



Maple Infants' School

October 2016

Newsletter No. 3

Diary Dates:

Monday 14th November
- World Diabetes Day
(Mufti - Onesie or blue)

Individual photos - 23rd November

Nasal Flu Vaccinations
in School for Year 1 & 2
children - Thursday 29th
November

Christmas Jumper Day
- Friday 16th December

Parent Consultation Evenings

Wednesday 16th
November 3.45-6.45pm

Thursday 17th November
3.45-6.45pm

Extra Parent
Consultation for Nursery
on Friday 18th November
- am



CHRISTMAS SHOWS

9.30am Tuesday 6th
December **Year 1** Dress
Rehearsal

Wednesday 7th
December - 9.30am &
2.15pm - **Year 1**
Christmas Show

9.30am Thursday 8th
December **Year R** Dress
Rehearsal

Friday 9th December -
9.30am & 2.15pm -
Year R Christmas Show

9.30am Tuesday 13th
December **Year 2** Dress
Rehearsal

Wednesday 14th
December - 9.30am &
2.15pm - **Year 2**
Christmas Show

At this time of the year our Key Stage Leaders alongside Miss Funnell and I meet our Class Teachers to discuss the year ahead. It has been wonderful to hear the progress which the children are making already and their shared love of learning. Part of our discussion has also highlighted the high expectations which have been set for each pupil as they progress throughout the year. As Inclusion Manager and Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo), Miss Funnell has taken a particular interest in discussing the support and specific strategies available for some pupils to assist their learning and progress. Miss Funnell is very happy to speak to any parents whom may be concerned that their child may have additional needs.

Mrs. Barwell

Thursday 20th October: EB Awareness Day – Show your Seams!

Thank you to all of our families who donated money during our EB Awareness Day – 'Show your Seams' in October. We raised £251.45 which will be donated to DEBRA.



Poppy Appeal

Thank you also to all of our families who have donated to The Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal this year. We have talked to the children about poppies and why they are worn at this time of the year. The children held a one minute silence in their classes at 11o'clock on 11th November.

School Parliament

We are very pleased to be able to announce that this term Maple Infants' School will be electing their members of the School Parliament for this academic year. A School Parliament is a group of pupils who are elected by their peers to represent the views of all pupils to improve their school. School Parliaments can also propose and take forward initiatives and projects on behalf of their peers, and can often be involved in strategic planning and processes such as the School Development Plan and governing body meetings.

Class Teachers will begin to talk to their classes about the role of a Member of our Parliament and the benefits of being an MP. For example;

Being a member of our School Parliament is a really responsible job and can help pupils to:

- Enjoy and feel empowered by their education
- Feel that their school responds to their needs and views
- Have an opportunity to let adults know their feelings and opinions about things that affect them
- Have a say about decisions, and to play an active role in making their school a better place
- Develop life skills through participation

We will be asking children from each class to decide whether they would like to become MPs and representatives for their class. We will then ask them to share why they think that they would be a good MP. Elections will take place in classes during the week of Monday 21st November and each class will vote for two people to become their class MPs.

ENRICHMENT

One of our whole school projects and areas for development over the next 18 months is to carefully consider the enrichment opportunities which our children experience throughout the year. As part of this commitment we will be sharing and celebrating with you the exciting opportunities which we are organising for your children.

Football Tournament

One of our first events has been a 6-a-side Football Tournament which some of our Year 2 pupils took part in on Wednesday 19th October at Chessington Community College Sports Centre.

Eight children from Year 2 were selected to play against five other schools from the Surbiton area. Our children showed great determination throughout the tournament and were able to work together as a team. The tournament focused on participation, so there were no winners or losers – but two players from each team were awarded medals for Sportsmanship.

Well done to all of the children who took part.

AUTUMN TERM

DATES:

AUTUMN TERM 1:

Monday 5th September -
Friday 21st October

AUTUMN TERM 2:

Monday 31st October -
Wednesday 21st
December

**SCHOOL FINISHES AT
12 NOON ON
WEDNESDAY 21ST
DECEMBER**

**Please be aware that
the last session for
afternoon nursery will
be on Tuesday 20th
December**

HALF TERM:

Monday 24th - Friday
28th October

SPRING TERM DATES:

SPRING TERM:

Tuesday 3rd January
2017 - Friday 31st March

HALF TERM:

Monday 13th - Friday
17th February

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 21st October
Friday 10th February
2017

Friday 26th May 2017
Friday 21st July 2017

Year 2 Trip to Kew Gardens

Year 2 had a wonderful day at Kew Gardens. The children have been learning about rainforests and other habitats and were able to see plants that we have been talking about in class. One pupil was excited to find out that the cactus plant can store the water it needs for life in the desert and another shared his amazement of the size of the giant waterlilies. We all were charmed by the friendly iguana that came out to meet us.

