




Mapledene Termly News Spring Issue 2024

Key dates for April/August 2024

Monday 15th April **Inset Day Centre Closed**
 Monday 6th & Monday 27th May **Centre Closed Bank Holiday**
 Tuesday 23rd April **St George's Day** - Wednesday 15th May **Extended Services Parents Forum**
 Monday 13th May - Thursday 13th June **National Smile Month** - Friday 17th May **Parents Forum Day Care & Pyjamarama Day** -
 Thursday 23rd May **Outdoor Classroom Day**
 Wednesday 22nd May **Red Book Day** - Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May **Half Term**
 Friday 7th June **Mango Room Sports Day**
 Friday 14th June **Father's Day** - Monday 17th June **Eid Celebrations** - Thursday 20th June **June Solstice**
 Friday 21st June - **Apples & Seedlings Sports Day & Windrush Day**
 Friday 28th June - **Palms Room Sports Day**
 Monday 1st July - **Parent/Teacher Consultations Start**
 Friday 5th July **Maples Sports Day** - Monday 8th July - **Transition visits** - Thursday 25th July **Playing Out**
 Wednesday 17th July - **Apples Graduation**
 Thursday 18th July - **Palms Graduation**
 Friday 19th July - **Maples Graduation**

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

Termly News

We hope that you enjoyed the Easter Bonnet parade and thank all our parents for their hard work, supporting their children to create their own Easter Bonnets and painted eggs. You may have noticed scaffolding around the roof of the building. We are currently having maintenance work on the roof funded by Hackney, to stop all the leaks and flooding to the door area that leads to the garden. We are also looking at different organisations to apply for a grant to develop parts of the learning garden for the children to use. Hackney have also funded the improvements that will be made to the window seating area in all rooms for the children to sit safely during carpet and play time. All rooms have been provided with some new play tools to support the children's learning and development. The new fee structure will come into effect in September 2024. Hackney has increased the amount of nursery fees you will pay; further information will be available nearer the time, look out for this on Telegram. We appreciate you all for paying your fees on time, please see the office if you are experiencing difficulty in paying your fees. You can now view Mapledene's menu on our website and follow us on Instagram  @mapledenec

Apples & Seedlings

Staff working with our youngest children will plan activities and encourage their children to make relationships with other children and develop on their social skills. Circle time in small groups focusing on social skills and British values sharing, taking turns and listening. They will continue with their music and movement sessions in large/small groups to help build the children's confidence and self-esteem. New vocabulary will be introduced by way of key words around the topic for the term 'Growth and Change'. Story telling in small and large group using core books such as Lola Dutch, Spots Baby Sister, Who's in the Garden, There's a house inside my mummy, Spring, The Very Hungry Caterpillar, and Families. Staff will ensure the older children who are two, receive their two-year-old language groups which is designed to encourage and support communication as they get ready for transition. Sign and sign sessions will be used daily to help the youngest children with vocalisation and building confidence.

Maples

Our pre-schoolers will experiment with science activities, chasing shadows looking at how time passes. This will be linked to how they have developed, looking at what they can do now that they could not do before and how they were able to achieve this. Maples children will look at the human body and learn about lifestyles. This will include how exercise affects the heart through simple experiments, such as walking slowly around the garden verses running. Staff will start to get the children ready for school and build on their social, emotional and personal skills through activities, small group work and circle time discussion.

Offer Day

It is national offer day soon...if you applied for your child's school place, you can expect to be informed on Tuesday 16th April of the outcome. Please can you let your child's room know which school they have been offered and when your child's last day at Mapledene will be.



Curriculum

We are about to start our longest term which will take us into the summer. All rooms will focus on the new theme '**Growth and Change.**' Staff will support your children with observation and exploration by encouraging the children to observe changes in nature, such as the growth of plants, the life cycle of insects, and the changing seasons. You can help your child by taking them on nature walks or visits to parks where they can observe these changes firsthand. Hands-on science activities will be made available to all the children to engage them in activities like planting seeds and watching them grow, using vocabulary that demonstrate growth and change. Staff will set about encouraging the children to ask questions and show curiosity by creating supportive environments where your children feel comfortable asking questions and expressing curiosity about the world around them. You can support your children at home by encouraging them to explore their interests and seek answers through inquiry and investigation. You can also support them by engaging them in discussions about their own experiences of growth and change, such as getting older, learning new skills, or adapting to new situations. Help them reflect on how they have grown and changed over time. You can also help us by teaching your children that growth and change take time and may involve setbacks and challenges along the way. We can all encourage our children to practice patience and resilience as they navigate the process of learning and growing. Teaching children about growth and change is an important aspect of their development, helping them understand the natural processes that occur in both living creatures and the world around them. Above are some approaches that we will use in the new term and ideas you can also use to teach your children about growth and change

