

# Maidwell Primary School

[www.maidwellprimary.net](http://www.maidwellprimary.net)



# Newsletter No 79

9 September 2016

Welcome  
BACK TO  
SCHOOL

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*Welcome* to all our children new to Reception: Tabitha, Toby, Zoe, Joss, Eleanor, Marcus, Lenny, William, Soraya and Ava. It was lovely to meet our new pupils during their visits in the Summer and we hope they are as excited about their joining Maidwell Primary School as we are.

*Rosemarie James*  
Headteacher

## Arriving late in school

Following recent statutory Safeguarding Training, we have reviewed our practice with regard to daily pupil registration. From 5 September, if a child arrives in school after registration has taken place, **the child will require to be signed in** by their accompanying parent/carer. The signing-in book will be monitored regularly by the Governing Body and consistent lateness will be investigated. Late arrival in school is disruptive to a child's education and will be monitored in the same way as pupil absence.

## PARKING

Just before the holiday I received a letter from the Parish Council once again requesting that parents park responsibly. Sent with this newsletter is a copy of the Safe Travel Recommendations leaflet. Please consider the advice contained within. Rob Willoughby - at the Stag's Head - has kindly offered his car park for use at the beginning and end of the school day to alleviate pressure on Draughton Road. I would, however, issue a note of warning with regard to crossing the busy A508 and it is for you, as parents, to assess the risk. There isn't a school in the country which doesn't experience two short periods of congestion in the day. Our lovely Victorian building would have escaped such trials in its early days but we live in a slightly different world today. As I've pointed out previously to both the Parish Council and some of our nearest neighbours, the continuing success of the school should be celebrated but with that the volume of traffic increases. We are, however, at maximum capacity and the staggering drop-off due to Breakfast Club and our Afterschool Clubs helps the situation. I do ask, however, that you are considerate to our neighbours at all times and ensure their ease of use for their driveways at all times.

I thank you in advance for your co-operation.



## Sharing Assembly

The first Sharing Assembly of this academic year will be held on **Friday 21 October** at **2.45pm**. Please put this important date in your diary.



Happy  
New  
School  
year!

## Term Dates

This half term finishes on **Friday 21 October 2016** and we return to school on **Tuesday 1 November 2016** (the day beforehand is a Teacher Training Day). A full list of term dates for this year and next is available on our school website under the *Information* tab or at [www.northamptonshire.gov.uk](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk).



We need to say a HUGE thanks to the PTA for all the work they undertook during the last academic year. Their fundraising efforts meant we were able to refurbish our lovely outdoor classroom circle which now boasts recycled plastic benches and an impressive storytelling chair. They were also responsible for the purchase of a mud kitchen for EYFS and added to our resources for learning in the outdoors. If you feel you are able to provide practical support please come along to the meeting on 19 September.

### Welcome back!

The PTA hold lots of fun events for the children to enjoy throughout the year.

We would love to have more parents involved with the PTA. We need a new chair, secretary and new members to lead the PTA. If you are interested please contact the school or come along to the first meeting of the year on **Monday 19th September** at the school from **3.30pm**. The more parents we have helping, the less work it is and the more fun we have. Its also a great opportunity to get to know new parents.

Many thanks

Wendy, Nicky & Georgie



**MIDWELL  
PRIMARY  
SCHOOL**



Maidwell school PTA

**PTA**

### SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Tuesday 13 September 2016

**TEMPEST**  
PHOTOGRAPHY

Younger siblings welcome for family photos at 3.15pm.



### Governing Body News

Nick Andell, Chair

We will shortly be holding a Parent Governor Election. Please look out for the information on ParentMail.

After **many** years on the Governing Body Mrs Eileen Arnold, a Community Governor, has decided to step down at the end of this month. The school is very grateful for all she has done during her time with us and we will miss her very much. We hope she will stay in touch. If you know of anybody who might be interested in joining the Governing Body as a Community Governor please get in touch with the school.

### Frontier Centre Y2-Y6 Thursday 15 September 2016

The children from Years 2-6 will spend a day at the Frontier Centre in Irthlingborough in order to experience activities we can't provide within the school setting. The cost of the day is being met by the school Sports Funding. Please ensure your consent forms are returned no later than Tuesday 13 September.

Year 1 and Reception - who are too young to take part in the Frontier Centre activities - will have an exciting day of 'adventurous activities' planned by Mrs Littlewood.



## Martin Young

Martin will be with us once again on the morning of Monday 12 September to support the work of the Talk4Writing process. His images, created with the children, provide an invaluable source of visual stimulation for the children's writing.

