



Mapplewells Primary and Nursery School Weekly Newsletter - Friday 3rd October 2025

Welcome Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As autumn settles in and the leaves begin to fall, it's been lovely to walk around the school and see the fantastic learning taking place in every classroom. From creative writing to hands-on maths and science, the children have been focused, enthusiastic, and proud of their achievements.

We've got lots of exciting events coming up this term, so please make sure to check the school calendar and Class Dojo regularly. This is the best way to stay up to date with key dates, reminders, and celebrations. Thank you for your continued support.

Read on for all things Mapplewells...

Attendance

Our current school attendance after 5 weeks is 97.3%! Our current attendance by class is:

Birch 97%

Elder 94%

Elm 98%

Hawthorn 98%

Hazel 97%

Juniper 97%

Maple 97%

Oak 96%

Pine 97%

Rowan 96%

Willow 97%

Well done to Elm & Hawthorn classes on their fantastic attendance this week! Let's keep striving to improve our attendance, to continue to exceed that figure of 97%.



Stars of the week

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 - Arabella

Birch - Nella

Elder - Axel

Elm - Evie

Hazel - Emily

Juniper - Jenson

Maple - Berat

Oak - Evin

Pine - Poppy

Rowan - Toby

Willow - Tyler



Headteacher Awards

Each week, I will be presenting Headteacher's Awards to children who have been nominated by staff for a variety of reasons — from producing amazing work, going above and beyond, to simply demonstrating what it means to be a wonderful Mapplewellian. These awards celebrate the values we hold dear and recognise the exceptional efforts of our pupils. We'll proudly share the names of our award winners in each edition of the newsletter, so keep an eye out for these special celebrations!

This weeks recipients of a Headteacher's Award are:

- **Emmy** has produced beautiful work all about hunter-gatherer survival skills — such thoughtful and detailed learning!
- **Oscar** has shown fantastic responsibility by always tidying the courtyard without being asked — thank you for helping keep our school looking lovely!
- **Evelyn, Lyla and Maddison** have drawn amazing pictures of their families, full of colour, care and creativity.

- **Toby** impressed us all with his wonderful use of personification to describe scenes from WW1 — powerful and imaginative writing!

Vacancies

Do you wish that you worked in a school like ours? One that aims to develop happy children, all working together to achieve their personal best. We have vacancies for Midday Supervisor roles and Personal Care Assistant. Please visit <https://www.flyinghighpartnership.co.uk/careers/> for more details.

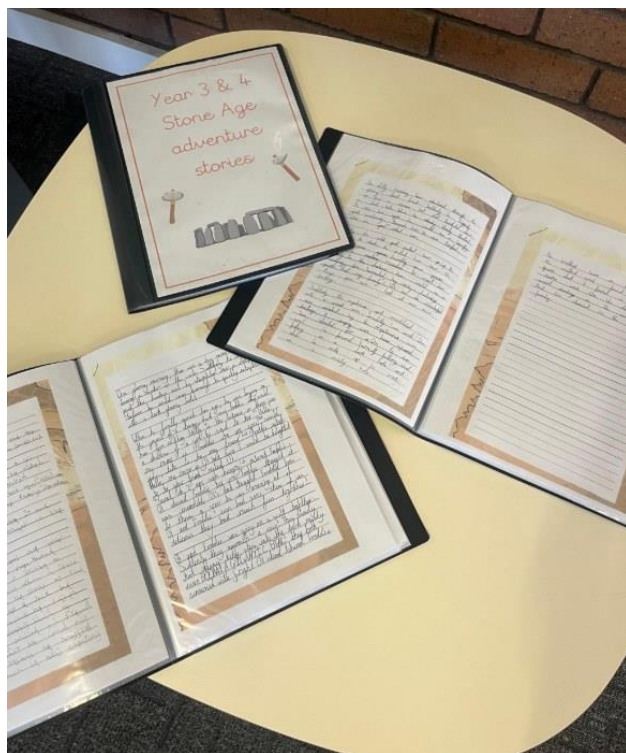


Stone Age adventure stories

The Year 3 and 4 children have been working exceptionally hard on their first piece of writing this term. They planned, drafted and published their very own Stone Age adventure stories, showing great imagination and determination throughout the process. We are delighted to share that their finished stories are now proudly on display at Sutton Library for the community to enjoy.







