



Mapplewells Primary and Nursery School Weekly Newsletter - Friday 28th November 2025

[Welcome Message](#)

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move into the festive season, it's an exciting time for our pupils and the school community. From today's Pantomime trip to the upcoming nativities and Christmas Fair, it is a jammed few weeks.

In this newsletter, you'll find updates on key events, celebrations, and important information about what's happening at Mapplewells. There's lots to look forward to, so please read on and stay connected with everything that makes our school such a special place to learn and grow.

Read on for all things Mapplewells...

Attendance

Our current school attendance after 11 weeks is 97.1%! Our current attendance by class is:

Birch 95%

Elder 97%

Elm 97%

Hawthorn 97%

Hazel 97%

Juniper 97%

Maple 97%

Oak 96%

Pine 97%

Rowan 95%

Willow 97%

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



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:

- **Erin, Jacob, Isaac, Ione, Jasmine, Blanka, and Emelia** – Outstanding handwriting and impressive independent writing during phonics lessons.
- **Rory** – Amazing performance in his practice phonics screening assessment.
- **Harley** – Brilliant understanding and application of multiplying fractions.
- **Maeva** – Fantastic effort writing all her mini-stories during phonics lessons.
- **Alfie** – Created a superb World War I story about Jack and his loyal dog, Stubby.

👏 Well done to all our winners – we are so proud of you! Keep up the fantastic work!

Christingle celebrations

On Thursday 4th December we will be holding our annual Christingle celebrations. Reverend Taylor of St John's Church will be coming into school to host our special assemblies.

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 1st 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.



School Admissions

Do you have a child due to start Primary school in September 2026?

If so, please make a note of the following dates:

Monday 3rd November 2025 – Nottinghamshire County Council applications are open for starting school in September 2026.

Thursday 15th January 2026 – Closing date for applications.

If your child is starting Secondary school in September 2026, the closing date for applications is **31st October 2025**



Christmas Fair – We Need Your Help!

The festive season is fast approaching, and we're excited to be planning our Christmas Fair, which will take place on Friday 5th December from 3:30pm to 5:30pm. To make this event a success, we're kindly asking for donations for the following stalls:

- Bottle in a Bag Stall – any bottled items (e.g. drinks, sauces, toiletries)
- Bottle Bags – gift bags suitable for bottles
- Teddy Bears – clean and gently used
- Raffle Prizes – new or unused items
- Tombola Prizes – small gifts, toys, or treats
- Jumble & Books – no clothes or electrical items, please
- Cakes – homemade or shop-bought (to be brought in on the day of the fair)

Please bring donations to school by Monday 1st December.

This year's fair will feature lots of exciting activities and treats, including cones of chips and hot dogs served fresh from the kitchen – yum!

Following the great feedback from previous years, we'll once again be using the Foundation and Key Stage 2 classrooms to help ease congestion in the hall and give everyone more space to enjoy the fun.

If you're able to help with preparations or setting up on the afternoon of the fair, please speak to me directly or send a message via Dojo. Any support is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your continued support – we look forward to seeing you there and kicking off the festive season together!



Nottinghamshire Cross Country

This weekend, pupils from Year 5 and 6 attended the second of the Nottinghamshire Cross Country events.

They ran 1500m in the wind and rain and were brilliant athletes! Well done!













Christmas is about tins not tinsel

Mapplewells School Council will be collecting tins and dry food items for the Let's All Eat Foodbank!

Collection dates - From 1st December 2025 to Monday 15th December 2025

We kindly ask families to donate whatever they can to help those in need. Every contribution makes a difference!

Thank you for your generosity



New menu

We've been listening carefully to pupil feedback and are delighted to let you know that we've made some changes to our school menu. These updates are designed to give children more of the meals they enjoy, while still keeping things healthy, balanced, and varied.

