



# Maple Infants' School

March 2018

Newsletter No. 5

## Diary Dates:

### **SPRING BONNET**

**PARADE:** Thursday  
29<sup>th</sup> March

### **SPRING TERM ENDS AT 2PM ON THURSDAY 29TH MARCH 2018**

## **NEXT INSET DAY:**

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018

## **SUMMER TERM 2018 DATES:**

### **SUMMER TERM 1:**

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April -  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018

### **SUMMER TERM 2:**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June -  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2018

### **HALF TERM:**

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May -  
Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June

### **Bank Holiday:**

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May

## **INSET DAYS:**

(school closed for  
pupils)

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2018



*Thank you very much!*

This term has been an incredibly exciting term full of wonderful learning opportunities for the children. They have explored learning off site through a variety of visits and trips including Adventure Days, The Lookout Discovery Centre and the Polka Theatre as well as experiencing lots of in school special events and inviting some visitors in to share their skills. Our visitors include the author Tim Knapman, Chocolate Films Animation and a flamenco dancer.

Many of these wonderful enriching experiences are only made possible due to the dedication of staff who take great care to plan these inspiring events. In addition to this many of our events are also funded by The Friends of Maple Infants' School so they would not take place without their fantastic support and tireless fundraising. We know that so many of our families support our school in many different ways to enrich the learning experiences of our children.

From all of the children and staff at Maple – thank you very much – we know how much time and energy you dedicate to supporting our wonderful school!

*Mrs. Barwell*

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*Together we learn and grow*

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## **Staffing**

We have some changes to our staffing team which we would like to make you aware of.

- Just after the half term break we said goodbye to our Office Manager, Kate Martin. We would like to thank Ms Martin for all of her hard work and wish her well for her house move and for the future as she has recently relocated.
- We are delighted to inform you that we have successfully recruited a new Office Manager and look forward to welcoming them to Maple after the spring break.

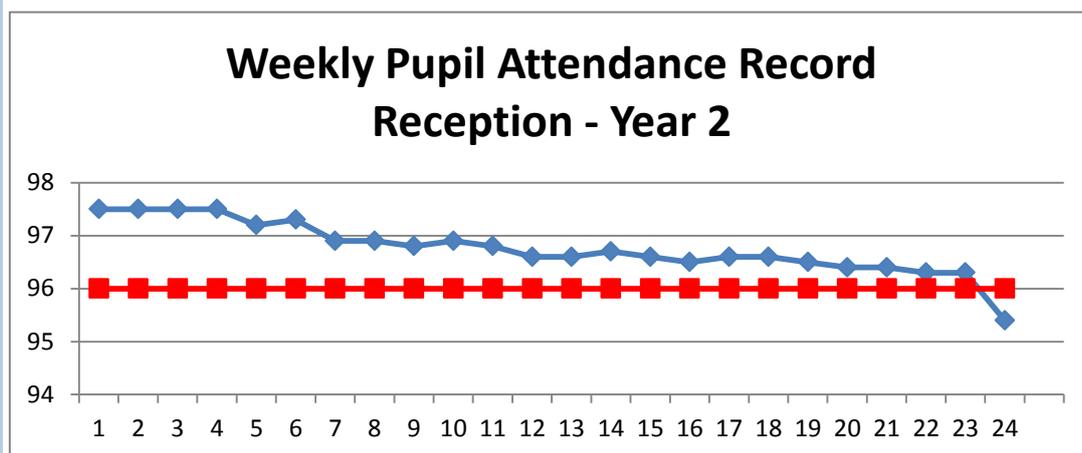
## **Attendance**

We hope that all families have now received our updated information regarding attendance and absence and that our procedures are clear to all of our families. Poor attendance can significantly impact the progress a pupil can make and we are striving to ensure that **all** pupils reach their full potential at Maple and are ready to move onto their next stage of learning.

Whilst we recognise that each family's circumstances are different and that illnesses can be more prevalent at certain times of the year, especially over the winter months, it is clear to observe from our data overleaf that our whole school attendance is steadily reducing. We are striving to achieve the best attendance for all children and we are very much hoping that with warmer weather on the way and continued support from families that our attendance as a school will increase. You will receive a letter from Mrs Barwell if your child's attendance is a specific concern.

Please see a member of the office team or Mrs Barwell if you would like any support regarding your child's attendance.

