



Maple Infants' School

December 2018

Newsletter No. 3

Diary Dates:

AUTUMN TERM DATES:

AUTUMN TERM 2:

Monday 29th October -
Friday 21st December

INSET DAYS:

(school closed for pupils)

**Monday 7th January
2019**

Monday 22nd July 2019
Tuesday 23rd July 2019

SPRING TERM DATES:

SPRING TERM 1:

Monday 7th Jan (INSET)
– Friday 15th Feb

SPRING TERM 2:

Monday 25th Feb –
Friday 5th April

HALF TERM:

Monday 18th – Friday
22nd February

SUMMER TERM DATES:

SUMMER TERM 1:

Tuesday 23rd April –
Friday 24th May

SUMMER TERM 2:

Monday 3rd June –
Tuesday 23rd July
(Monday 22nd and
Tuesday 23rd July are
INSET days)

HALF TERM:

Monday 27th – Friday
31st May



This term is always a wonderful time of the year to be in school and the children have really enjoyed taking part in all of the end of term celebrations and activities. I am sure that you will agree that the Christmas productions were **amazing** and every single child shone throughout each performance.

I am particularly pleased to have been well enough to return to work and join in with the festivities at the end of the term following my planned surgery. I would like to thank Miss Funnell for all of her hard work deputising in my absence. I would also like to thank everyone for the kind words and wishes that I have received on my return.

I am really proud to hear how hard the children have worked throughout the term and we are all looking forward to another wonderful term after the break.

Mrs. Barwell



Christmas Fair - Saturday 8th December

It was wonderful to join lots of our families and staff at our Christmas Fair on Saturday 8th December. The school looked amazing and it was delightful to hear families enjoying all of the activities on offer. The choir opened our fair with their beautiful singing and we also enjoyed hearing the talents of the after school violin club - all of our performers were fantastic, thank you for helping to make the Maple Fair such a special event! I would also like to thank all of The Friends for their hard work in organising this wonderful event – I know just how much preparation and organising it takes. Thank you also to all of our families who were able to support our fund raising events this year!



Christmas Jumper Day

We would like to thank our pupils and their families for all of your support for our charity events over the last term. We are delighted to share with you that our last event, Christmas Jumper Day, raised over £250 for Save the Children.

NSPCC Visit to Maple

We are pleased to be able to share with you that we will be working with the NSPCC, the UK's leading children's charity, who'll be delivering their **Speak out. Stay safe** assembly to pupils in KS1 on 22nd January. This is a nationwide programme for every primary-school-aged child in the UK and Channel Islands. With the help of their friendly mascot Buddy, they'll be presenting an assembly to the children (Years 1 and 2 only) in our school.

The NSPCC's work in schools will help encourage conversations about staying safe – and they have a number of child-friendly materials to help you carry on the conversation afterwards. That includes 'Talk PANTS', a simple way for parents to help keep children safe.

The guide uses the rules of PANTS to teach children that their body belongs to them and them alone. You can find out more and download the free resources at nspcc.org.uk/pants

If you'd like to know more about the NSPCC's work, or take a look at the wide range of information and advice which is available for parents and carers, please visit their website nspcc.org.uk/parents

Staying Safe

Our children live in a time where many different home computer games are available to them and children can have great fun playing these games. Although there are many online or gaming resources available which are devised specifically for primary aged children to use, there are also a wide variety of resources which are highly unsuitable for children to play or watch.

All video, computer and downloadable games are given an age rating under the PEGI system (3, 7, 12, 16 and 18). The ratings mean that the content is unsuitable for anyone below that age.

At all times, but particularly as we approach the Christmas break, we urge you to be very aware of what computer games are being played at home and whether your school aged child is playing or watching an older family member play a game that is designed for an older audience.

Please find attached a letter which schools have received from the Independent Chair of the Kington and Richmond LSCB (Local Safeguarding Children Board), Chris Robson, addressed to parents and carers of primary aged children which we feel is important to share with you.

If you would like to discuss your concerns or receive any further advice regarding this matter then please contact either Miss Funnell (Designated Safeguarding Lead) or Mrs Barwell via the school office.

End of the Autumn Term

Please be aware that school will finish at **12 noon (11.45am for morning Nursery) on Friday 21st December**. If you have a child who attends our afternoon Nursery, their last session will be on Thursday 20th December.

INSET DAY

Just a reminder that the spring term begins on **Monday 7th January 2019**, however this is an INSET day and so we look forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Tuesday 8th January 2019**.



All of the staff and Governors at Maple Infants' School would like to wish all of our children and families a very safe and happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

Dates for your Diary: Please see attached flier with upcoming events for families in January.