



# Maple Infants' School

December 2022

Newsletter No. 3

## Diary Dates:

2022 AUTUMN TERM DATES:

### Autumn Term 2:

Mon 31st Oct – Fri 16th Dec

Winter break:  
Mon 19th Dec – Mon 2nd Jan 2023

### Spring Term 1 (2023):

Tues 3rd Jan – Fri 10th Feb 2023

#### INSET DAY:

Tues 3rd Jan 2023

Half Term: Mon 13th – Fri 17th Feb 2023

### Spring Term 2:

Mon 20th Feb – Fri 31st Mar

Spring break:

Mon 3rd Apr – Fri 14th Apr

### Summer Term 1:

Mon 17th Apr – Fri 26th May

Half term: Mon 29th May – Fri 2nd June

Summer Term 2:

Mon 5th Jun – Fri 21st Jul

#### INSET DAYS:

Mon 5th June  
Fri 21st July



Christmas celebrations have certainly taken over Maple during the last couple of weeks and the sprinkling of snow and cold, frosty weather this week has only added to the magic!



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Our Christmas Fair took place on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December and was a **HUGE** success! The school came alive with lots of lovely Christmas activities and games to take part in. Having missed this special event over the last few years, we were delighted to welcome it back and our amazing team from The Friends, really worked incredibly hard to make it the success it was! The school would like to thank everyone who took part in the organisation and delivery of this very special event.



We have also been treated to the most **AMAZING** performances from both Year 1 and Year 2. Each year group shared the Christmas Story with their audience and the children shone throughout their performances! I am sure that you join me in being so incredibly proud of the children.

We are really looking forward to Nursery sing-a-long on Wednesday and also to Reception performances on Thursday. I know that they have been learning all of the words to their songs and are really looking forward to performing to their families. Having seen some of the rehearsals, I know that you will not be disappointed and you too will join me in feeling very proud of them.

Parents in Year R – 2 should now have received information about how to obtain your own USB/DVD of these wonderful events. Due to the age of the children, we do not include Nursery in the filming.

Of course, these performances would not be so successful without the care and dedication shown by the whole of our staff team at Maple and I would like to thank them for all of their care, nurture and hard work.

*Mrs Barwell*

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### **Governor's Corner – news from the governing board**

This academic year the governors are working closely with Maple teachers and staff to create a **library** for all our pupils. This requires extra funding and we hope parents/carers will be able to help support our efforts to build and equip the library. We are also going to be seeking sponsorship from local businesses. If anyone would like to get involved and/or has any suggestions/ideas, please get in touch with me.

We are also looking for **associate board members**. These members do not need to come to full governing board meetings (although always welcome) and usually are associated with one of our three committees – Standards, Teaching and Learning; Children, Families, Community and Safeguarding; Resources and Personnel – as well as taking on specific interests, such as safeguarding, special educational needs, supporting subject leads. Again, if you are interested and would like to discuss this opportunity, please contact me.

Governors are very concerned about the cost-of-living crisis and rising inflation. Government funding cuts and the rising costs of energy, salaries and general supplies has hit the school very hard. Please, if you can support the School Voluntary Fund with a regular payment each week or month – or make sure all your Amazon purchases are via AmazonSmile with contributions to the Maple SVF, we would be most grateful.

Details of how to give to the fund are available on the school website. The fund contributes to things like interactive white boards, needed resources – items that are very much needed but where funding is non-existent. <http://www.mapleinfants.co.uk/maple-infants-school-voluntary-fund.html>

Finally, the governing board would like to wish everyone in the Maple Infants' School community a very, very happy Christmas and a great 2023.

Contact Margie Lindsay, chair of governors: [mlindsay14.314@mapleinfants.co.uk](mailto:mlindsay14.314@mapleinfants.co.uk)

#### **Margie Lindsay**

Chair of governors, Maple Infants' School  
+44 7710 094 337

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### **THANK YOU FROM THE FRIENDS OF MAPLE INFANTS' SCHOOL**

The Friends of Maple Infants' would like to say a massive thank you to the parents, carers and teachers for all your generous donations at the mufiti days, help with running the Fair stalls and, of course, for coming to support the Fair on the day. Thanks to everyone's hard work we raised a total of **£6,000!!** This money will make a huge difference to the school & all the enrichment activities they can provide.

Merry Christmas from The Friends 🎄🎁🎁

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## **THANK YOU FROM THE CHILDREN**

All of the children at Maple send a BIG thank you to The Friends for funding our in school pantomime. The children thoroughly enjoyed both pantomimes, which were performed in school. We are sure that you heard lots about them at home!