Could your child be entitled to extra funding?

Could your child be entitled to extra funding?

Pupil premium is extra funding for every child who's eligible for free school meals throughout their time at school. This funding goes directly to our school and pays for things like school trips, educational resources, extra support and one-to-one tutoring.

Once a child is in receipt of benefits-related free school meals, our school will receive additional funding (Pupil premium) to help and support them through their education.

We want to make sure as many eligible pupils as possible are claiming. Nottinghamshire County Council use the Department for Education's free school meals eligibility checking system to determine eligibility.

To apply, you will need to register and provide:

- your National Insurance Number or National Asylum Support Service Reference Number
- your last name
- your date of birth

You can apply for free school meals online-

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/school-meals/free-school-meals-and-milk> or by contacting NCC on 0300 500 80 80.

Please do get in touch with us if you need any help or support with this.



Online Safety

What Parents and Carers Need to Know About Allergies and Anaphylaxis

While many allergies result in only mild symptoms, some can be far more dangerous, causing life-threatening episodes of anaphylaxis that require swift intervention. This week's guide helps break down the warning signs and outlines the immediate steps to take when every second counts.

It also provides a useful overview of the most common food allergens – from milk and eggs to shellfish and sesame – as well as common non-food triggers like insect venom, pollen, and medication. With clear guidance on recognising the symptoms of a serious reaction and the role of devices like auto-injectors, this resource can help adults feel more prepared and informed when supporting children with allergies.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Centre Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ALLERGIES & ANAPHYLAXIS

An allergy is an overreaction of the immune system to a food or substance that's usually harmless. Symptoms can be mild, but for some people they can be very serious. This is known as anaphylaxis.

HOW TO SAY ANAPHYLAXIS: ANA-FIL-AX-IS

ALLERGIES AND ANAPHYLAXIS

- Mild allergy symptoms are treated with antihistamines.
- Anaphylaxis is treated with adrenaline, which is administered via an auto-injector into the outer upper thigh.
- Anaphylaxis is a medical emergency and a threat to life.

WHAT ADRENALINE DOES

Adrenaline reduces swelling, opens the patient's airways and raises their blood pressure. Patients must go to hospital for monitoring, as the reaction could return.

Two doses
0.15 mg or 0.3 mg

ANAPHYLAXIS SYMPTOMS

AIRWAY
Symptoms include swelling in the throat, tongue or upper airways; tightening of the throat; a hoarse voice; and difficulty swallowing.

BREATHING
Symptoms include persistent cough; sudden onset of wheezing; breathing difficulty; and noisy breathing.

CIRCULATION
Symptoms include pale and clammy skin; dizziness; feeling faint; sudden sleepiness; tiredness; confusion; and loss of consciousness. In extreme cases of anaphylaxis, there could be a dramatic fall in the patient's blood pressure. The patient may become weak and floppy, and have a sense of something terrible happening. Any of the ABC symptoms listed above may lead to collapse and unconsciousness and, on rare occasions, be fatal.

TOP 14 FOOD ALLERGENS:

(However, be aware people can be allergic to anything.)

CELERY	FISH	CRUSTACEANS	EGGS	MILK
SOYA	LUPIN	CEREALS	TREE NUTS	SESAME
MUSTARD	MOLLUSCS	PEANUTS	SULPHITES	

NON-FOOD ALLERGENS:

POLLEN, PET HAIR/DANDER, INSECT VENOM, MEDICATION/DRUGS

LINKS TO FURTHER RESOURCES

Scan the QR codes to find out more

AllergyWise®
 EpiPen
 Jexl
 ADRENALINE AND AAIIS

Meet Our Expert

Anaphylaxis UK is the only UK-wide charity operating solely for the growing numbers of people at risk of serious allergic reactions and anaphylaxis. Whilst there's no treatment or cure for anaphylaxis, we believe that by providing information, training and support, there's a brighter future for people living with serious allergies.

