



Mapledene Termly News Summer issue 2023

Key dates for September/December 2023

- Monday 4th - Tuesday 5th September Centre Closed Inset Day
- Tuesday 19th - Monday 25th September Recycle Week
- Thursday 5th October World Teacher's Day
- Friday 6th October World Smile Day
- Tuesday 31st October Halloween
- Friday 3rd November Day Care Parents Forum/Welcome Breakfast/Guy Fawkes Night
- Monday 6th November Extended Services Parents Forum
- Wednesday 8th November Red Book Day
- Friday 10th November Diwali & World Science Day
- Monday 13th November World Kindness Day
- Friday 17th November Children in Need
- Monday 20th - Friday 24th November Road Safety Week
- Monday 20th - Friday 1st December Parent Teacher Consultations
- Thursday 7th - Friday 15th December Hanukkah
- Wednesday 13th December Christmas Dinner
- Friday 15th December Christmas Party/Christmas Jumper Day

Visit our web page at www.mapledenechildrenscentre.co.uk

Termly News

It has been a busy summer term, we say a fond farewell to Maples children leaving to start their new learning journey at school. September brings many new families to Mapledene who we hope will settle in smoothly. We would like to thank all the local business that supported us in raising £3,665 during the spring fayre. Blake and Stanley our local estate agents for advertising our event, our local newsagent Mehmet, kindly donated food and drinks for the barbeque. We thank Shed for donating the case of wine and office space. Noa's parents Jenna and Jamie very kindly donated a Bang & Olsen blue tooth speaker. Your children enjoyed their bouncy castle time in the car park which was donated to us by Big Bang, HMDT Music, Saturday Programme for their donation, Hackney Empire for donating pantomime tickets and Sam and Becky who donated tickets to watch Wicked. All of this was made possible by the Friends of Mapledene who worked hard to make the Spring Fayre a big success. Miss Pam is back in town and has offered her wonderful music sessions to Mango and our day care rooms until we break for the summer. While Mapledene is closed for the summer, some maintenance works will be carried out to the building.

Apples & Seedlings

The new autumn term will bring many new families with very young children into Apples and Seedlings room, staff will work closely alongside their parents to develop a smooth transition. Using the theme, staff will provide opportunity for our youngest children to share with others who they are and where they come from. This will be done through specific show and tell items, cultural role play with dolls, dress up, messy play items and song.

Palms

Palms room children will focus more on Personal, Social and Emotional as they welcome many new children into their room in September. Palms children who did not move to the next room, will be supported emotionally to make new links and form friendships with the new children. Through story, drama and role play, staff will work with all the children to build confidence and independence to enable Palms room children to feel at ease and part of the Palms room group. Staff will work towards the terms theme and support the children to gain some understanding of who they are and how they all fit together.

Maples

Maples class will focus on how they identify themselves, what they are good at and how they can work alongside each other. They will learn new vocabulary linked to feelings and emotions whilst using the self-regulation board. Maples class will work together to build relationships with each other and explore cultural differences. Through small group circle time, talk time and news sharing, Maples children will develop confidence and widen their knowledge. Maples staff will ask for your support, to come in and tell the children all about where you were born, where you grew up, your family, friends and what makes you special.

Greenwich Leisure celebrated their 30th Year Anniversary. We have been linked to the sports centre for many years through our Bouncy Castle sessions. We were invited to celebrate the occasion with a 90s theme party. The children and parents enjoyed the event, which had to end suddenly due to a health and safety concern, linked to the building which was later resolved.



Our Curriculum

Mapledene's curriculum is a structured and organised set of educational materials, activities and resources that is designed to guide and facilitate learning. It outlines the topics and learning objectives that our children will encounter throughout their educational journey at Mapledene. Our early year's curriculum is of paramount importance because it lays the foundations for your child's lifelong learning and development. It supports parental involvement, school readiness, skills development, language and emotional development and can help bridge the achievement gap amongst children from different backgrounds.

The termly themes to the right, provide a framework for planning teaching experiences, activities, and projects that link with the chosen topic. It allows staff to create a meaningful learning experience for your children and helps them make connections between different topics and real-life experiences. Termly themes can make learning for children more engaging and enjoyable as they explore a specific area of interest in depth over an extended period.

