 years+). Encourage the whole family to be good role models and help little ones stay safe online.
- IF IN DOUBT, ASK**
The easiest way to find out what your child is doing online is usually just to talk about it with them. However, if you observe anything that worries you, it's important to take a step back and seek advice. If you're unsure, ask a trusted adult or professional for advice. If you're concerned, you can also report a problem to the relevant authorities.
- SUPPORT CREATIVE & ACTIVE PLAY**
Physical and creative activities are important for a child's wellbeing, and there are plenty of ways to incorporate technology into that. For example, this could amount to some fun, interactive online games that encourage problem-solving and critical thinking, or following step-by-step crafting videos.

Meet Our Expert
Katerina Moutafis is a professional development and IT coordinator at a mainstream nursery school in London. She has been working as a nursery and early years practitioner, both in the UK and internationally, for the past 15 years.

National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

www.nationalonlinesafety.com @nationalonlinesafety

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KS1 Phonics Open mornings

A huge thank you for the amazing turn out to the KS1 phonics open mornings in November. The children loved showing off their phonics knowledge with you all and we hope you enjoyed seeing them in action. We look forward to welcoming you in again in the near future.





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.



Christingle celebrations

On Tuesday 5th December we will be holding our annual Christingle celebrations. Reverend Taylor of St Johns Church will be coming into school to host the special assemblies for EYFS, KS1 and KS2. As with previous years we will be providing the decorations for the Christingles, however **we would ask if you could send your child to school with an orange to decorate on Monday 4th December.**

Many thanks in advance - the Christingle celebrations are always very much enjoyed by the children and make a fabulous start to our school festivities.



Film club / Christmas jumper day

On Friday 8th December we will be having a whole school film club afternoon as well as it being Christmas jumper day.

Children may wear a Christmas jumper with their usual school uniform.

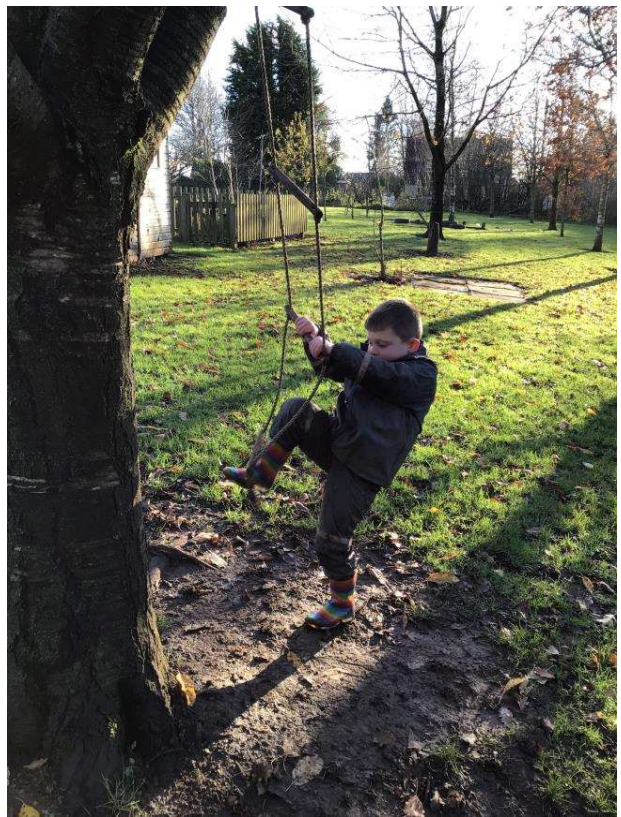
You are welcome to send your child to school with a bag of sweets/chocolate and a drink (nothing containing nuts please). The children will spend the afternoon with their key stage watching a film.



F2 at Forest School

We had lots of fun at Forest School this week. We climbed ladders, made mud pies and went on bug hunts!









Festive meal

As part of our Christmas festivities this year we will be having our Festive Dinner on **Wednesday 20th December**. Please check your email inbox for full details and the festive menu for the last week of term.

F2, Y1 & Y2 and children entitled to income based free school meals:

Our Christmas dinner is always popular and due to tight ordering schedules, this year a meal will be ordered for all children in these classes. No money is required for meals for children in these classes as your child is entitled to Universal Free Meals. If your child does not wish to have a school meal on Wednesday 20th December, please opt out by clicking here <https://forms.office.com/e/4cQDHgvur3> before **3.30pm on Thursday 7th December**.

F1 and years 3-6 children:

If your child wishes to have a school meal on this date, please select and pay for a meal on ScoPay for Wednesday 20th December. We require **ALL** meals to be pre-ordered for this day. **No orders can be taken after the cut-off date** so it is important that you select a meal on ScoPay and make payment by **3.30pm on Thursday 7th December** as this is the latest that our Cook can send off the food order.



Year 3 - visit from Reverend Taylor

Year 3 had a visit from Reverend Taylor this week. He talked to them about what it means to be a Christian. He showed them different churches in the local area and the similarities and differences between them. Children were given the chance to ask him questions.

Some of the questions were;

Do you pray in different countries? - Yes, I used to live in Bulgaria with my family. I learnt the language so I could read prayers and hymns.

What do you say during a wedding? - I will say a prayer, we exchange vows and I will bless the rings.



Key Dates

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

Diary Dates	
2023-24	
December	
Tuesday 5 th	Christingle for EYFS, KS1 & KS2
Thursday 7 th	F2-Year 6 Pantomime trip
Friday 8 th	Christmas jumpers can be worn with school uniform
Friday 8 th	Film afternoon
Friday 8 th	Christmas Fair
Tuesday 19 th	Y5 Christmas Carol concert
Wednesday 20 th	Christmas meal (pre-orders only)
Friday 22 nd	Christmas party
January	
Tuesday 9 th	KS2 VR workshop
February	
Monday 26 th	INSET day
March	
Thursday 28 th	school photos
Thursday 28 th	Last day of spring 2 term
April	
Thursday 18 th	Year 4 residential
May	
Thursday 9 th	Year 3 residential
Monday 20 th	Year 5 residential
Friday 24 th	INSET day
June	
Monday 3 rd	Year 6 residential
July	
Friday 26 th	Last day of summer 2 term

Thank you for your continued support

Mr Whittle

Headteacher

Mr Latkowski

Deputy Headteacher