Miss Funnell has been monitoring our weekly attendance figures for Reception to Year 2 since September and the graph below demonstrates the results;



The red line denotes our school target for whole school attendance and the blue line denotes actual school attendance

#### Lunchbox Contents

We would like to remind any families who provide their children with a packed lunch that as a school we promote healthy eating and would like to ask families to be mindful of this when preparing packed lunches.

#### School Meals – ISS Catering

Could we please remind all families who currently order hot meals from ISS to remember to check that a meal has been ordered for your child/children at the **beginning of the summer term – before the children return to school**. Unfortunately the school has no way of alerting you if a school meal has not been ordered for your child until that lunchtime. The catering company only provide meals for the exact number of children who have pre-ordered meals.

#### Enrichment Events over the last term

- Pleiades Sports Coach (Matt Tidbury) has been continuing to successfully support weekly team teaching within KS1 throughout the term. The children thoroughly enjoy the sessions which they have been taking part in and have really been developing their skills within PE.
- The Dinosaur workshop was a ROARING success in Reception earlier in the term. The children collected clues and learnt LOTS of exciting dinosaur facts! We are sure that you enjoyed hearing these at home too!
- Reception have also been exploring health eating and the concept of 5 a day by choosing healthy pancake toppings
- Year 2 went to The Polka Theatre to see The Snow Queen. The performance really supported their topic and helped to enrich their literacy and writing, which as you know is one of our whole school priorities
- Year 1 became scientists when they visited The Lookout Discovery Centre and carried out lots of hands on science experiences
- The whole school took part in Safer Internet Day and carried out tasks which reminded us how to stay safe online
- The children took part in an exciting Maths Week just before half term. Staff inspired maths learning during the week by supporting the children to complete a wide range of mathematical activities. Children and their families really enjoyed completing the Maths Trail around Surbiton – we had so many entries – thank you to everyone who took part! The week ended on a Crystal Maze themed challenge day where Reception - Year 2 classes moved around the school to complete challenges set by different teachers and win those all-important crystals! The school sparkled with fantastic mathematicians as well as winning crystals!
- Literacy and Film Week took place more recently and every year group took part in activities which supported literacy through film. A princess even visited Nursery and read The Princess and the Pea! Freshwater Films joined Reception

for a 'Dinosaur Story Hunt' Workshop and author Tim Knapman visited year one and then signed copies of his books. Chocolate Films Animation worked with Year 2 to create their own animations. The week concluded with a wonderful celebration and the staff and children were invited to dress up as a favourite film or book character

- Just last week we celebrated our annual Multi-Cultural Day which was a huge success! Year R to 2 took part in Flamenco Dancing Workshops on Thursday and then each class took a continent to find out more about and in the afternoon we build a jigsaw map of the world and shared facts we had learnt. The children and staff all looked amazing wearing clothes which represented different countries and cultures from all over the world. The Friends hosted a wonderful World Food Event at the end of the day, which was opened by Year 2 choir. Many children and their families were able to take a culinary tour around the world with the amazing food which was on offer – thank you to everyone who contributed to this event

#### **Events to look forward to**

Our annual Easter Bonnet Parade will take place on **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March**. We are inviting each child to wear a special hat for this event. We know that lots of families enjoy making their spring bonnets, so please continue to be as creative as you like or feel free to provide a summer hat or a pair of bunny ears for your child to wear if they would like to. Our parade will take place in the playground, but please be aware that this event will only take place if the weather is fine and dry. Children are invited to bring their spring bonnet to school on that day and parents are invited to attend the short parades.

#### **The timings for the parades are as follows;**

- **9.15am – Nursery AM and Reception Classes**
- **1.25pm Nursery PM and Years 1 and 2**

**Please understand that you will NOT be able to take photographs during this celebration – many thanks.**

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#### **KEY ASSESSMENT DATES – for your information**

There are 3 key assessments periods for the following year groups; Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

- Reception - Early Years Foundation Stage Profile is due to be completed for all of our pupils by the end of the summer term
- Year 1 - Phonics screening check will take place for all Year 1 pupils during the week beginning Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2018. Some Year 2 pupils may also be required to take part in the check again – Year 2 parents will be informed if your child will be taking part in the check again
- Year 2 - end of key stage 1 test period takes place throughout the whole month of May

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#### **END OF TERM**

Just a reminder that the Spring term ends this week. School will close for the spring break at **2pm on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March**.



Wishing you all a wonderful spring break.  
We look forward to welcoming all of the children back to school on  
**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April.**