[@wake_up_weds](https://twitter.com/wake_up_weds)
www.thenationalcollege.com
[@wake.up.wednesday](https://www.instagram.com/wake.up.wednesday)
[@wake.up.weds](https://www.tiktok.com/@wake.up.weds)

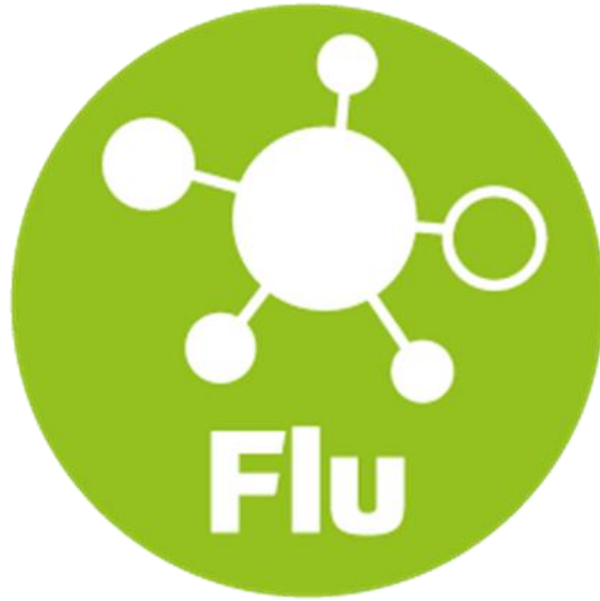
Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 28.09.2025

Flu vaccinations

For pupils in Reception to Year 6. If you would like your child to receive the flu vaccine in school this year, please follow this link to complete the online consent form. If you wish to decline, please use the same link to complete the 'No Consent' form.


<https://nhsImms.azurewebsites.net/session/ea4a4a0f>


The vaccinations will take place at school on the 3rd November 2025. The link will close on the 20th October 2025. If your child has already had the Flu vaccine elsewhere since Sept 2025, please disregard this message. If you have any problems accessing the link, please telephone 0333 3583 397 option 4, option 2.



Early Years Open Evening Invitation

We are delighted to invite both new and current families to our **Early Years Open Evening** for children who will be starting **Nursery or Reception in September 2026**.

 **Date:** Monday 17th November

 **Time:** 3:45pm – 5:30pm

 **Location:** EYFS Classrooms

Come along to explore our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) environment, where classrooms will be set up with engaging activities for you and your child to enjoy. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet our EYFS staff, ask questions, and learn more about what to expect in the year ahead.

Whether you're a new parent considering our setting or already part of our school community, we'd love to see you there!

Please feel free to share this invitation with friends, family, and others in our community who may be interested.

We look forward to welcoming you!



The flyer features a circular logo at the top left with the text 'Mapplewell Primary & Nursery School' and 'SUCCESS is in our hands'. Below the logo is a yellow box with the question 'Is your child approaching nursery or school age?'. The main text is in a white box on a blue background, providing details about the event. On the right, there is a photograph of five children in school uniforms jumping joyfully in a grassy area. At the bottom right, a blue box contains the date and time: 'Monday 17th November from 3.45 – 5.30 pm'. Contact information is provided at the bottom left.

Foundation Open Evening

Is your child approaching nursery or 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

Monday 17th November from 3.45 – 5.30 pm

The Mapplewellian Drawathon

We're thrilled to announce a whole-school fundraising event that promises to be a day full of creativity, community spirit, and celebration!

Date: Wednesday 5th November

Event: The Mapplewellian Drawathon

Every child will take part in a special 30-minute drawing challenge, where they'll be encouraged to unleash their imagination and create as many unique drawings as they can — each inspired by our cherished Mapplewellian values:

- ☑ Support
- ☑ Understanding
- ☑ Self-confidence
- ☑ Celebration
- ☑ Curiosity
- ☑ Excellence
- ☑ Self-discipline.

This exciting event is more than just a drawing session — it's a chance for children to reflect on what it truly means to be part of our school community, and to express those values through art.



