



Mapplewells Primary and Nursery School Weekly Newsletter - Friday 2nd October 2026

Welcome Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As another busy and successful week draws to a close, I would like to take the opportunity to thank our wonderful pupils, staff and families for their continued enthusiasm, support and hard work. School has been full of learning, laughter and achievement this week, and it has been fantastic to see so many examples of our children demonstrating the Mapplewellian values that make our school such a special place.

In this week's newsletter, you'll find highlights from across the school, important reminders, and celebrations of the many achievements that have taken place over the last few days. I hope you enjoy reading about all that has been happening and share in our pride of the children and their successes.

Read on for all things Mapplewells...

Attendance

Our current school attendance after 5 weeks is 98.55%. Our current attendance by class is:

Birch 100%

Elder 98%

Elm 99%

Hawthorn 100%

Hazel 99%

Juniper 98%

Maple 99%

Oak 99%

Pine 98%

Rowan 97.6%

Willow 97%

Well done to Birch & Hawthorn classes on their fantastic attendance again 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.

Ash - Freddie

Birch - Billy

Elder - Rory

Elm - Axel

Hazel - Kiyan

Juniper - Theo

Maple - Eliza

Oak - Imogen

Pine - Heath

Rowan - Annika

Willow - Toby



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:

- **Rosalyn, Alfie, Mia, Alice, Joshua, Esme, Laney & Matilda** - for their amazing story writing about Julius's escape - well done!

Online Safety

What Parents and Carers Need to know About Looksmaxxing

Looksmaxxing encourages people — particularly young men — to 'improve their appearance' through everything from grooming, skincare and exercise to far more questionable techniques.

As this trend becomes increasingly visible on social media, our #WakeUpWednesday guide explores how appearance-focused content can affect boys' confidence, self-worth and body image, while exposing them to misleading or potentially dangerous advice.

The guide also examines how looksmaxxing content can become increasingly extreme, with links to obsessive behaviours, mental health difficulties and harmful online communities. It offers practical advice for parents and educators on spotting changes in behaviour, recognising looksmaxxing terminology, understanding what young people may be seeing online and opening supportive conversations about appearance, influencers and unrealistic expectations.



Would you like to work with us?

Are you a friendly, hardworking, caring and positive individual who would like to work with children? We are looking to appoint a Midday Supervisor to our friendly, welcoming school.

Please visit <https://www.flyinghighpartnership.co.uk/careers/> for more information



Harvest Assembly donations

It is nearly our Harvest Time at school and we have our Harvest Assembly with Rev. Wiseman from St John's Church on Monday 5th October.

It would be great if we could follow on from our previous year's amazing success and collect food donations for our local food bank. Please can we ask for donations of

- tinned or packaged dry goods such as soup, beans, pasta, rice
- longer life fresh items such as cereals, biscuits, crisps, flour, crackers
- bottles of squash, long life milk (not fresh milk) or other drinks that do not need refrigeration

All donations need to be in school by Friday 2nd October.

Many thanks as always for your continued support and generosity.



Year 5 Harvest Visit

On Tuesday afternoon, Year 5 visited St Mary Magdalene's Church, where they took part in a range of Harvest activities. The children learned about the important work of the local food bank and discovered how it supports individuals and families within our community.

They also spent time thinking about the importance of helping others, showing kindness and treating everyone with respect. It was a lovely opportunity for them to learn more about Harvest while developing their understanding of how we can all play a part in supporting our local community.



Autumn Parents' Evenings

We will be holding our Autumn Parents' Evenings on 10th & 11th November. On each day the time slots will be from 3.30pm to 6pm.

Appointments will be allocated for 10 minutes per child and give you the valuable opportunity to discuss all aspects of your child's progress, to ask any questions that you may have and also for the teachers to explain how you can support your child with their learning at home.

We are using Arbor and you can choose the slot that suits you best using the app or web version. The booking slots will be released at 6pm on Wednesday 7th October 2026.

Should you have any queries please contact the Office.



