



Maple Infants' School

May 2017

Newsletter No. 7

Diary Dates:

Year 2 Choir

Infant Music Festival
Monday 19th June

Sports Day

Wednesday 28th June

Year 2 - Country

Dancing Festival
Tuesday 4th July

Celebration of

Achievement Evening

Thursday 6th July
5-6.15pm

SUMMER TERM DATES:

SUMMER TERM:

Tuesday 18th April -
Friday 21st July (INSET
DAY - school finishes
Thursday 20th July for
pupils)

HALF TERM:

Monday 29th May -
Friday 2nd June

INSET DAYS:

(school closed for
pupils)

Friday 26th May 2017

Friday 21st July 2017

Bank Holidays

Monday 17th April

Monday 1st May

The summer term is always incredibly busy and this one has certainly not let us down so far! This is also the term when we begin to consider the transition of our pupils as they complete the final term in their current year group. Whether your child is moving into one of our Reception, Year 1 or year 2 classes or moving onto a new school we are sure that we join you in amazement at the speed of which time has flown by! However, there is still much excitement to be had in the rest of the term and we all really look forward to sharing many of these experiences with you.

Mrs. Barwell

Staffing

Our music specialist, Mrs Wright, begins her maternity leave at the start of half term and we know that you will join us in wishing her well. We look forward to hearing her exciting news and will let you know as soon as we hear.

Our Vision and Mission Statement

As part of our plan to develop our school further we are currently in the process of reviewing our school vision and mission statement. These two key documents provide a collective understanding to demonstrate what the school does and the school's vision for the future. Our school mission statement will outline what the school does already on a day to day basis, whilst our vision will outline our goals for the future. We have been working on this document over the past academic year alongside our governors and we are looking forwards to sharing this further with our children and their families. We will be sending this document to you shortly and look forward to receiving your feedback.

Parent and Pupil Questionnaire

Many thanks again to all of our families who responded to our questionnaire. Staff and Governors have taken time to review your responses and we look forward to sharing the outcomes and our future actions with you soon.

Warmer Weather

We are all very much hoping that the weather will warm up as we move towards the summer months. Can we please remind families to ensure that the children come to school with a hat, water bottle and sun cream already applied when the warmer weather arrives.

Uniform

As you are aware we launched our new school uniform last September and to support families have provided a year of transition with both the old and new uniform in place. May we please remind families that all children should be wearing our new uniform only from September 2017. Many thanks in advance for your support.

Reception Open Morning

We were delighted to be able to welcome Reception families into class on Wednesday 3rd May to see their children in action! We received some fantastic feedback from families who attended this event and many families reported how active and engaged the children were with their learning every day. Our pupils are always very busy learners but they are also very well behaved and it was lovely to be able to share a snap shot of everyday life in Reception. We know that the children took great pride and pleasure in sharing their learning space with their families too! We are hoping to arrange similar sessions for families of pupils within Nursery, Year 1 and 2 by the end of the July.

ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

What a celebration!

Miss Funnell and Mrs Barwell were privileged to be invited to join Year 2 to hear their experiences following the completion of their Arts Discover Award. Year 2 pupils have thoroughly enjoyed working alongside a group of students from local secondary schools and meet a number of local artists who have shared their particular talents and skills. Ms Brookes, Ms Blocksidge, Mrs Gowers and Miss Majurey carefully assessed each pupil's project and these assessments were accredited by Anstee Bridge. We are so very proud of all of the year 2 pupils for their hard work and every child within year 2 has successfully achieved this award. We would also like to thank Ms Brookes for organising this wonderful event and coordinating so

carefully with Anstee Bridge to make it such a wonderful success!

Hever Castle Trip – Year 1

Year 1 thoroughly enjoyed a successful trip to Hever Castle on Thursday 11th May. The children gained a first-hand understanding of the features of a castle and were able to really understand how these protected a castle in the past. Our staff also encouraged pupils to extend their understanding of the science curriculum by exploring the different trees and plants which are found in the beautiful castle grounds. The children found many of the trees which our classes are named after. Being able to visit the castle has continued to spark the enthusiasm of our young learners and it has been wonderful to see the quality of learning which has taken place following this trip. Mr Wells was delighted to observe the excellent behaviour of our pupils. What a wonderful day. Well done Year 1!

Year 1 are celebrating the end of their topic by holding a medieval banquet next week.

