



# Mapplewells Primary and Nursery School Weekly Newsletter - Friday 13th October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very busy week at Mapplewells and it seems the weeks are flying by as we approach our final week before the half-term break. Parents evenings have been in full swing and we hope that you found them useful and informative.

Please read on for the latest installment of our newsletter...

[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 - Olive  
Birch - Ronan  
Elder - Alexander  
Elm - Jasmine  
Hazel - Emmy  
Hawthorn - Mia  
Maple - Bobby  
Juniper - Tilly  
Oak - Eleanor  
Pine - Lily  
Rowan - Elsie N  
Willow - Sam

## Attendance

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

Our current school attendance after 6 weeks is 95.83% 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 - 99%  
Hazel - 95%  
Hawthorn - 94%  
Oak - 95%  
Maple - 95%  
Juniper - 96%  
Pine - 95%  
Rowan - 96%  
Willow - 95%

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.



## Autumn Parents' Evenings

Thank you to all those who attended our parents' evenings either in person or virtually. We hope that you found them informative and received useful information on your child/ren's progress and how they have settled into their new class.

If you were unable to attend and would like to meet with your child's class teacher please contact them via class DOJO to arrange a suitable time and date.



## Sports News

It's been an excellent week for our Boys and Girls football teams this week

On Monday our boys got their first win of the season, in a 6-0 demolition of Morvern Park. From the first whistle to the last the boys showed commitment, fair play, and hard work to earn an excellent win. A huge well done to Alo for scoring a fabulous hattrick, and to Keiran, Luca, and Owen for their goals too. Also, a big big thank you to Mr. Johns for all the support with coaching for the team.

On Tuesday our girls team competed in the Suggett Sheild Under 11 Girls Football Tournament this week, and despite only playing for the first time ever, they did brilliantly well to finish the tournament in third place. The afternoon was filled with amazing teamwork and togetherness, and all the girls gave their absolute best in every game. Some of the highlights from the afternoon were a superb hattrick from Grace, 3 clean sheets for our superstar goalie Evanie, and the whole team securing the biggest win of the day with a 3-0 victory against St. Marys.

A huge thank you as always goes out to all the parents for helping out and supporting the team



## Punctuality

At Mapplewells Primary and Nursery School, we monitor punctuality as well as attendance. The law treats some persistent lateness in the same way as irregular attendance and parents may be prosecuted by the Local Authority if late arrival is not resolved. The school gates open daily at 8:30am. Poor punctuality can lead to your child...

- Feeling embarrassed in front of their friends
- Missing the beginning of vital lessons
- Missing important instructions for the rest of the school day



## F1 learn about jobs

F1 have been learning about different jobs. Eve's Mum volunteered to speak with the children about being a nurse and showed them some of the tasks she carries out in her role. The children got to explore different bandages and learnt how to take someone's blood pressure.

Thank you for sharing with us.





## Online Safety

### What Parents Need to Know About iPads

When Apple unveiled the iPad in early 2010, they almost single-handedly rewrote people's idea of what of a portable computing device was capable of – and sparked a tablet revolution. There are several very respectable imitators on the market now, but the iPad remains the standard bearer for tablet computers and still routinely shifts upwards of 40 million units every year.

Their immense popularity, of course, has made the iPad a familiar companion for children and young people: an auxiliary TV; an aid for schoolwork; and a blessing on long car journeys. That said, there are still some aspects of Apple's flagship tablet that parents and carers should bear in mind to help protect their child from online risks – as our #WakeUpWednesday guide explains.

This guide highlights possible hazards including the risk of age-inappropriate content, physical damage to the device and potential screen addiction.

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's needed. This guide focuses on one of many devices which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, links and apps for advice.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about iPADS

Apple debuted the first iPad in 2010, kickstarting the tablet market, and it remains the best-selling tablet to this day. Although Apple doesn't offer a child-specific version, iPads are hugely popular with youngsters due to their ease of use and endless choice of apps. There's a selection of models, with different-sized screens and distinct features – including the standard iPad, the iPad Air, the iPad Pro, and the iPad mini. Thankfully, they all offer parental controls so you can regulate how your child uses the device... and how long they spend on it.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### PHYSICAL DAMAGE

While some tablets (such as the Amazon Kindle) are shock-proof cases, iPads aren't built for rough handling. They're also more expensive than most other tablets, and any damage that child's small fingers could be costly to repair. Buying a case, screen protector or a case with a screen protector for the device could be a wise move, especially if it's being used by younger ones.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Even if it would never occur to your child to go searching online for age-inappropriate sites, apps or information, there's always a possibility that something unexpected or weird will pop up. Auto-play or content incorrectly suggested by an app or website could appear on their device. You can help prevent this by disabling the content suggestions (see our 'top tips' section below).

### SCREEN ADDICTION

Like most digital devices, tablets have the potential to become quite addictive. Spending too long on your child's iPad could mean they miss out on more important tasks. If this happens, be sure to set the basic screen time settings and ensure you know how long they're able to spend on the device each day.

### SIRI SUGGESTIONS

The parental controls built into iOS (the fundamental operating system of Apple devices) enable you to block content that your child could accidentally get bypassed (deliberately or otherwise) by using Siri, Apple's voice-activated digital assistant. To avoid this, toggle the 'Ask Siri' settings on 'off' in the 'Screen Time' settings menu.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Before setting little ones loose on an iPad, it's a good idea to set up Family Sharing. As this lets you utilize the parental controls to manage exactly how your child can use the device, you can do this fairly easily by going into the iPad's settings once they're set up, and adding an existing Apple account (if your child already has one) or a new one from scratch.