Mapledene & Quantoville Children's Centres

Overall Theme:
Personal, Social and Emotional Development

"In the central jungle of human existence, there is no feeling of being alone without a sense of belonging."

Marie Montessori (1870-1942)

September - December 2023
We all fit together
January - April 2024
Everyday Life
April - August 2024
Growth and Change

Identity and Belonging, is about children developing a positive sense of who they are and feeling that they are valued and respected as part of a family and community.



Friends of Mapledene Spring Fayre were able to raise £3,665. Thank you to all who participated on the day. Money raised has been spent on a new parent's room cooker and air conditioning fans for each room which were very much appreciated to keep the children cool. We are awaiting a few more items for the children which will be here soon.

Safeguarding

The welfare of the children at Mapledene is always at the forefront. Policies, procedures, and practices at the settings is designed to prioritise the best interests of your children. All staff working with young children have undergone safeguard training to recognise the signs of abuse, know how to respond appropriately, and understand their reporting responsibilities. We have clear and comprehensive safeguarding policies and procedures in place. Our policy is updated regular and given to each staff member who signs in receipt for their copy. Engaging parents and carers in the safeguarding process is essential as well as effective communication and collaboration with families, can help identify potential concerns and provide support to children and their families. Using your mobile phone in the building is a major safeguarding concern. We ask you all kindly to stop using your mobile phones during drop off and pick up times.

Extended Services

The new autumn programme of activities is now available online or you can pick one up at reception. Parent Gym is back in the autumn term. Parent Gym provides parenting programmes free of charge. The programme has been designed by leading psychologists and is suitable for parents of children aged 2-11. The sessions are highly interactive and participative. Parenting makes such a big difference to children's lives, Parent Gym sessions hope to support families so that their children are given the best start in life. The workshop will run from 9am - 11am, it is a six week course that starts on 7th November to 12th December 2023. A Parent Gym taster session will start on 31st October 2023. This course comes with limited crèche availability for children aged 6 months to 5 years, please see a member of Mango room staff to book your place on the course.

NO PHONES



Mapledene is a **NO MOBILE PHONE** centre, we could lose our Ofsted outstanding. We have specific areas in the building for you to take calls. Please use the parent's room or leave the building. If you are on a call during drop off or pick up please continue your call after you have left the building. Please also remind other parents of this if you notice them on their phones outside of the designated areas.



A few pictures that depict some special moments in our children's learning journeys.



Please contact the office immediately if you have made changes to your contact details.

Useful links

7 tips to help prepare your child for primary school <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/how-to-prepare-your-child-for-primary-school>

How to potty train your child <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/babys-development/potty-training-and-bedwetting/how-to-potty-train/>

Staffing Structure

We said goodbye to Grace, Rondissa and our music teacher Michelle who all left to work in other settings. We will welcome new staff member Rumena Begum who will join us in September. To support transition in September, **Apples and Seedlings** room will be led by Liz, who will be supported by Tola, Jasmin, Olu and Rumena. **Palms** room will be led by Merlene and supported by Yasmin, Kayland, Izzy and Krystle. **Maples** room will be overseen by Michele, until a new room leader is appointed. She will be supported by Krishna, Jack, Georgina and Tannae. **Mango** room will be overseen by Miza, until a new room leader is appointed. She will be supported by Mirembe and Nasima. **Kitchen** will be led by Chantelle and supported by Delin. The post for an assistant cook is now out.

Parents Forum

We thank Simone and Eva, for their hard work and dedication as they both step down from their voluntary posts as Parents Forum Chair and Secretary. We now have a new parent's forum staff representative Miza Myers. We are now looking for a new Parents Forum Chair and Secretary to continue on the amazing work. Please let the office know if you are interested. The Parents Forum meet three times a year, you are invited to the next meeting on Friday 3rd November 2023 which will be linked to our Welcome Breakfast. More information will be available nearer the time.

The Learning Garden



The children along with Annette continue to take care of their learning garden and enjoy the fruits of their labour. It has been a very good learning tool watching the children picking lettuce, green beans, herbs and strawberries and eating them fresh. Some children who would not normally eat vegetables raw, have really enjoyed picking and eating their own. Children used vocabulary such as sweet, crunchy, watery, spongy, spicy and delicious to describe what they were eating.

Graduation



The African Community School, who studied for their Early Years Educators and Adult Social Care course in the training room here at Mapledene, also enjoyed their graduation ceremony.