



Mapplewells Primary and Nursery School Weekly Newsletter - Friday 18th September 2026

Welcome Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of another busy and successful week, I would like to share some of the wonderful learning experiences taking place across the school. Our Year 5 and 6 pupils had a memorable and thought-provoking visit to the National Holocaust Centre and Museum, which provided a valuable opportunity to deepen their understanding of an important part of history and reflect on themes of justice, tolerance and respect.

It has also been exciting to welcome families into school for our EYFS Hook Afternoon, where children launched their new curriculum enquiry through a range of engaging activities designed to spark curiosity and enthusiasm for learning. Finally, congratulations to our newly appointed House Captains and House Ambassadors. We are incredibly proud of all pupils who applied for these leadership roles and look forward to seeing our successful candidates represent their houses and contribute positively to our school community throughout the year.

I hope you enjoy reading about the many achievements and activities from this week. Have a wonderful weekend. Read on for all things Mapplewells...

Attendance

Our current school attendance after 3 weeks is 98.55%. Our current attendance by class is:

Birch 99%

Elder 97%

Elm 99%

Hawthorn 100%

Hazel 100%

Juniper 98%

Maple 99%

Oak 99%

Pine 98%

Rowan 97%

Willow 97%

Well done to Hawthorn & Hazel 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.



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.

Birch - Bryan

Elder - Aria

Elm - Autumn

Hawthorn - Niall

Juniper - Hope

Maple - Scarlett

Oak - Savana

Pine - Elijah

Rowan - Harper

Willow - Noah



Headteacher Awards

Each week, I present 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 week's recipients of a Headteacher's Award are:

- **Charlotte** - For consistently presenting her English work with beautifully neat handwriting and great pride.
- **Charlie** - For his excellent effort in maths, particularly with his writing and counting skills.
- **Johnny** - For being a fantastic Mapplewellian, showing kindness and responsibility by helping and playing positively with younger children.
- **Finley** - For writing imaginative and descriptive sentences and consistently demonstrating our Mapplewellian values.

- **Kai** - For his determination to improve his handwriting and always striving to produce his very best work.
- **Jude** - For his wonderful progress in phonics, confidently sounding out, blending and reading words with increasing fluency.

Emergency contacts details

We kindly ask all parents and carers to log in to Arbor and ensure that all personal and contact details are accurate and up to date. This information will be used to contact you in the event of an emergency, so it is important that we hold the correct details for your child and family.

When logged in, you will also be able to view the emergency contacts we have on record and update them if necessary.

Thank you for helping us keep our records accurate and up to date.

If you have any problems making changes or need some help with Arbor please do get in touch.



Online Safety

What Parents and Carers Need to Know about Social Pressures: Influencers

Social media influencers are people who've established their credibility in a specific industry and therefore have the power to affect other people's decisions. Most commonly associated with YouTube and Instagram, influencers usually have a large number of followers and are viewed as

authentic by their audience. For this reason, many influencers are often paid by big companies to promote their products, in the hope of persuading their followers to purchase those goods.

In this guide, you'll find tips on avoiding potential risks such as body image, bad habits and unrealistic role models

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

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25K

What parents need to know about SOCIAL PRESSURES LINKED TO 'INFLUENCERS'

AN UNREALISTIC PERCEPTION OF BODY IMAGE

Some of the most popular social media influencers often depict themselves as having the 'perfect' body and go on to promote items such as health supplements or medicines, which young people may be tempted to buy. These influencers can be seen as role models for their followers, and their perceived body image can be unrealistic. This can lead to young people feeling insecure about their own body image, and in some cases, become obsessed with their body image, which could contribute towards a loss of self-esteem or even becoming depressed if they can't achieve the same look.

BECOMING UNREALISTIC ROLE MODELS

As children become more and more involved in social media and identify who their favourite people are to follow, they may come to see social media influencers as role models, particularly if they are achieving what they want to do online. This could lead them into developing unrealistic expectations of life, and in some cases, seeing their role models as an escape from reality, particularly if they feel like they're even less 'lucky' than them.

ENCOURAGING BAD HABITS

Although many social media influencers will get paid to advertise brands and those products, they may also promote bad habits, such as drinking alcohol and using drugs, or encourage their followers to engage in risky behaviour. These influencers can be seen as role models for their followers, and their perceived body image can be unrealistic. This can lead to young people feeling insecure about their own body image, and in some cases, become obsessed with their body image, which could contribute towards a loss of self-esteem or even becoming depressed if they can't achieve the same look.

THE NEED TO HAVE EVERYTHING

Many social media influencers will take photos or videos of themselves wearing the latest fashions or driving the latest cars, and they may also be seen to be living a life of luxury. This can lead to young people feeling that they need to have everything that their role models have, and in some cases, seeing their role models as an escape from reality, particularly if they feel like they're even less 'lucky' than them.

AUTHENTICITY OF ENDORSEMENTS

Many social media influencers will take photos or videos of themselves wearing the latest fashions or driving the latest cars, and they may also be seen to be living a life of luxury. This can lead to young people feeling that they need to have everything that their role models have, and in some cases, seeing their role models as an escape from reality, particularly if they feel like they're even less 'lucky' than them.

Safety Tips for Parents

FOLLOW WHO THEY FOLLOW

It is important to be aware of who your child is following on social media, as they may be influenced by the content they see. Try to build their self-esteem by talking to them and listening to their concerns, helping to build their confidence through praise and positivity. Encourage them to think about the content they are seeing and to be critical of what they see.

TALK ABOUT ROLE MODELS

Role models can play an important part of your child's life, particularly outside of the home. Talk to your child about who they look up to and why, and help them to see that everyone has their own struggles and challenges. Encourage them to work with them in finding more positive alternatives.

BUILD THEIR SELF-ESTEEM

It is important to be aware of who your child is following on social media, as they may be influenced by the content they see. Try to build their self-esteem by talking to them and listening to their concerns, helping to build their confidence through praise and positivity. Encourage them to think about the content they are seeing and to be critical of what they see.

DISCUSS REALISTIC VS UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

If you notice your child has suddenly taken a strong interest in the way they look, or you feel they are a bit down body confidence, then it's a good idea to talk to them about why they feel that way. If they seem unhappy, try to build their self-esteem by talking to them and listening to their concerns, helping to build their confidence through praise and positivity. Encourage them to think about the content they are seeing and to be critical of what they see.

ENCOURAGE INDEPENDENT THINKING

Social media influencers can be quite powerful individuals who hold a lot of persuasive power. It's important to encourage your child to think independently about everything they see and discuss with them, to be aware of the dangers of blindly following others and to keep an open mind when viewing content. Teach them to always question anything they see online, especially when they see influencers promoting a brand or product which they are likely to have been paid to advertise but may not necessarily personally endorse.

Meet our expert

Pete Badde is a writer with over 10 years in research and analysis. Working within a specialist area for West Yorkshire Police, Pete has contributed work which has been pivotal in successfully winning high profile cases in court as well as writing as a subject matter expert for industry handbooks.

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Visit to the Holocaust Centre

Our UKS2 children had a truly educational and thought-provoking visit to the Holocaust Centre. During the day, they followed the journey of a young boy named Leo, immersing themselves in his experiences and learning about his life before the outbreak of World War II.

The children represented our school exceptionally well, showing maturity, respect and thoughtfulness throughout the visit. We are incredibly proud of the way they engaged with and reflected upon such an important part of history.

Well done, UKS2! 🌟



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



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

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 recieves 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

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



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	
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	
15 th April	Year 3 residential
26 th April	Year 4 residential
May	
27 th May	Year 5 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