## **Staffing Update**

We are sadly saying goodbye to Miss Noakes at the end of the term, who will be leaving Maple. She is relocating and we know that you will join us in thanking her for all of her hard work and wishing her well for the future.

We are delighted to be welcoming Ms Capell who will be teaching Cedar Class alongside Miss Mason.

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## **Results from Design a Christmas Card Competition**

Mrs Fortune is delighted to be able to announce the winners of our design a Christmas Card competition:

### **NURSERY**



Tija

### **RECEPTION**



Artemis

### **YEAR ONE**



Maya

### **YEAR TWO**



Lenny

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR WINNERS!**

Mrs Fortune also held a competition at the Christmas Fair:

### **'Guess who drew the reindeer?'**

Our festive competition was very popular receiving 64 entries! Here are the answers - see if you guessed correctly!



Well done to all the winners, who will receive a chocolate coin!

**Hazel:** Leila, **Oak:** Gabriella, Mabel, Esther & Fergus, **Cedar:** Zack & Lara, **Sycamore:** Esha, Lara & Adrian, **Rowan:** Nyamede, **Silver Birch:** Liam & Ruby

### Y1 Maths Workshop

Thank you to everyone that attended the 'Mathematics Mastery Parent Workshop' and 'Drop In and Join In'.

It was wonderful to open the doors to our school community in order to support our pupils with maths. More importantly, the children thoroughly enjoyed sharing their maths activities and receiving lots of praise in how well they are doing in their maths at school. The children also enjoyed 'Maple Maths Week' where we read a range of maths stories across the school. Do you recognise any of the stories we read?



Miss Mason (Key Stage 1 Lead)

### Book Fair

In November we held the 'Travelling Book Fair' which was a huge success, thank you to all of the families who visited the book fair and purchased a book. Your generosity has raised over £500 towards new books for the school.

Mrs Banks (Early Years Leader)

### Library Visits

Most classes in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have visited Surbiton Library this term, the children had the chance to learn about how the library supports our local community, listen to a story linked to their school topic and explore the children's library. The children really enjoyed their time at the library and they look forward to returning in the Spring term!



Mrs Banks (Early Years Leader)



### **Reading Books**

Over the last year, Maple have spent a significant amount of money on updating our reading scheme and making sure that the children have texts that match our Phonics scheme. Whilst we know that from time to time, books can be lost or damaged, we would like to ask everyone to take particular care over the texts that are brought home. Some of our texts are not being returned and are not being looked after when taken home and so we are already needing to replace them. We are also teaching the children about looking after books and respecting our equipment so your support in ensuring that books are returned on time and in good condition would really be appreciated – many thanks in advance for your support.

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### **Year 1 Explorers Day**

Year 1 had a fabulous day dressed as explorers where they learnt more about the polar regions of our earth. Children learnt about the explorer Matthew Henson and how at first he walked right past the North Pole! They also learnt more about Antarctica and compared this continent with the Arctic.

Mrs Mason (Key Stage 1 Lead)

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### **Pantomime Visit**

Key stage one really enjoyed watching the performance of Aladdin and EYFS were delighted to watch Goldilocks! The travelling pantomime really gave the children an authentic experience of watching a pantomime and they loved joining in during audience participation. Thank you to the Friends for funding this magical event!



(Mrs Banks – Early Years Leader)

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### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

#### **Christmas Lunch – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

Christmas lunch will be served at school, for all children that select school meals, on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022.



### **Prospective Parent Tours**

Prospective parent tours will be taking place next term, for any parent looking to apply for a school or Nursery place for September 2023. Booking for these events are open on our website.

- Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January: 6pm
  - Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January : 9.15 – 10.00am
  - Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February: 9:15 – 10.00am
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### **Changes to the Length of the School Day**

(Main school only - our Nursery hours are not changing)

From January 2023, Maple will be slightly changing their school day to meet the government expectations. The new timings will be as follows:

- 8.45am – 3.15pm (this would be 32.5 hour per week)
- **The school gates will open at 8.30am, the classroom doors at 8.35am and registers will be taken at 8.45am.**
- The school day will still finish at 3.15pm.

All families will have received a letter, which contains more information about this change. If you have not received the letter, please contact the school office for a copy.

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## **Autumn Term ends 12 noon – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

Please ensure your children are collected promptly at this time.

There are no after school clubs including Maple Stars on this day and no afternoon Nursery.



*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!*

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## **Spring Term 2023**

Spring term starts on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January, which is an inset day. The first day for children will be **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023**. We look forward to welcoming the children into school from our new school start time of **8.30am** (gates open) in preparation for register at **8.45am**.

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