Palms

Palms room children will experience forming friendships as they learn and develop social skills through play. Staff will use visual aids to explore the topic of Growth and Change. Pictures will be used to show examples of change, such as the seasons changing, a caterpillar turning into a butterfly, or a baby growing into a child. Staff will continue to support the children with transition into big girls and boy's pants, as well as getting some of the children ready to make the move into their new room.



Easter Parade
Encouraging parental involvement



Stop, Look, Listen, Think, Respond

Five steps to help your child's early communication...

1. **STOP** what you are doing so that you can focus on your child
2. **LOOK** at what your child is doing
3. **LISTEN** to the things your child tries to say and the sounds they make
4. **THINK** about what your child would like to be able to say
5. **RESPOND** repeat back clearly what your child says - or repeat what your child says but add one or two words - or say something short and simple which you think your child would like to be able to say.

You can use the five steps above at any time of the day for example, walking to and from nursery, bath time or in your everyday life and activities with your children.

Extended Services

Do you fancy darning your own socks and repairing torn items of clothing to save money? If so, then join our Sewing Class. It is a 10 week course running each Monday from 9.30am - 12pm starting on 22nd April. Please see a member of Mango room staff to express your interest. We are also offering Jewellery making classes to boost your creativity and mental health. The classes will take place each Tuesday's from 9.30am - 12pm starting on 23rd April and will run for 10 weeks. Our summer programme of activities is now available on-line. If you have young babies under 18 months old, you are welcome to come to our drop-in each Thursday from 10am - 11.30am. There will be staff to support you with advise on child health and development. There are many activities on offer in Mango room that support the community, come and see what we do.

Class Trips



Maples visited The Museum of the Home
Palms room explored Mudchute Farm, and Apples spent time at Hackney City Farm



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

Useful links

Understanding Self-Regulation <https://birthto5matters.org.uk/self-regulation/>

Getting Ready for School <https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/at-school/reception-at-primary-school/getting-ready-to-start-school/>

Being safe by the water, Canal & River Trust <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/explorers>

Five to Thrive <https://fivetothrive.org.uk/>

Peep Working Together Programme

Mapledene have been taking part in a piolet scheme delivered by Alex Charalambous, Hackneys Parenting and Home Learning Coordinator. The sessions were aimed at supporting parents and children to learn together. It was a six week course which took part on Thursday mornings from 9am - 10am. We had eight parents attend each session and were supported through practical activities linked to their own experiences with their children. We will be running another interactive Peep session in September. Staff will approach you to sign up and commit to attending a six week course here at Mapledene.

New Staff Team Members

As a team we are constantly growing, finding ways of improving and adding new ideas of delivery. You asked at the parent's forum for all parents to be better informed when new staff members join us. We welcomed Tanya who works in Apples & Seedlings, Ethan who has joined Palms room, Mariam who is supporting all the rooms and Scarlet who supports Mango room. Again we ask you to please, keep your Telegram account active with us for updates and important information.

Forest School

Maples Forest School sessions have been moved to Tuesday mornings. We experienced a few session clashes with other settings, which became disruptive at times. We contacted a member of the Environment and Climate Change Division at Hackney Council, who booked Mapledene in for their weekly non-interruptive sessions where we now have full access of the woodland area to carry out our learning sessions. Staff in Maples room, will remind you when it is your child's turn to participate and to bring in their wellington boots.



Library Visits

Every Tuesday morning Palms take their turn to visit Dalston library. Maples children visit each Wednesday morning. They are encouraged to select their own books to share with their room. They also participate in a story session led by the librarian. You can support your children's early literacy, by visiting your local library and joining in with activities, click on the link for more details <https://hackney.gov.uk/dalston-library>

Telegram Messaging Service

We use Telegram to communicate with our parents throughout the year. We ask that you all please keep your Telegram account **active** with us. We are not part of your child's individual room Whatsapp group, which is used and controlled by Mapledene's parents, as a means to communicate with each other. If you have deleted or muted Telegram, please undo this...spread the word!!