Year 2 – Visit to Surbiton Synagogue

Over the last couple of weeks Year 2 have visited Surbiton Synagogue in Uxbridge Road. This trip has supported the children's knowledge and understanding of a religious building within our local community. In addition to this it has also helped to promote the British Values and supported pupils to develop respect and an understanding of the religious beliefs of others.

Flora and Fauna Fun day – Reception – Year 2

On Tuesday 16th May 2017 the children from Reception to Year Two joined in with an exciting Flora and Fauna Fun day which links to our science curriculum. Each teacher chose an animal or plant to share with the children. Throughout the day each class moved around the school and worked with different teachers to take part in a variety of activities relating to the chosen animal or plant.

Teacher of:	Animal / Plant
Laurel	Frogs-amphibian
Chestnut	Sharks-fish
Hazel	Giraffes-mammal
Cedar	Whales-mammal
Oak	Carnivorous plants
Copper Beech	Herbs
Sycamore	Dandelions
Silver Birch	Sunflowers
Rowan	Snakes-reptile



Thank you to Mrs Orchard, our Science Lead, and all of the staff for a fantastic day!

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.

Attendance

As families are aware Maple Infants' School monitors pupil attendance very carefully and any attendance which reaches 90% or lower is considered as persistent absence. We will therefore continue to write to the families of any pupil whose attendance is currently lower than 90% to inform them of this. Whilst we understand that for some pupils this attendance may be linked to sickness or authorised absence for exceptional circumstances we would like families to be fully aware of their pupils attendance and to offer to meet families to explore how we can work together to improve their child's attendance where possible.

Private Fostering – Are you looking after someone else's child?

If you are looking after someone else's child (under the age of 16, or under 18 if disabled) you may be a private foster carer. Private fostering is an arrangement between a parent and a carer. This is an arrangement between a parent and a carer. This arrangement does not involve the council and the child is not in care. A private foster carer is someone who isn't a parent or a close relative (step parents, grandparent, sister or brother, aunt or uncle.) A carer could be from extended family, a family friend or someone unknown to the child. **Please let Miss Funnell or Mrs Barwell know if you feel that you may be privately fostering a child or would**

like to discuss this further.

Information for the families of Year 2 pupils who are going to SASM in Year 3

As the pupils in Year 2 have been together in their class since Reception, St Andrews and St Marks have requested that classes are re-organised for pupils moving to them for Year 3 again this year. There are many reasons for this to take place, including support for pupils to widen both their working and also friendship groups, it enables pupils to develop their resilience, provides an opportunity to achieve a good gender balance and also to balance ability levels. As Maple staff know your children so well, we will be providing SASM with suggested classes towards the second half of the summer term. This will be completed carefully and sensitively and we will invite pupils to identify 5 friends whom they would like to be with and guarantee them being with at least 1 of their closer friends. We will inform parents when we are inviting year 2 pupils to do this. Please see your child's class teacher if you would like to discuss this further

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Infant Music Festival – Monday 19th June



Our Year 2 choir have been invited, alongside other schools, to take part in the Infant Music Festival at The Rose Theatre on Monday 19th June. You will receive more information shortly from Ms Brookes if your child is involved.

Sports Day - Wednesday 28th June – morning only (For Reception, Years 1 and 2)

We have planned to hold our Sports Day this year at Balaclava Park (weather permitting) for Reception, Years 1 and 2. Parents and families are invited to join us at this event. The additional space which Balaclava Park provides enables ample space for the children to take part in events and also an opportunity for you to watch your child. We will forward more information to you about this event shortly.

Country Dancing Festival – Tuesday 4th July

Maple Infants' School is taking part in the Country Dancing Festival again this year. A group of pupils in Year 2 have been invited to take part in this celebration. Families will receive more information regarding this after half term.

Celebration of Achievement Evening - Thursday 6th July 5 – 6.15pm

Following the wonderful success of our 'Celebration of Achievement' evening last year we will be repeating this event this year. The event this year will be held on Thursday 6th July between 5-6.15pm and we would like to invite the children and their families back to school where their work will be displayed. This event will be instead of the summer term parents evening and will offer an opportunity for everyone to celebrate the pupils' achievement throughout the year. Prior to this event, we will be announcing which class your child will be going into for September 2017. This will give children in Reception and Year 1 an opportunity to visit their new classroom and to meet their new class teacher.

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 12th June. 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 assessments will take place throughout the month of May for all Year 2 pupils
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We would like to remind families that there is an INSET day on Friday 26th May so the last day for the children to attend school before the half term is Thursday 25th May. School will close at the usual time of 3.15pm on this day.



We wish all of our children and their families a wonderful half term and look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 5th June.