Hot snacks

Hot snacks are available to book and pay for via ScoPay. Options include:

- **Toast** – 25p
- **Pizza Muffin** – 50p
- **Crumpet** – 50p
- **Juice (carton)** – 45p
- **Milkshake** – 60p

Booking Deadline: To receive snacks for the following week, bookings must be completed by midnight on Sunday.

How It Works:

- You pay for **one snack item for the entire week**, or
- One snack **plus a drink** for the whole week.

- Be sure to add both items to your basket if choosing a snack and drink.



Harvest Festival

As many of you know, it's a cherished tradition at Mapplewells to celebrate the Autumnal Harvest by giving back to our wonderful community. On Thursday our Harvest assemblies were led by Reverend Taylor from St John's Methodist Church, bringing a moment of reflection and gratitude for our pupils.

Supporting Our Local Food Bank Our school parliament members are proud to lead this year's Harvest project, and we warmly invite our Mapplewells families to get involved. We'll be collecting donations for our local food bank, helping those in need within our community.

What Can You Donate? We welcome any **non-perishable food items** and **store cupboard essentials**, such as: tinned goods, pasta, rice, breakfast cereals, biscuits and snacks.

Please send all items into school **by Friday 10th October** so we can deliver them in time. Thank you for your continued kindness and generosity. Together, we can make a real difference.



Nottinghamshire's school holiday and term time dates consultation 2027-2030

Please see Class Dojo for a letter relating to the school holiday consultation for Nottinghamshire schools. The consultation runs from 29 September 2025 until 14 December 2025 to ensure that all have opportunity to consider and comment. Comments can be submitted until 14 December 2025 by:

- completing the online survey response form
- emailing schoolholidayconsultation@nottsc.gov.uk

Learning As We Go – Navigating support for new SEND parents

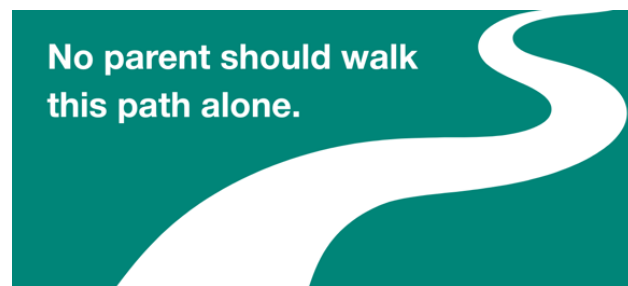
Join BeyondAutism¹ for their next Lunch & Learn **Wednesday 8th October, 12–12:45pm.**

¹https://eml-peur01.app.blackbaud.net/intv2/j/C92ED360-C1EB-4437-B245-BE606382B19A/r/C92ED360-C1EB-4437-B245-BE606382B19A_fc73cd7f-3bf6-471a-b186-3f155c933bd6/l/D4C3B413-DBF7-4F1F-8ECE-2EA1B838A09A/c

With SEN Parent Coach Claire Smee and Head of Outreach Matt Malone exploring the SEN parenting journey, **sign up to watch live or on demand**. This session explores the SEN parenting journey, from those first concerns and navigating assessments to life beyond a diagnosis. Together, SEN Parent Coach **Claire Smee** and our Head of Outreach **Matt Malone** will reflect on the steep learning curve parents face, the emotions that often go unspoken, and the small but powerful triumphs along the way. It's a reminder that no parent walks this path alone.


Sign up here to join live or catch up on demand!


https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_7cW5fW44RwunGcHrOPSJtg?bbeml=tp-WI7V00a0Pk2rCah21DI45Q.jYNMuyevBN0SyRb5gY4Kxmg.rf81z_PY7Gkexhj8VXJM71g.lhEdczwBbo0-boRCFjkxsDA#/registration



Arbor

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, we're thrilled to announce that our School Management Information System (MIS) has now moved to Arbor.

 **Parent App & Registration** We've sent an email with details on how to register and use the Arbor Parent App. Please check your inbox and follow the instructions to complete your child's registration.