## Parents' Evenings

Tuesday 8 November 2016	KS1/KS2	3.40-5.30pm
Thursday 10 November 2016	KS1/KS2	3.40-7.00pm

Sessions for parents of pupils in Reception year will be held during the school day on **Wednesday 9 November 2016**

*Important diary date*

### EYFS Parents' Evening

**Thursday 15 September 2016  
6.00pm**

Parents of children new to Reception please make a note of this important date. At this meeting the early teaching of phonics, reading and number will be explained and you will be given information with regard to assisting your child at home

## Premises Update

During the summer holiday Mariusz completed the annual deep clean so we returned to a lovely shining school environment. We have also had the front fence repaired and a new fence erected between ourselves and neighbours on the field. We have also invested in new classroom furniture - tables and chairs - for all three classes. The horse-shoe shaped teaching tables enable the adult to be at the centre of the learning environment and they are, because of this, highly conducive to the learning process.

## NMPAT Woodwind and Strings Lessons

Woodwind lessons with Mrs Mourant and Strings lessons with Mrs Cliffe will recommence next week. Both teachers will be in school on a **WEDNESDAY** this year. Please ensure your child has their instrument in school with them.

## Open Days & September 2017 Admissions

Friday 21 October and Friday 9 December 2016

Our first Open Day will be held on the last day of this half term. If you know of any prospective parents who may wish to seek a place for their child in the future, please let them know of this date and Mrs James will be happy to show them our school.

The application process for school places for September 2017 starts on Monday next week. If you have a child who will be 4 years old before 31 August 2017, applications can be made online at: [www.northamptonshire.gov.uk](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk)

## Taster Sessions

Football Taster Sessions take place today. Freestyle Soccer Academy will deliver sessions over the course of the afternoon and issue invitations to join their lunchtime sessions this academic year.

**freestyle**  
soccer academy

## BERTIE THE BUTTERFLY

On Friday 16 September PCSO Matt Taylor will be in school to present the *Bertie the Butterfly* programme to Classes 2 and 3. This programme is aimed at helping the children recognise when uncomfortable feelings may require them to seek assistance.



### Sending Mail in to School

We have post boxes in each classroom. In **Class 1** Mrs Lloyd checks the book bags every day and puts any letters into the box before sending it to the school office. You may also like to correspond using your child's reading record book. In **Class 2/3** the children are responsible for putting their own letters in the box at the beginning of the school day ready for delivery to the office. Please always ensure that notes are in a sealed envelope with your child's name on the front.

Please **DO NOT** leave envelopes on the office desk – an occasion occurred in the past where an envelope left by a parent in the school office was mislaid - and **DO NOT** hand envelopes to members of staff either at the door or on the playground. We need to ensure that money/correspondence is always traceable.

Please also bear in mind that the school's emails are only checked if Mrs Smoczynski is in the office and should therefore not be used for urgent messages as they may not be received in time.

### FRUIT FOR MORNING BREAK TIME - KS2

Please feel free to put a piece of fruit in your child's bag for eating at morning break (especially if they have been used to having a piece of fruit in KSI!)

### Absence from School

We are unable to authorise any absences from school for holidays. If your child has an unavoidable medical appointment, please send in a copy of the hospital's letter with your completed absence request form (available on the school website). Without this document we are unable to authorise the medical absence.



Letters will be sent to your inbox/phone via Parent-Mail. If you are receiving a paper copy of this newsletter it is because **your account has not yet been activated** and we would urge you to do so as soon as possible.

**MOBILE TELEPHONE NUMBERS MUST** be registered with ParentMail. This is the **ONLY** method we have available to us for sending emergency texts to parents (in the event of winter school closure etc).

The annual Data Collection Sheets will be sent home shortly. Please check that we have your correct email address and mobile phone number on these sheets for correspondence.



Please remember that for auditing and traceability purposes we are unable to accept cash payments in school (with the exception of the purchase of swimming hats). All chargeable items are loaded to ParentPay when they arise.



## LOST PROPERTY

In less than 5 days our Lost Property mountain has already started to grow. Please ensure that all your child's clothes/belongings are clearly marked with their name to ensure items can be reunited with their rightful owners.

## Collecting Pupils at the end of the School Day

Can we please remind parents that Northamptonshire County Council policy states that the school is only responsible for your child for a **maximum of 15 minutes** after the end of the school day (this information is published online). We are finding increasingly that pupils are not collected from school in a timely manner and that parents assume the school will care for them outside of the 15 minute period. We are unable to accept this responsibility and would remind you that Afterschool Clubs (Y1+) are available (with the exception of Tuesdays) to assist you if you find it difficult to arrive at school at 3.30pm. Details on the school website.



