



Maple Infants' School

April 2022

Newsletter No. 7

Diary Dates:

2022

SUMMER TERM DATES:

SUMMER TERM 1:

Tues 19th April – Fri 27th May

SUMMER TERM 2:

Mon 6th June – Fri 22nd July
(Mon 6th June & Fri 22nd July are INSET days)

Autumn Term 1

Thursday 1st September – Friday 21st October

Inset: Thursday 1st September



Providing wider enrichment opportunities, which develops our children's learning as well as their social and cultural development, has always been a great strength at Maple and with the changes to the national covid restrictions, it has been wonderful to be able to begin to plan and carry out some of these exciting opportunities again. One of the particular highlights last term were our individual class performances. The children thoroughly enjoyed developing their performance skills and loved inviting their families in to see them perform. Each and every performance demonstrated the children's developing skills and their continually growing confidence.

We are really looking forward to continuing to develop our enrichment opportunities throughout the term ahead.

Mrs. Barwell

Water Heater and School Meals Update

Following our communication on 22nd March, you will be aware, that the current provision for school meals has been impacted by our issue with our water heater tank which needs replacing and we share with SASM.

I would like to reassure you that both SASM and Maple are working as quickly as we can to resolve the issue regarding the water; however, it is unfortunately not a straightforward process and will therefore take some time. We are grateful to our school meal team at Caterlink who have been working hard to continue to be able to provide school meals for our children. Regrettably, however, the system, which is used for families to order their meals, cannot be amended and therefore families can see and select meals, which are not currently available in school. Families will be receiving an amended menu that identifies the meal options, which are available so this should be used to check what is on offer when ordering. We would like to thank our families for their understanding during this current time.

ONLINE SAFETY: Poppy Playtime Game - Huggy Wuggy

Some of our families may have seen some reports in the press recently about a computer game called Poppy Playtime, which involves a character called Huggy Wuggy. We would like to make families aware that despite its cute name, it is not a game, which is suitable for infant aged children. The Common Sense Media guide recommends that it is suitable for young people aged 12 + which is the same age that is listed on the App Store (iOS version).

We have noticed that some of the children are talking about Huggy Wuggy in school and seem to be aware of the game so we felt that it was important to raise this with our families. Please be mindful that although your child may not have direct access to the game, games like these are becoming increasingly popular on platforms like YouTube and Roblox and so therefore may be accessible to children via these platforms. If you would like to discuss this further please do speak to Mrs Barwell or Miss Funnell.

Nursery Provision September 2022

We have been carefully considering the changing needs of our local community with regards to the provision which we offer the youngest members of our school community within our nursery. Following positive responses from prospective nursery parents, we are therefore changing our nursery provision from September 2022 to support the needs of our community. This means that instead of offering fifty two 15 hour places (26 morning and 26 afternoon places), we will now be offering the following:

- 12 children a 30 hour place; these will be fully funded for those who meet the criteria for 30 hours free childcare (Monday to Friday 8.30 - 11.30am and 12.30 - 3.30pm, term time only. Families will either be able to collect their child between 11.30 and 12.30 for the lunchtime period or for a cost the school will provide care over this hour, which will include a school meal)
- 14 children a 15 hour morning place (Monday to Friday, 8.30 - 11.30am term time only)
- 14 children a 15 hour afternoon place (Monday to Friday, 12.30 - 3.30pm term time only)

Following the application process, we are currently in the process of offering places to families who have applied.

Raising concerns or asking questions

We take great pride in working in partnership with our families, as we know that this helps our children to make the best progress that they can. We hope that our families know that there is always someone at school that they can refer to if they would like a question answered or if they have a concern. In general terms, your child's class teacher would be your first contact when raising something, however if you would like to discuss anything with a member of the senior leadership team, then please do just email or telephone the school office and they will happily get back to you as soon as possible.

EYFS Leader (Nursery and Reception): Mrs Jess Banks
KS1 Leader (Year 1 and Year 2): Miss Jennie Mason
Deputy Head Teacher & SENCo: Miss Helen Funnell
Head Teacher: Mrs Claire Barwell

Learning with Parents



Learning with parents is a charity working to help families enjoy working together. Our Y1 classes have been working with this, new initiative at Maple Infants', since September. On your mobile phone or computer, parent/carers and their child will watch short child led videos explaining the topics the teacher chooses, and then play fun games and activities together using items around the home. The class teacher then receives feedback and photos so they can see how your child is getting on.

On the impact summary report from Learning with Parents for Autumn 2021/22, we are delighted to share that over **282 videos** have been watched, **2189 activities accessed** and over **1450 comments and photos posted!**

We are so pleased to have so many pupils registered and using this initiative.

