



Mapplewells Primary and Nursery School Weekly Newsletter - Friday 11th September 2026

Welcome Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

What an amazing week! It has been wonderful to see the children return with such enthusiasm, positivity and determination. We have now completed our first full week of the term, and I have been incredibly impressed by how quickly pupils have settled into their new classes and routines.

Across the school, children have demonstrated excellent attitudes to learning, worked hard in their lessons and embraced new challenges with confidence. Thank you to our families for your continued support in helping the term get off to such a successful start. We are looking forward to an exciting year ahead and celebrating many more achievements together.

Read on for all things Mapplewells...

'Meet the Teacher and Welcome' Sessions

Over the next couple of weeks we will be hosting our 'Meet the Teacher' sessions. During the session the teachers discuss the year group expectation, demonstrate and model activities that will help support your child and answer any potential questions you may have. These sessions are a wonderful opportunity for you to see what your child is doing in school and to see how best to support their English and Maths skills at home.

Attendance

Our current school attendance after 2 weeks is 98.59%. Our current attendance by class is:

Birch 99%

Elder 100%

Elm 99%

Hawthorn 100%

Hazel 100%

Juniper 99%

Maple 100%

Oak 99%

Pine 98%

Rowan 96%

Willow 98%

Well done to Hawthorn, Hazel, Juniper & Maple classes on their fantastic attendance this week!

Regular attendance plays a vital role in children's learning, progress and wellbeing. We can work together to ensure every child has the best possible opportunity to achieve their full potential.

Pine - Harriet

Rowan - Ellie May

Willow - Paddy



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:

- **Charlie and Finley** – For producing some outstanding writing this week. Both children have worked incredibly hard to apply their skills, resulting in pieces that are creative, engaging and of a very high standard.
- **Ione** – For demonstrating excellent independence in mathematics and completing challenging work with confidence, accuracy and determination.

- **Billy, Amari, Daniel and Savannah** – For creating fantastic timelines showing key events from the Stone Age to the present day. Their work was carefully presented, historically accurate and reflected great enthusiasm for learning.
- **Faye** – For making wonderful progress in reading. She has shown great confidence when sounding out and blending words and has impressed everyone with her perseverance and enthusiasm.

Online Safety

What Parents and Carers Need to Know Character. AI

Character.AI lets users create and chat with AI-powered characters that can behave like friends, mentors, fictional favourites, or romantic partners. While these conversations can feel engaging and supportive, their convincing human-like responses can blur important boundaries. Young people may encounter inappropriate content, misinformation and privacy risks, or begin forming an unhealthy emotional attachment to an AI companion.

For parents and carers, understanding these risks can make conversations about AI companionship more constructive. This guide explores warning signs such as secretive or excessive use and withdrawal from real-world activities, while offering practical advice on checking age restrictions, protecting personal information, questioning chatbot advice, and responding appropriately when safeguarding concerns arise.



Car Parking

REMINDER:- Please note that the staff car park is not available for parent or carer use.

The only exception is the two designated disabled parking bays, which are reserved exclusively for Blue Badge holders. Vehicles parked in these bays without a valid Blue Badge may be asked to move.

Flu vaccinations

The IntraHealth team will be in school on Wednesday 25th November.

You'll receive an email or text message from the NHS with a link to an online consent form.

You can use the online form to:

- give consent for your child to be vaccinated
- say you do not want your child to be vaccinated

- update your contact details if needed

Filling in the form will be quick and easy. It's important to respond, even if you do not want your child to be vaccinated. If you have questions about vaccinations or the consent form, please contact the immunisation team at: immunisations.Nottinghamshire@intrahealth.co.uk¹



Sport England Active Lives Survey

We have been selected as a school by Sport England to complete the Active Lives Survey. This something that we have taken part in before and has been really beneficial.

For taking part in this survey, Mapplewells receives a Healthy Schools Accreditation as well as sports equipment for the children to use during break times and in their PE lessons.

If you have a child in Years 1, 3 and 5, please could you ask them to complete the surveys below.

There is also a parent survey.

The more surveys completed, the better our chances of achieving this award, so please have a look

¹<mailto:immunisations.Nottinghamshire@intrahealth.co.uk>

School Name: Mapplewells Primary and Nursery School

School URN: 144322

Year 1: <https://ipsos.uk/BYAWZTP>

Year 3: <https://ipsos.uk/FLGWZUN>

Year 5: <https://ipsos.uk/YTLWZKL>

Parent Survey - <https://ipsos.uk/HZTWZPL>

Thank you for your support



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.



Lost Property

A number of coats and jumpers have already been left at school this term. Items with names have already been returned to their owners. If you're missing any uniform please check with Mr Barton, our site manager, at the start or end of the school day. We also have a box in the courtyard that can be checked. Unnamed items will be held for a short time before being donated.

Let's help these clothes find their way home!



Key Dates

Please keep updated with our key dates as we add to this. Our term dates are published on the website - <https://www.mapplewellsprimary.co.uk/page/?title=Useful+Information&pid=86>

Diary Dates	
2026	
September	
14 th September	Year 5 and 6 trip to National Holocaust Museum
October	
14 th October	Autumn disco – Foundation & KS1
15 th October	Autumn disco – KS2
16 th October	Last day of Autumn 1 term
November	
2 nd November	1 st day of Autumn 2 term
12 th November	Foundation Diwali Dance Workshop
December	
1 st December	School trip to the Panto
4 th December	Christmas Fair
18 th December	Last day of Autumn 2 term
2027	
January	
4 th January	1 st day of Spring 1 term
February	
9 th February	Valentine disco – Foundation & KS1
11 th February	Valentine disco – KS2
March	
23 rd March	Easter disco – Foundation & KS1
24 th March	Easter disco – KS2
April	
26 th April	Year 4 residential
July	
9 th July	Summer Fair
14 th July	Summer disco – Foundation & KS1
15 th July	Summer disco – KS2
16 th July	Parent picnic
23 rd July	Last day of Summer 2 term
26 th July	INSET day
27 th July	INSET day
28 th July	INSET day

Mr Whittle

Head Teacher

Mr Latkowski

Deputy Headteacher