### APPLY SOME LIMITS

The 'Content Restrictions' function allows you to tell the iPad to block all content beyond set times or before bed, for instance, while App Limits manages access to certain apps once they've been used for a specified length of time each day. The most cool display is a reminder when these limits have recently been reached, letting your child mentally prepare for the end of their gaming or viewing time.

### STOP ACCIDENTAL SPENDING

To empower your child with an increased sense of freedom on their device (without giving yourself an unwelcome idea to worry about in the process) you could enable the iPad's 'Ask to Buy' function. Whenever your child tries to download or buy an app, game or product, the iPad asks you (a request to approve or deny) it. This option only becomes available if you've set up Family Sharing.

### SET CONTENT AND PRIVACY RESTRICTIONS

The parental controls can stop the iPad from displaying explicit or potentially offensive content (in apps) and there's also a 'Top Tip' that you can restrict the ability to download and install apps, and you can specify permissions which prevent children from changing the device's privacy settings once you've selected them.

### TRACK IT DOWN

Just like the iPhone, Apple iPads have 'Find My' software to help you locate them. Apple's iPad can be tracked by either Apple devices or the 'Find My' app on other Apple devices. If you enable 'Find My' in the settings menu, it will display the last known location of an iPad from a search history, as well as giving you the option to lock a missing iPad that you suspect has been stolen.

### Meet Our Expert

Only Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the field. She's the author of each issue of 'The Parent's Guide to Home & Personal Technology'.

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## Macmillan's World's Biggest Coffee Morning

What a fantastic day for MacMillan Cancer Support! We received lots of bakes and it was lovely to see families and friends enjoying coffee and cake on Friday morning. We raised a fantastic £480 from the cake sale and non-uniform day donations.

A big thank you must go to our Friends of Mapplewells group for organising the event and all the parent helpers who made the day such a success.

Thank you for supporting this wonderful charity Mapplewellians.







## Foundation open evening

If you or someone you know has a child approaching school age, we would like to invite you to come to explore our fantastic Early Years Foundation stage on Thursday 16th November from 3.30 – 5.30 pm.



Is your child approaching school age?

If so, we would like to invite you to come and explore our fantastic Early Years Foundation stage.

There is no need to book to join us for this event. Simply arrive at our school office at Henning Lane where you will be greeted by our staff.

You are welcome to bring your child with you to explore the setting.

We look forward to meeting you!

Tel: 01623 455949  
office@mapplewells.notts.sch.uk



**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November from 3.30 – 5.30 pm**

## Car Parking

I would like to take the opportunity to inform our new families and to remind families who are already aware that parents should not park in the staff car park during pick up and drop off times. We have had instances of staff being unable to get in and out of the car park and there are only just enough spaces for staff to park.

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).



## Friends of Mapplewells

We are looking for new members to become part of the group to help with organising and attending fund raising events.

We meet once a month (a notice will go out for the next meeting) and we would really like for you to come along and meet us if you get the chance.

It is a great opportunity for you to get involved and meet other parents and also get to know the wonderful staff at Mapplewells School.

We are also looking for volunteers to help with the Christmas Fair on 8th December. Please do let Miss Christie know if you can spare any time.



## F2 & KS1 Phonics Coffee morning

On Wednesday 18th October, we will be holding a phonics coffee morning at 9am. This will be a chance for you to come into school and have a chat with the early reading team about all things phonics. We will be sharing the learning resources that we use in school and talking through how you can support your child at home with phonics and reading.

## KS1 Phonics Open morning

We are really excited to inform you that we will be holding phonics open morning after the October break. This will be a chance to come into school and experience a phonics lesson with your child which we hope will be beneficial in supporting your child at home. We know the children will be so thrilled to show off their learning with you all so we hope you are able to attend.

Year 1: 15th November 9am

Year 2: 16th November 9am



## Autumn Disco

Our Autumn discos this year will be held on **Thursday 9th November** and on this day children can come to school wearing a Halloween/Autumn costume or non- uniform.

There will be a charge of **£2.50** for the disco. If your child would like to attend, please make an online payment via ScoPay. **ALL** payments **MUST** be returned by **Wednesday 8th November at 9:00am**.

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 Friends of Mapplewells in decorating our school hall ready for the disco please see Miss Christie, they will be decorating from 9am on the day.



## Congratulations

Congratulations to Miss Beeson on the arrival of her beautiful baby boy. Wishing your family all the best and sending love during this magical time with your newborn. Enjoy all the wonderful moments ahead!



## Non uniform day

The last day of Autumn 1 term is Friday 20th October. This term instead of asking for a £1 donation for non-uniform day we are asking for a bag of sweets or a chocolate bar for the tomobla at the Christmas Fair. Any donations can be handed to class teachers next Friday.



## Key Dates

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

<b>Diary Dates</b>	
<b>2023-24</b>	
<b>October</b>	
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	F2 – Year 6 flu vaccinations
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	F2 & KS1 Phonics Coffee morning
<b>November</b>	
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	INSET day
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	First day of Autum 2 term
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Autumn disco
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 Phonics Open morning
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Foundation open evening
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 Phonics Open morning
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Children in Need – dress in spots or pjs
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>	F2 trip to Sherwood Forest
<b>December</b>	
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	F2-Year 6 Pantomime trip
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Fair
<b>January</b>	
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 VR workshop
<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>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>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