Miss Noakes
Y1 Class Teacher

Home/School Communication

It was wonderful to be able to welcome families back into school following the lifting of the covid restrictions. We have enjoyed seeing families at our face to face parents evening meetings but also, more recently, at our Parent Workshops which have been held in the school hall. We are inviting families to take part in a survey to help us to evaluate the current communication between home and school. If you have not had a chance to respond to our survey as yet, please do feel free to do so via one of the following links below:

- For families with children in Nursery or Reception: [Nursery & reception Parent Survey](#)
- For families with children in Year 1: [Y1 Parent Survey](#)
- For families with children in Year 2: [Y2 Parent Survey](#)

MAPLE FESTIVAL OF COLOUR



We had the best day celebrating 'Maple Festival of Colour' and enjoyed learning about the Hindu Festival Holi. The children enjoyed a range of activities to learn about the traditionally Indian Festival that is now celebrated all over the world.

Krupa joined KS1 to teach some Indian dances; all children dressed up in colourful clothing and brought all of their best dancing skills. In their classes, they all took part in some colourful art activities.

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At the end of the day, Reception performed their music and puppets to the whole school; they then got the chance to throw coloured confetti over everyone! It was so much fun!

Nursery loved decorating their own T-shirts; they used many different colours and were so excited to wear them.

Thank you so much for providing so many beautiful bright colourful clothes. All staff and children had a wonderful day!

Miss Bunday (RE Leader)

Red Nose Day



On Monday 21st March, all children in Maple Infants' School from Nursery to Year 2 took part in our Red Nose Day sponsored event.

Each class took to the playground with their Red Noses and spoons and competed in some fantastic team races. We loved seeing all the children taking part, cheering each other on and having lots of fun while raising money for those that need it. We are incredibly happy to share that Maple Infants' School raised a total of £184.00.

What a fantastic achievement, we would like to thank all of our families for your contributions and for supporting your children in this event.

Miss Wright (PE Lead)

FOOTBALL EVENTS

Year 1 Girls Football Festival

On Thursday 10th March, we were incredibly happy to take 6 of our Year 1 girls to a local football festival.

This was a non-competitive event, which was a fantastic opportunity to promote football to girls and encourage them to take a more active role in participating in sports, if they wish too. Our children were enthusiastic to have a go, tried their best, did themselves proud and most importantly had a lot of fun!

Congratulations to our team and to the other teams taking part and many thanks to the families that supported this event, all had a lovely day.

Year 2 Football event

On Monday 21st March, Year 2 had the opportunity to take a mixed team of 8 children to a local Football event. They were able to use their knowledge of the game, their skills and their teamwork to develop their own game and compete against many challenging local school teams. It was brilliant to see our children having fun, working together, and thinking tactically and even scoring some spectacular goals!

A massive well done to our Year 2 team and to the parents that were able to support them in this event.

Miss Wright (PE Lead)

Year 1 – Dress as a Royal Day

Year 1 launched their new topic on Friday 22nd April 'Banquets and Battlements, by coming to school dressed as a royal. This helped the children to begin to understand what a **monarch** is. They also learnt about what a coat of arms is and they designed their own.

SUPERBLOOM PROJECT Historic Royal Palaces Project

A HUGE thank you to all of the parents who have joined us in school over the last few weeks to prepare and plant our seeds as part of the Superbloom project. Many of you will be aware that a colourful, dramatic and vibrant field of flowers is being planted in the moat at The Tower of London to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Maple Infants' School are one of 1,500 schools across the UK who are also planting Superblooms this spring. The special seed mix has been provided by Historic Royal Palaces and contains 16 different types of seeds including cornflower, marigold, poppy, daisy, and flax. The seeds have been planted in the large troughs in the playground. We are REALLY looking forward to seeing our blooms grow!



Dates for your Diary:

Thursday 19th May: Reception visit to Richmond Theatre

Friday 27th May: Jubilee Day – we will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on this day in school. The children are invited to come to school on this day wearing red, white and blue. More information about this special day will follow shortly.

Wednesday 22nd June AM: Sports Day (Reception – Year 2). We will be hosting our annual Sports Day on this day at Victoria Park. Parents will be invited to join us for this special event. More information will follow in due course.

Wednesday 29th June AM: RESERVE DAY FOR SPORTS DAY – should for any reason, our Sports day on the 22nd June have to be postponed, we have scheduled this day as our reserve date.

7th – 10th June: Phonics Screening Check week

July: Annual School Reports. All parents will receive a written report in the Summer Term which will highlight the progress which your child/children have made throughout the year. Should you wish to discuss your child's report with their class teacher, you will be able to arrange a meeting with them following receipt of your child's report.

Wednesday 13th July: Celebration of Achievement Evening (5.00 – 6.15pm)

We would like to invite children and their families back to school on this evening to visit their classes and their current class teacher to share and celebrate the children's hard work and success throughout the year. Children who are remaining at Maple next year will also have an opportunity to visit their new classroom. We look forward to welcoming you to this event and celebrating your child's success throughout this year.

Term Dates 2022 – 2023 – please see attached