



Maple Infants' School

January 2022

Newsletter No. 5

Diary Dates:

2022

SPRING TERM DATES:

SPRING TERM 1:

Tues 4th Jan – Fri 11th Feb
(Tue 4th Jan is INSET day)

SPRING TERM 2:

Mon 21st Feb – Fri 1st April

HALF TERM:

Mon 14th – Fri 18th February

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)

HALF TERM:

Mon 30th May – Fri 3rd June

Together we learn and grow



We have had a very busy start to the spring term across the school and it has been wonderful to see our vision statement echoed in each and every class. The children have also been thinking about how we help each other to learn and grow, which includes looking after our environment and our precious classroom resources so that they are ready for someone else to use when we have finished with them. Learning behaviours across the school are very good and the children are really enthusiastic about their learning which has been wonderful to see.



One of the things which is really important to us in our curriculum offer for your child is their vocabulary development. Research shows us that the number and variety of words known by a child in the early years of their schooling is a significant predictor of their success in later life, so ensuring that the children at Maple are learning and being exposed to rich vocabulary is really important to us. We hope that the weekly overviews, which you receive from your year groups, are also helping to stimulate conversation at home. Talking to you at home about what they are learning will really help your child to develop their confidence and understanding when using new vocabulary.

Mrs Barwell

Jewellery at school

We would like to continue to remind families about our policy regarding the wearing of jewellery in school.

No jewellery should be worn in school (unless for very specific reasons which have been agreed by the head teacher, e.g. watches for year 2, religious or cultural reasons, medical alert jewellery).

Earrings cannot be worn in school and children are unable to take part in PE sessions if they are wearing them. Teaching staff are **not allowed** to remove or cover earrings with a plaster and you may be contacted by the school office should your child arrive at school wearing earrings. **Please contact the school office to arrange an appointment to discuss this with Mrs Barwell if required.**

The only exception to our general no jewellery policy is that we do allow children in year 2, under certain circumstances, to wear watches to school.

Children in year 2 may wear a **simple small watch** with an analogue clock face (rather than digital) as we recognise that this can be a supportive way to help them to develop their understanding of time.



Any watches worn are done so at their own risk and the school will not be held responsible for any broken or lost watches. The children will also be expected to remove their own watches for PE as they should not be worn during this time for health and safety reasons. Teachers will also speak to you about the suitability of your child wearing a watch if they are distracted by it – should your child not be able to wear a watch sensibly then they will be asked not to wear it to school.

Please be aware that fit bits, smart watches, digital watches, watches with cameras, video abilities etc., are not allowed under any circumstances.

Relationships and Sex Education Policy

In our commitment to working in partnership with families, it is important that we share with you the contents of our RSE policy during the review process. Please therefore find attached the draft copy of this policy as well as our PSHE policy for your information. RSE is taught within the personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education curriculum. We use the Jigsaw scheme to deliver PSHE and this has been updated to meet the statutory requirements of RSE. If you have any comments or would like to discuss anything further about either of these policies then please contact Mrs Gowers (PSHE/RSE Subject Lead) or Mrs Barwell via the school office by Monday 7th February 2022. Many thanks.

NURSERY APPLICATIONS – CLOSING DATE

The closing date for an application for a Nursery place in September 2022 is rapidly approaching. All applications must be returned to the school office by **Friday 4th March 2022**. If you have any questions about this, please see our school website, or contact the school office.

Cenotaph Day

Early in December last year, Maple Infants' participated in a national fundraising event in support of the emergency services. Children dressed up in outfits of the emergency services or clothes in the colour of these (red, blue, green or orange) in return for a £1 donation towards the 999 Cenotaph appeal. We would like to thank everyone who kindly donated towards this appeal and we are delighted to share with you that we raised £210.63 to contribute to the fund. The appeal is to raise funds for the UK's first monument to honour everybody who has served in the NHS and emergency services.

School Parliament

Our School Parliamentarians will now have been elected for each class from Reception to year 2 and Mrs Barwell is really looking forward to meeting with them before half term to begin our work together!

Science Project

Well done to all the children who completed the science research homework over the Christmas holidays. Thank you also to parents for helping to make this happen.

I have displayed some of the super work in the school corridor but there was simply too much amazing material to put it all on display!

Mr Hide (Science Lead)

Safer Internet Day – Tuesday 8th February

We understand that our pupils are accessing the internet more and more to play and learn, which is why, each year, we fully support and celebrate Safer Internet Day.

This year it will be held on Tuesday 8th February, although our pupils will take part in activities throughout the week. This year's theme is '**Fun and Games? Exploring respect and relationships online**'. We will be thinking about how it is so important to remember that we don't give out any personal details when communicating online, that people should always be kind and respectful when they are communicating online, as well as reminding ourselves who we could talk to if we see something that we don't like when we are online.

Mrs Garcia (Computing Lead)

Reception Classes

Reception have been busy learning all about our wonderful world. The children have learnt about endangered animals that live in the UK such as hedgehogs and red squirrels as well as those that live in other far away countries such as elephants and tigers.

The children have made observations on how to look after our world, thinking about recycling, saving energy and making sure we look after the animals that live in our world. The children have used their imaginations and clues from our focus text 'The Bog Baby' to design their own Bog Baby and pond, the children will also have visited SASM pond by the end of their term to bring the story setting of 'The Bog Baby' to life.

Alongside this, we have also continued to learn to develop our early reading and writing skills. We have been very busy!

Mrs Banks – Early Years Lead

Parent Champions Drop in Café's for Parenting Support

Please find an attachment with this newsletter giving details of the AFC Parenting Champions drop in sessions at Chessington and Old Malden Children's Centre. The sessions are open to all families who may be experiencing parenting difficulties, no referral needed.

It has been wonderful joining Maple Infants this term, I cannot believe we are at the start of week five already! To say the first half of the spring term has gone by in a flash would be an understatement!

I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the children across Key Stage One, you should be very proud of how welcoming your children are, teaching me their classroom routines and always taking the time to say hello or good morning/afternoon, their friendly faces really do make coming to school each day a joy.

I look forward to getting to know more of the school community over the term.

Mrs Mason – Key Stage 1 Lead

Dates for your Diary:

HALF TERM
Monday 14th – Friday 18th February



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Parent consultation Evenings – Wednesday 16th & Thursday 17th
March 2022.

Year 2 trip – Monday 7th February to the Natural History Museum.