Parents' Evenings

Flu vaccinations

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

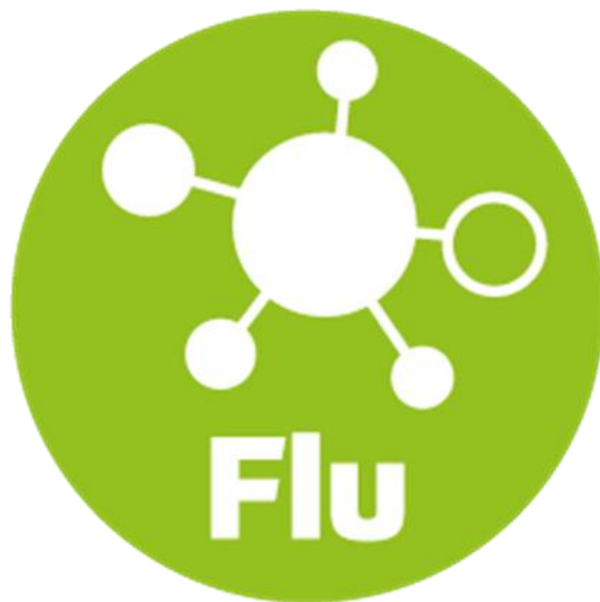
You'll receive an email or text message from the NHS with a link to an online consent form.

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>



[SENCo - Parent Carer Event](#)

Attached are details of a marketplace event for parent and carers of children and young people with special educational/additional needs on Tuesday 6th October. This will be a chance to meet with services providers and professionals. It will be held at the Mansfield Civic Corner, Chesterfield Rd S, Mansfield NG19 7BH from 10am to 1pm.



Inclusion & transition in Early Years

Would you welcome the opportunity to discuss inclusion & transition with a member of Nottinghamshire County Councils SEND Inclusion Team. A series of free online meetings will be running throughout the year. These sessions will be a 30 minute appointment and can be booked using the link below.

<https://bookings.cloud.microsoft/book/NottinghamshireParentCarerTransitionEvents1@nottscc.gov.uk/s/9RiatOzRjEylfKfPREaHMw2?ismsaljsauthenabed>



Do you have a child with Special Educational Needs and want to find out more about inclusion for Early Years pupils in a mainstream school or setting?

Would you welcome the opportunity to discuss inclusion & transition with a member of Nottinghamshire County Councils SEND Inclusion Team. A series of free online meetings will be running throughout the year. These sessions will be a 30 minute appointment and can be booked using the link below.

Sessions are open to all parents/carers of Early Years children and school starters with special educational needs – no diagnosis or EHCP is required.

Let's talk together about inclusion & transition in Early Years! Come and have a chat. Autumn Term 2026 - 2027

Appointments available on the following dates:

Wednesday 11th November between 1.30-3pm

Thursday 19th November between 9-10.30 am

Wednesday 9th December between 5.30-7pm

Book below:

<https://outlook.office.com/book/NottinghamshireParentCarerTransitionEvents1@nottscc.gov.uk/s/qRia1OzRJEyIfKfPREaHMw2?smsaljsauthenabed>



Nottinghamshire County Council

Mapplewellian Drawathon

During our 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 a unique self-portrait inspired by our cherished Mapplewellian values.

We'd be incredibly grateful if you could support your child in collecting sponsorships.

We encourage children to start practising their drawing skills at home and to think about what it means to be a true Mapplewellian. Let's make this a day to remember!