'Open the Book'



Last week we welcomed a small group of volunteers from an organisation called '**Open the Book**'. Our 'Open the Book' team have been performing at a local school for the last five years. They are from a range of local church parishes and will perform to the full school in assembly for 10-15 minutes every Monday. The volunteers learn a simple scripted story from the Bible and these stories are presented in an engaging way, with lots of props, drama, mime and costume. If you require more information please speak to Mrs Orchard of Oak class. <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/open-the-book/>

Choir Events

The Choir will be singing at a number of events throughout this term;

- Saturday 19th November at 11am – St Andrews Christmas Fair
- Thursday 24th November at 3.30pm - Surbiton Light Switch On
- Saturday 10th December – time to be arranged - Maple Christmas Fair

Families should have received a letter from Mrs Wright about these events – please contact the school office or Mrs Wright if you would like any further information.

Muffi Days

Monday 14th November – World Diabetes Day

On World Diabetes Day we will be inviting the children to come to school dressed in a onesie or wearing something blue to raise awareness of diabetes. The suggested donation is £1.

Friday 2nd & 9th December – The Friends' Muffi Days – in support of the Maple Christmas Fair – decorated sweet cone and bottle tombola.

Friday 16th December – Christmas Jumper Day

Last year Maple staff joined in with Save the Children's the national Christmas Jumper Day and raised money for the charity. Many families asked if the children could join in so this year we will be inviting all members of our school community to wear their Christmas jumper to school and bring a donation to raise money for Save the children.

Parent Consultation Evenings

As you are aware we are holding our Autumn term parents evening on Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th November (3.45- 6.45pm). This is an opportunity for you to book a 10 minute time slot to discuss your child's progress at school with their class teacher. The school will close at the normal time of 3.15pm on these evenings, but the appointments will not begin until 3.45pm. Families will not need to visit their child's classroom on this evening as all appointments will be held in the school hall. To provide an opportunity for children to share their learning with their families we will be inviting parents and carers to take their child's book home on the evening of your appointment so that your child can share with you their learning. Could we please ask families to ensure that pupil books are returned in your child's book bag the next day – many thanks in advance for your cooperation and understanding of the importance of this.

School Dinners – 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 each week. 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.

The Saying Goodbye Project

The Saying Goodbye Project is holding 'drop in' sessions on November 17th for anyone who knows of a child or young person who has been bereaved. Please see the attached leaflet for more information.

Flu Vaccination for children in Years 1 and 2 – Tuesday 29th November

Our Community Health Care Team are offering a flu vaccination through a nasal spray to children in Years 1 and 2. A letter has been sent to families requiring parental consent either to receive the vaccination or if you would prefer your child not to receive this. Please return your forms as soon as possible to help the team to plan this event.

Future Events

We are holding some parent workshops in our school hall on **Wednesday 11th January** linked to specific areas of learning.

- 9.15 – 10.15am OR 6 – 7pm **Phonics Workshop** –All Parents and carers are very welcome to attend this event, however this session will be particularly focussed on supporting children who are early in their understanding of phonics or finding phonics difficult to grasp
 - 7 – 8pm **End of KS1 Assessment Evening** - All parents and carers with children in **Year 2** are invited to attend this event.
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Admissions

Admissions procedures have begun for school places in September 2017.

- Children born between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013 are due to start primary school (Reception class) in September 2017.
- Children born between 1 September 2009 and 31 August 2010 who currently attend infant school are due to transfer to junior school in September 2017. As Maple is an Infant school, families who have children in Year 2 will need to apply for a junior school place.

If you live within in the borough, you can apply for a school place online using the eAdmissions system (www.eadmissions.org.uk). If you don't live in the borough, you need to apply through your own council and you can include Kingston schools on your application form. Kingston Primary School Admissions Brochure (www.kingston.gov.uk/downloads/download/217/primary_school_admissions_booklet) guides you through the process - you should read this before making your online application. Please let the office, Miss Funnell or Mrs. Barwell know if you would like any support with your application.

Reminder

Thank you to all of our families for reminding their children to walk their scooters or bicycles within the school playground. This has really helped to ensure that our playground is a safe environment especially during busy times.

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 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 myself know if you feel that you may be privately fostering a child or would like to discuss this further.**

Keeping Safe

We have recently talked to the children in assemblies about keeping safe, especially at this time of year, as families are often out and about when it is dark and many celebrations take place during this season. We have discussed how to be safe and be seen as well as raising specific awareness of firework safety.

End of the Autumn Term

Please be aware that school will finish at 12 noon on Wednesday 21st December. If you have a child who attends our afternoon Nursery, their last session will be on Tuesday 20th December.