



Mapledene Termly
News
Winter Issue
2023



Key dates for January/April 2024

Friday 22nd December 2023 Centre Closes at 2pm
Tuesday 2nd & Wednesday 3rd January Centre Closed Inset Day - Thursday 4th January Centre reopens for children from 8am - 5.45pm
Monday 5th February Extended Services Parent's Forum - Friday 9th February Day Care Parent's Forum, Chinese New Year - Monday 12th - Friday 16th February Half Term
Tuesday 13th February Shrove Tuesday - Wednesday 14th February Valentines/Friendship Day - Wednesday 21st February Red Book Day - Friday 1st March St David's Day - Thursday 7th March World Book Day
Friday 8th - Friday 15th March British Science Week - Friday 8th March Mother's Day - Friday 15th March Red Nose/Comic Relief/St Patrick's Day - Monday 25th March Easter Bonnet Workshop - Wednesday 27th March Easter Parade - Monday 11th - Thursday 28th March Parent/Teacher Consultations
Friday 12th April Playing Out

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

Termly News

It has been a busy year at Mapledene, some children will transition to their new rooms in January as we prepare for more families to join us. The Friends of Mapledene team have now delivered four new double pushchairs. Children in Apples and Seedlings room are enjoying the smooth ride in them. Our new breast feeding chair is being used by happy mums as they relax to feed their babies. All rooms are in receipt of new books that represent a wide diverse mix of cultures. We sometimes have outbreaks of head lice, we ask all parents to please check their children's hair regularly and treat when necessary. Can you also ensure your child's finger nails are filed to avoid accidental scratching. Mapledene supports children's charities, our last event we were able to raise with your support over £200 for Children in Need. It is very important that you stick to your contracted drop off and pick up times, this allows for us to stay within the legal ratio requirements. If you are running late to collect your child at the end of the day, please call to let the centre know. Your children participate in messy play, please can you check that your child has enough spare clothes at nursery. The centre will close for the Christmas break on Friday 22nd December at 2pm for all children (term time only children included), please arrange for your child to be collected no later than 2pm. Mapledene will open on Thursday 4th January from 8am - 5.45pm. We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and safe New Year and thank you all again for your support.

Apples & Seedlings

Apples and Seedlings will be welcoming new children and their families into the room. Their children will be supported to settle and become familiar with their new routine. Staff will work closely with them to support and encourage self-help skills and help the children to manage their emotions. Using Makaton signs our youngest children will learn to name and sign how they are feeling. They will also learn everyday skills linked to the theme through role play, story and song.

Maples

Maples staff will support their children in their everyday life by providing them with a nurturing and positive environment that promotes their physical, emotional, and cognitive development. Maples class will be joined by children that have transitioned from Palms room. Together the class will learn to make new connections, help and support each other throughout the day by sharing routine and looking at how time passes. They will be encouraged to develop their social skills as they learn to form friendships and work at sharing and negotiating play ideas. Through circle/talk time the class will continue to develop their listening, attention, communication and language skills as staff set topics for discussion linked to the theme 'Everyday Life'. Maples children will learn about nature and their environment through attending Forest School which will start for them in January 2024. Parents will receive more information about this soon.

If you have not already completed your online primary school application for your child to start school in September 2024. Please do so before the closing date of Monday 15th January 2024. Applications received after the closing date will be deemed as late which can affect your choice list of schools. If you need help with your application, please let the office know.



Curriculum

Next terms theme will focus on 'Everyday Life'. Teaching young children about everyday life is essential for their overall development. It helps them build essential life skills, understand the world around them, and develop a sense of responsibility. Here are some ideas and tips for you to support your child's understanding linked to the theme: Establish a **daily routine** that includes consistent wake-up times, meal times, playtimes, and bedtime. Routines provide a sense of security for young children. Create a visual schedule with pictures to help them understand and anticipate daily activities. **Self-Help Skills**, teach basic self-care skills like washing hands, brushing teeth, and getting dressed. Make these activities fun by turning them into games or singing songs. **Mealtime**, involve your children in simple meal preparation tasks, such as washing vegetables, setting the table, or stirring ingredients. This not only teaches them about food but also enhances fine motor skills. **Cleaning and Organising**, encourage your children to clean up after themselves by putting toys away or wiping spills. Make cleaning a part of their routine so that it becomes a habit. **Safety Awareness**, teach basic safety rules, such as looking both ways before crossing the road, not touching hot surfaces, and using seat belts. Use age-appropriate language and examples. **Money and Counting**, introduce basic concepts of money by using play money. Teach them about different coins and their values. Allow them to "buy" items with play money to understand the concept of exchange. **Nature and Environment**, take nature walks and talk about the environment. Teach your children about plants, animals, and the importance of taking care of the planet. **Social Skills**, encourage sharing, taking turns, and using polite words like "please" and "thank you." Role-playing social situations can help reinforce these skills in your child.