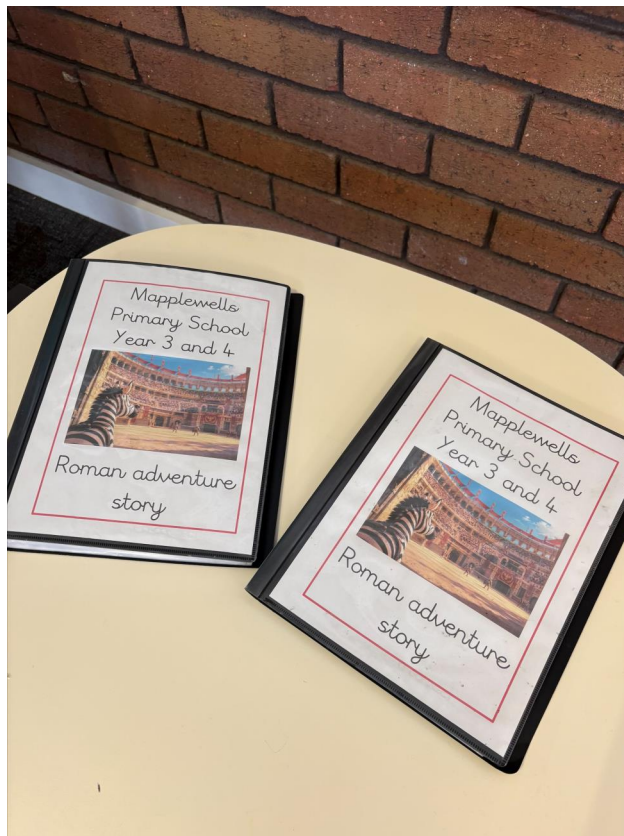
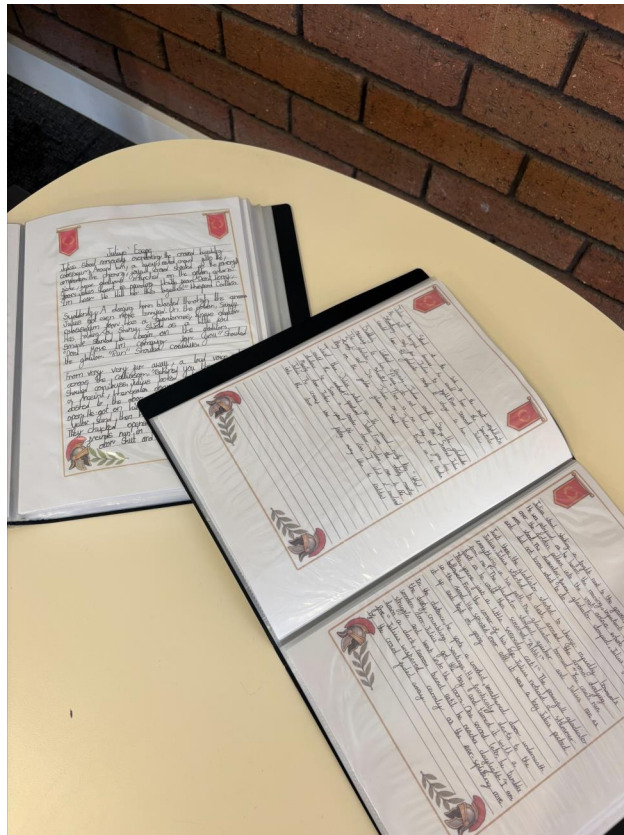
Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We can't wait to see the children's creativity and enthusiasm shine.



Roman adventure stories

The Year 3 and 4 children have worked super hard planning, drafting and publishing their Roman adventure stories about Julius the Zebra!

They have really impressed us with their vocabulary and handwriting! They are now displayed in Sutton library for other children to read.



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
6 th November	Drawathon
10 th November	Autumn parents' evening
11 th November	Autumn parents' evening
12 th November	Foundation Diwali Dance Workshop
13 th November	Children in Need
16 th November	ETFS open evening
December	
1 st December	School trip to the Panto
3 rd December	Hazel Christmas Performance
4 th December	Christmas Fair
7 th December	Elm Christmas Performance
8 th December	F2 Christmas Performance
9 th December	Hawthorn Christmas Performance
9 th December	Christingle assembly
10 th December	Christmas jumper day
10 th December	F1 Christmas Performance
18 th December	Christmas parties
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
June	
30 th June	Year 6 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