 **Need Help?** Arbor offers a wide range of free help resources to support you. You can access them here. - **Getting started - Log into the Parent Portal and the Parent App**²

We're excited to begin using Arbor and hope you are too! If you have any questions that aren't covered in the help section, please don't hesitate to contact the school office directly.

²<https://support.arbor-education.com/hc/en-us/articles/360020147458-Getting-started-Log-into-the-Parent-Portal-and-the-Arbor-App>



Autumn Parents' Evenings

We are pleased to invite you to our Autumn Parents' Evenings, which will take place on Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th November. Appointments will be available between 3:30pm and 6pm on both days.

Each appointment will last 10 minutes per child, providing a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress, ask any questions, and hear how you can support their learning at home.

We will be using **Arbor** for bookings and you'll be able to select a time slot that suits you best.

Booking will open at 6pm on Wednesday 15th October 2025.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact the Office.



Parents' Evenings

Reminder: Reporting absence

If your child will not be attending school, we kindly ask that parents/carers contact the school **by 8.45 AM on each day of absence.**

Please inform us of:

- The reason for the absence and/or the nature of any illness
- The expected return date, if known

You can notify the school either by **telephone** or **in person.**

Thank you for helping us maintain accurate attendance records and ensure the wellbeing of all our pupils.



Key dates

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

Diary Dates	
2025	
October	
10 th October	F2 trip to Sherwood Forest
10 th October	Year 6 trip to MTFC for World Mental Health Day
16 th October	F1 & F2 Diwali Dance Workshop
16 th October	KS1 & KS2 – Autumn Disco
17 th October	F1 & F2 – Autumn Disco
17 th October	Last Day of Autumn 1 – non – uniform day
November	
3 rd November	First Day of Autumn 2
3 rd November	Flu vaccinations
5 th November	Mapplewellian Drawathon
11 th November	Whole School Remembrance Service
11 th November	Autumn parents' evening
12 th November	Autumn parents' evening
13 th November	F2 Stay and Play 2 – 3pm
17 th November	Open evening for Foundation
18 th – 21 st November	Year 5 Bikeability
28 th November	Whole School Pantomime F2 – Yr 6
December	
1 st December	F2 Christmas Play 2pm & 5pm
2 nd December	F1 Christmas Play 10am & 4pm
3 rd December	Christingle Assemblies
5 th December	Christmas Fayre (provisional)
9 th December	Hawthorn Christmas Play
11 th December	Hazel Christmas Play
19 th December	Last Day of Autumn Term 2 – non – uniform day
2026	
January	
5 th January	First Day of Spring 1
7 th and 8 th January	Year 3/ 4 Bikeability
February	
2 nd February	Young Voices
11 th February	Individual Pupil Photos
13 th February	Last Day of Spring 1 – non-uniform day
23 rd February	INSET day
24 th February	First Day of Spring 2
March	
27 th March	Last Day of Spring 2 – non-uniform day
April	
13 th April	First Day of Summer 1
16 th – 17 th April	Year 3 residential
27 th – 28 th April	Year 4 residential
May	
1 st May	LCH Charity Colour Dash
4 th May	Bank Holiday – School closed
11 th – 14 th May	Year 6 SATs week
21 st May	Last Day of Summer 1 – non-uniform day
22 nd May	INSET day
June	
1 st June	First day of Summer 1
1 st - 2 nd June	Year 5 residential
1 st – 12 th June	Year 4 Multiplications Checks
8 th – 12 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Checks
19 th June	Year 6 Leavers Photos & Class Photographs
July	
8 th – 10 th July	Year 6 residential
14 th – 17 th July	Year 6 Bikeability
24 th July	Last Day of Summer 2 – non – uniform day
27 th July	INSET day

As we look ahead, we are populating our school calendar with an exciting array of events and key dates for the new academic year. We encourage you to keep a close eye on these updates, ensuring you remain fully informed and engaged in our vibrant school life.

Our term dates are on the school notice board and our website -

<https://www.mapplewellsprimary.co.uk/page/?title=Useful+Information&pid=86>

Mr Whittle

Head Teacher

Mr Latkowski

Deputy Headteacher