Department  
of Health

## The national flu immunisation programme 2016/17

This year the school nursing team will again be responsible for delivering the 'flu vaccine in school. The spray will be offered to pupils in Years 1, 2 and 3. Full details have already been sent home to pupils in these year groups. The team will be in school on **Thursday 17 November** to oversee the vaccination programme at Maidwell Primary School.

## Data Collection Sheets & Blanket Permission Forms

The forms to cover this academic year will be sent home shortly. This annual exercise ensures that we hold accurate information relating to your child. Please assist us by taking time to complete them and returning to school by the due date.

## Notice Period

ParentPay charges are loaded for Afterschool Clubs and Strings/Woodwind lessons to cover the Autumn, Spring and Summer Terms (two half terms). Breakfast Club charges are loaded on a half-termly basis. Please remember that if you no longer wish to use any of these facilities a **term's notice** is required in writing. We are able to accept payment for Breakfast Club in the form of ChildCare vouchers. Please ask for details of the voucher providers with whom the school is registered if you wish to use this payment system.

Swimming payments are loaded to ParentPay three times per year. Once again we will be offering a £5 per pupil prompt payment discount for swimming charges.



Our Breakfast Club is proving so popular that we are trying to recruit new members of staff. Thank you to all the Teaching Assistants who are helping out on a rota basis at the present time. If you wish to use the club on an ad-hoc basis, please remember that we require **48 hours' notice** in order to purchase the appropriate fresh provisions.



## PE Kit

The usual reminder .... Please ensure your child has full PE kit in school all week from Monday to Friday.

## Pupil Reports

### Dancing Dave

By Kyle, Y6

Dave did a dance with us based on our story in Literacy *The King Who Wanted To Touch The Moon*. We changed it so that instead of having loads of chests that we stacked, we did it with people - as the King in the innovated story wanted people to come to the moon with him. We pretended to stand on each other's shoulders and the end of the story had everyone falling over and dying - apart from the King and the Carpenter.

### KS2 Summer 2016 Residential

By Oliver, Y6

When we arrived at Felden Lodge everyone was hyper to see what rooms they were sharing but Mr Woods calmed us down and we ate lunch. When we found out whose room we were in there was a racket. The first activity we did was *The Cube* which was a bit scary. Then we went to the Snow Centre and did skiing or snowboarding. The last activity was caving or high ropes. It was all exciting.

### Art Day with Glen Cosens

By Isabelle, Y6

We sat in different groups and decided what design would be on our board. We drew templates on paper and then decided which design to put on the board - we chose Libby's. We were painting images to teach us about diversity. Our image shows three people from different religions holding their religious symbols and being friends. You can see all of the images on the fence in the playground.

## CURRENT VACANCIES

Please contact  
the school

### Breakfast Club Assistant

1 hour daily (8.00am-9.00am)

We would like to recruit a permanent assistant to work with Mrs Lloyd every morning in our popular Breakfast Club.

If you are interested in the position, or if you know of anybody in the locality who might like to gain experience working with our children, please contact the school.

### GET OUTSIDE CLUB HELPER

3.30-4.30pm on Tuesdays

Our Get Outside Club is so popular that we have had to disappoint several children this term pending the recruitment of another helper. If you are able to spare an hour on Tuesday after school please let us know as soon as possible. We would very much like to be able to offer places to all children who have applied but are restricted by current adult/pupil ratios.

Northamptonshire Music  
and Performing Arts Trust



## NMPAT BASSOON & OBOE CLUBS

FRIDAY EVENINGS

5.00pm - 6.00pm



**Ever fancied playing a musical instrument that's a little bit different? Oboes and Bassoons are "Endangered Instruments"...YOU could help to save them for the future by joining our new Oboe or Bassoon clubs!**

We are looking for children in Years 4 - 8 who would be interested in having instrumental music tuition each week on either the oboe or bassoon. We will provide you with an instrument and reeds and help you to develop your skills over your first year of tuition. On Friday evenings there will be two 30-minute sessions for each instrument at 5.00pm and 5.30pm, the numbers for each group may need to be limited.

The cost of joining either club will be only £20 per child per term (10 sessions per term for the first year), an absolute bargain! If you are interested please complete and return the attached application form to NMPAT by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2015. Groups will operate on a first come first served basis; and there will be consultation sessions (to check suitability and offer advice) on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> September with the groups due to begin properly on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

Learning a musical instrument can have huge positive effects on your child's all round development, and it is enormous fun too! NMPAT has opportunities across the county for young children to learn instruments and join in with a variety of ensembles. Both groups will be run by specialist oboe and bassoon teachers from the Trust.

For more information please contact the NMPAT office on 01604 637117

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