You can see the full 3 week menu on our website -

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



My School Menu
Winter 2025 - 2026
Week commencing
 10th November, 1st December,
 12th January, 2nd February,
 23rd February, 16th March

Taste of India

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	Cheesy Naan bread pizza Milk Gluten with Diced potatoes	All day brunch Nottinghamshire sausage Gluten Sulphur Dioxide & bacon with hash browns, baked beans & scrambled eggs Egg Milk	Roast meat of the day with Yorkshire pudding Milk Egg Gluten roast potatoes, carrots, broccoli & gravy	Loaded Chicken Biryani Chapatti's Gluten with a vegetable samosa Gluten	MSC fish finger wrap Gluten Fish with peas & oven chips
Special	Jacket potato available daily, served with your choice of: baked beans & cheese Milk, or tuna mayonnaise Fish Egg				
Pudding	Chocolate & orange cookie Gluten	New York cheesecake Gluten Soya Milk	Golden syrup flapjack Gluten	Yoghurt Milk	Chocolate muffin Gluten Milk

MTFC players at after school club

Our Years 1 & 2 pupils have been enjoying their after-school football club with a very special twist — they've had the chance to work alongside Kyle & Max, players from Mansfield Town Football Club!

The children have loved learning new skills, practising their teamwork, and being inspired by professional role models from the local community. It's been a fantastic opportunity to combine fun, fitness, and friendship.

Well done to all our budding footballers — keep up the great effort!



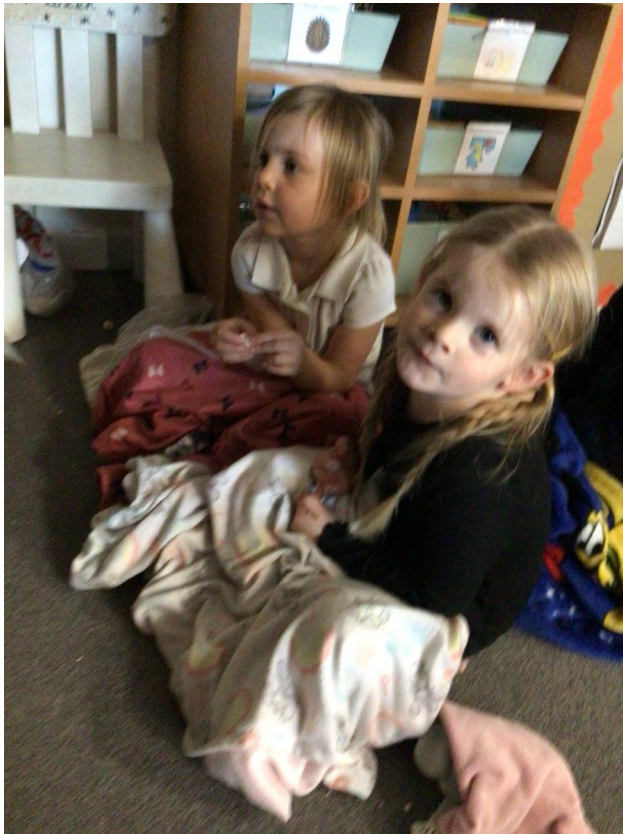




F1 movie afternoon

Whilst the rest of the school was at the Panto, F1 enjoyed a Christmas movie day. The children loved bringing in their teddy bears, blankets, and treats like sweets and popcorn, and had a wonderful time getting snuggly with their friends while watching a festive film.









Key dates

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

Diary Dates	
2025	
December	
1 st December	F2 Christmas Play 2pm & 5pm
2 nd December	F1 Christmas Play 10am & 4pm
4 th December	Christingle Assemblies
5 th December	Christmas Fayre
9 th December	Hawthorn Christmas Play
10 th December	Elm Christmas Play
11 th December	Hazel Christmas Play
15 th December	Wear Something Christmassy Day
15 th December	Y5 carol concert
17 th December	Christmas dinner day
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	
9 th 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

Mr Whittle

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

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

Head Teacher

Mr Latkowski

Deputy Headteacher