Music and Movement with Andrea and Yoana

Our children have really enjoyed their Wednesday music sessions with our parent volunteer Andrea, (Alma's dad) and Yoana, (Boyana and Mira's mum). Please let us know if you are able to volunteer your time to share your talents with the children.



Parental Involvement



From 2nd January, an eligible working parent with a child who turns two before 31st March can apply for 15 hours funded childcare per week to start in April 2024. Parents will be able to apply for 15 hours by visiting the application webpage at the bottom of this page. We recommend you do so between mid-January and the end of February to get your code in good time and avoid having to renew registration ahead of the start of the offer in April. All three and four year olds are entitled to a free part-time nursery education place regardless of how much their families earn.

Extended Services

Mango room is the place to be if you are a Hackney Resident with children under five years of age. It is a warm welcoming environment to meet other parents/carers, learn new skills and get professional advice on subjects that really matter to you and your family. Did you know, that every first Wednesday of each month you can make an appointment to see the Citizens Advice Bureau? You can also speak to our Family Support Practitioner on the second Wednesday of each month from 9.30am - 11am. You can get advice on Accident and Prevention and how to keep your children safe at home. If you or your family know of anyone needing additional family support or advice please contact Pamela or Miza at the centre. Mapledene's January - April 2024 Programme of Activities is available on our website or you can pick up a copy in reception.

Friends of Mapledene

With the amazing support from our fabulous Friends of Mapledene. They were able to set up a go fund me page for parent's to make kind contributions. Over £500 was raised to buy each and every child at Mapledene a Christmas gift. We continue to thank you and appreciate the hard work that goes into the Friends of Mapledene.

Christmas Holiday Food Vouchers

Hackney Education will be issuing Christmas holiday food vouchers to all eligible children on the week commencing 18 December 2023. Children who are either in receipt of the two year old funding or eligible for the Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) will be receiving their food vouchers via Edenred Portal. Parents of all eligible children will be receiving an email from Hackney Family Information Service (FIS) advising them to claim their vouchers. The vouchers hold a value of £35.

Christmas Performances



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

Staffing Structure

Mapledene welcomed three new staff members, Maseray as assistant cook into the kitchen. Ethan into Palms room and Tanya in Apples and Seedlings this term. To support transition in January 2024. **Apples and Seedlings** room will continue to be led by Liz who will be supported by Jasmin, Tola, Olu, Rumena and Tanya. **Palms** room will be led by Merlene and supported by Yasmin, Kayland, Krystle, Izzy and Ethan. **Maples** room will be led by Krishna who has now taken the post of permanent room leader. She will be supported by Georgina, Jack and Tannae. **Mango** room staff continue to support the community led by Miza and supported by Nasima and Mirembe. **Kitchen** is led by Chantelle, who is supported by Maseray and Deslin.

Road Safety Workshop



Angie from Hackney Education, visited Maples class to deliver a Road Safety Workshop. The children had been learning how to stay safe whilst walking to and from nursery. Through role play, song and activities our children were able to show good understanding. In small groups the children were able to put what they had learnt into practice. They participated in a road safety walk in their community and pointed out dangers, giving examples as to how this could be avoided.

Palms

Palms children will welcome new friends into their room and further develop their communication, fine and large motor skills. Through activity tailored to their own needs, children will practice to learn and manage their own independence as children are supported to toilet train, dress and become confident in their large and fine motor development through fun activities. Staff will work closely with their key children to scaffold everyday life, this will be done by following routine to support and build confidence and a sense of security. Small group work is also designed to help children make links with others and support turn taking.

Parents Forum

We welcome Gemma Daubney (Isabella's mum) as Mapledene's new Parent's Forum Chair. We also welcome Erin Boreham (Willow and Florence's mum) as the new Parent's Forum Secretary. We invite you to our next meeting scheduled for 9th February 2024. The forum is open to all our parents to join.

Useful links

Understanding your baby <https://drive.google.com/file/d/17u5avsXqZg2IboaYpXc7roeGEelw42wm/view>

Understanding pregnancy, labour, birth and your baby https://drive.google.com/file/d/1UENEid4Ggx-9gBOGfa4P_AjV6tREvGhN/view

Supporting emotional health and wellbeing from 0-19+ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MXG2_A6ib-BSGH7VNYTRPFIT-ghC0tEq/view

Childcare Choices <https://mailchi.mp/db5688d6b1b7/15-hours-childcare-application-date-now-announced?e=de312b3af3>

Understanding your own trauma <https://drive.google.com/file/d/12FVwHxa7cenypqw2QAKaMTUilHruiZHz/view>