



Maple Infants' School

October 2018

Newsletter No. 2

Diary Dates:

AUTUMN TERM DATES:

AUTUMN TERM 1:

Monday 4th September -
Friday 19th October

AUTUMN TERM 2:

Monday 29th October -
Friday 21st December

HALF TERM:

Monday 22nd - Friday 26th
October

INSET DAYS:

(school closed for pupils)

Friday 19th October

Monday 7th January
2019

Monday 22nd July 2019
Tuesday 23rd July 2019

SPRING TERM DATES:

SPRING TERM 1:

Monday 7th Jan (INSET) –
Friday 15th Feb

SPRING TERM 2:

Monday 25th Feb –
Friday 5th April

HALF TERM:

Monday 18th – Friday
22nd February

SUMMER TERM DATES:

SUMMER TERM 1:

Tuesday 23rd April –
Friday 24th May

SUMMER TERM 2:

Monday 3rd June –
Tuesday 23rd July
(Monday 22nd and
Tuesday 23rd July are
INSET days)

HALF TERM:

Monday 27th – Friday
31st May



The signs of autumn seem to be rapidly appearing as the term progresses! It is wonderful to see all of the changing colours and the different fruit and vegetables appearing in the supermarkets – I even caught the smell of a few bonfires over the last weekend. Autumn is truly a season which is experienced through all of our senses! The children's shared Autumn poem has really made me think of childhood memories and especially of seeing the season through the eyes of our pupils. One of the seasonal highlights for Maple is always our Harvest Celebration at St Andrew's Church. It was another wonderful celebration and a special time for us to come together. Year 2 read beautifully and the singing from all of the children really did fill the church. Many thanks to Reverend Stanier for welcoming us so warmly.

I would also like to thank Mrs Brookes and our fantastic team of staff who put together the Harvest celebration and prepared the children for this wonderful event.

Many thanks to everyone who has kindly donated food for our local food bank. We will be delivering these towards the end of the week and we know that they will be gratefully received.

Mrs. Barwell

PARENT CONSULTATION EVENINGS – Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th November

You should have received a letter explaining how to book your appointment via ParentMail. This booking system will go live at **6pm on Thursday 18th October** to enable working and non-working parents' equal opportunity to access the system and book their own appointments.

Chicken Pox

We would like to make families aware that we have a number of children absent due to Chicken Pox. As you are aware chicken pox is a common illness in childhood and is highly infectious. Public Health England advise that cases of chickenpox are generally infectious from 2 days before the rash appears to 5 days after the onset of rash. Although the usual exclusion period is 5 days, all lesions should be crusted over before children return to nursery or school. The following NHS website has more information;
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/chickenpox/>

Christmas Card Competition – 'Peace at Christmas'

We are delighted to have been invited, along with other Kingston schools, to take part in a Christmas Card Competition by The Rt Hon Sir Edward Davey (MP). The overall winner will have their design printed as an official Christmas card and will be invited with their family to have tea at the House of Commons with Edward Davey. More information will follow just before half term and the break is the perfect time to be creative!



Poppy Appeal

We will again be raising money to donate to The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal this year. Poppies and other items will be available in the playground at drop off and pick up times after half term should you wish to donate to this charity. As we move into November we will be talking to the children about poppies and why they are worn at this time of the year.

Change of weather

We have generally been really lucky with the weather over the last half term however we are sure that it won't be very long before we notice the cooler temperatures. As this time approaches can we please remind families that children need to wear jumpers/cardigans and coats to school. The children will be learning and playing both inside and outside of their classrooms so it is really important that they have named uniform in school. We would also like to remind families that tracksuit trousers will need to be added to the children's PE kit as the winter approaches to ensure that the children can access PE outside. Maple fleeces can be purchased from PMG in Tolworth if any families wish to do so.



Keeping Safe

The clocks go back on 28th October, which will mean that families may be travelling to and from school with less daylight and may be out and about when it is dark especially as many celebrations take place during this season. After half term we will be talking to the children in assemblies about keeping safe, especially at this time of year. We are preparing to discuss how to be safe and be seen as well as raising specific age appropriate awareness of firework safety.

Attendance

As you are aware we continually monitor attendance throughout the term and are happy to share with you our year group attendance figures to date:



Year N (am/pm)	92%
Year R	97.9%
Year 1	96.9%
Year 2	97.9%

We recognise that each family's circumstances are different and that illnesses can be more prevalent at certain times of the year, especially through the autumn and winter so please do contact the school by 9.30am if your child is unwell and unable to attend school.

Building Work

Despite the recent rain, our building team have been able to remain on schedule and are due to complete their works over the half term break. We are really pleased that our new roof is now in place and the scaffolding should all be removed when the children return to school after half term.

New Play Equipment for the outdoor learning area (Reception)

We are really delighted to share with families that over the half term break we will be installing some new play equipment to support our pupils within the early years. This equipment will be placed within the outdoor learning space which our Reception pupils use on a daily basis and has been specifically designed to support the children's physical development and their gross motor skills. We look forward to seeing the children enjoy exploring this new learning space over the term ahead.

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

Dates for your Diary: Please see the attached Autumn Term dates for the second half of the term.