



# Maple Infants' School

September 2016

Newsletter No. 1

## Diary Dates:

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup>  
September - Year 2  
Parents Welcome  
Meeting

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September  
- Year 1 Parents  
Welcome Meeting

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>  
September - Year R  
Parents Welcome  
Meeting

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> – Friday  
16<sup>th</sup> September 'Roald  
Dahl Week' (Marking  
100 years since the birth  
of Roald Dahl)

'Dahlicious Dress Up  
Day' – Friday 16<sup>th</sup>  
September

## HARVEST FESTIVAL

Will take place at St  
Andrews and St Marks  
Church during the week  
beginning 3<sup>rd</sup> October –  
we will let you know  
which morning asap

## AUTUMN TERM DATES:

**AUTUMN TERM 1:**  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September -  
Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October

**AUTUMN TERM 2:**  
Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October -  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December

**HALF TERM:**  
Monday 24<sup>th</sup> - Friday 28<sup>th</sup>  
October

**INSET DAYS:**  
(school closed for pupils)

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September  
Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2017  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2017  
Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2017

## **Welcome back to school!**



Welcome back to school everyone! It has been wonderful to hear all of the children's adventures from over the summer holidays. We are delighted to see how excited the children are to be back at school and how well they have settled into the school routine. I would also like to welcome all of our new pupils and families into the Maple community and also to our new members of staff. We are looking forward to working in partnership with our families to support our pupils to reach their full potential and we know that we have a very exciting year ahead!

Mrs. Barwell

### New Staff

We are delighted to be able to welcome some new staff to our team;

- Teachers Rosie Blocksidge, Jennie Brookes, Narinder Burchill, Kirsty Craik and Jessica Dowd
- Gary Waldock has joined the EYFS team and is a Teaching Assistant within Hazel Class
- Susanna Goffe has joined our KS1 Team and is working within Oak Class as a Teaching Assistant
- Vanessa Altun has also joined our EYFS Team and will be joining Laurel Class as a Teaching Assistant next week
- We are currently finalising arrangements following the recruitment process for our Office Manager and will be able to provide families with more information shortly

### Uniform

The children are looking very smart in their school uniforms. As you are aware, our school uniform plays a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of our school and I would like to thank all of our families in advance for your support ensuring that your child/children come to school in the correct school uniform. For this academic year the children are able to attend school in either our previous uniform (available at half price from the school office) or our new uniform (available from PPG in Tolworth).

Please can we ask families to ensure that their child/children attend school wearing the correct footwear. They should be wearing sensible black closed toe shoes. Trainers, boots, flip-flops or fashion footwear are not permitted.

### PE kit

Please also make sure that your child has the correct PE kit in school as they will not be able to take part unless they have the appropriate kit.

### Year Group Welcome Meetings

Each year group team will be holding a 'Welcome Meeting' for parents during the first few weeks of term. This provides families with an opportunity to meet the teachers and find out what your child will be learning about. You will also have an opportunity to ask any questions. These meetings will be held in the school hall at 2.30pm on the following days:

- Year 2 - Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September
- Year 1 - Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September
- Year R – Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September

For parents who are unable to attend these meetings, any handouts will be sent to you after the event and any direct information will be placed on our website.

Staff are always very happy to discuss any concerns which you may have with you. Please do speak to your child's class teacher to arrange a suitable time.

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#### 'Dahlicious Dress Up Day' – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September

We are celebrating the work of Roald Dahl between Monday 12<sup>th</sup> and Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September. On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September we will finish our week by inviting all of the children to come to school dressed as their favourite Roald Dahl character or the children may wear anything yellow as this was Roald Dahl's favourite colour. We will also be using this day to raise money for Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity which helps to make life better for seriously ill children in the UK. We would welcome any donations which families would like to make (the suggested donation from the charity is £1 per pupil). Many thanks in advance for your support.

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#### Attendance

We are striving to ensure that every child reaches their full potential at Maple Infants' School and ensuring that children attend school on time and regularly is part of our commitment in partnership with families. We will therefore be continuing to regularly monitor children's attendance to school. Our Education Welfare Officer (EWO) supports the school and families when the absence of a pupil is lower than expected and the EWO will make contact with families if absence is a significant concern. As well as continuing our half termly attendance awards we will also be introducing a weekly class award for the class with the best attendance of that week. This class will then look after our attendance mascot 'EDI' – Every Day's Important. We understand that from time to time children can be poorly and need to miss school to recover or attend medical appointments, however any other absence requires advance permission from the school and absence requests will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. Please contact the Office for further information or see Miss Funnell or Mrs Barwell.

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#### Reminder

May I please remind families to ensure that their children walk scooters or bicycles within our school playground. Our playground can become very busy especially during drop off and pick up times and we have many younger members of our community to look out for. Many thanks!

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#### Data Collection

Our office team will shortly be sending data collection sheets to all of our families who have children in Years 1 or 2. This information is the most recent information which we have regarding your child. Could you please check that all of the information is correct and let the school office know as soon as possible if any details need changing. These include your contact numbers and it is really important that these are up to date so that we could contact you in an emergency.

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#### Celebration Assemblies

When your child celebrates their birthday we will invite you to join us for our celebration assembly, generally on the Friday of the week of their birthday. The office will let you know of the date when we will celebrate your child's birthday. For Reception the assembly will be at 9.05 – 9.25am and the timings for the Year 1 and 2 assembly will be 2.45-3.10pm. We also invite families to donate a book to the school if they would like to on this day.

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#### Course for families

Education and Parenting Consultant, Gill Hines, is running an interactive 2 hour workshop offering parents of children starting in Reception classes a chance to talk through all of the issues starting school can bring up. Her workshop 'The Complete Guide to Settling into School' is being run on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at the Kingston Quaker Centre 7.30-9.30pm. If you would like more information or to book a place then please go to her website [www.gillhines.co.uk](http://www.gillhines.co.uk).