Mapperley Plains Primary School

MPPS bulletin

Friday 20 November 2026

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	23/11/26	**24/11/26**	**25/11/26**	**26/11/26**	**27/11/26**
Week at a glance	Parliament Week	KS1 Little Wandle parent session 15:45–16:15 Y1: Buttercup / Y2: Clover			
	30/11/26	**01/12/26**	**02/12/26**	**03/12/26**	**04/12/26**
Following week				Disability awareness Food Forum 13:00–14:30	KS1 Nativity dress rehearsal
Clubs 23–27 Nov	Cheerleading Club (F1–Year 6)	Gardening Club (Years 5–6)	Drama Club (F1–Year 6)	Eco Club (KS2) Languages Club (Years 3–6)	Summers in Time Dance (F1–Year 6)
Named waterproof coat and wellies for outdoor play. Outdoor play information					

A Message from Mr Summers

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy week at Mapperley Plains. Anti-Bullying Week has given us an important opportunity to talk about kindness, friendship and the importance of speaking up when something does not feel right. These conversations matter far beyond one week. We want every child to feel that they belong, that their worries will be listened to and that there is always a trusted adult they can turn to.

Children do not always find it easy to explain when something is wrong. A worry might show itself through not wanting to play, becoming quieter than usual or finding it difficult to put feelings into words. Taking time to listen, or offering a chance to write or draw, can make a real difference. Thank you for the conversations you have at home and for working with us when concerns arise.

I am particularly pleased that Mapperley Plains achieved the OPAL Platinum Award last Friday, with a final audit score of 96%. It is wonderful recognition of the work behind our outdoor play provision. More importantly, it reflects the opportunities children have each day to explore, create, solve problems and build friendships. Our Play Team deserves enormous thanks for the care and imagination they bring to this work. There is more about the award below.

Looking ahead, we are pleased to welcome families to our Little Wandle parent session next Tuesday. Helping children develop confidence and enjoyment in reading is something we do together. We will share how reading practice books build fluency and how sharing books give families time to enjoy stories together. I hope parents attending will leave with useful ideas to try at home.

As the colder weather settles in, please continue to send children with a named waterproof coat and suitable footwear. Our outdoor spaces remain an important part of school life throughout the winter, and being ready for the weather helps everyone take part.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I am grateful to the children, staff and families who contribute so much to life at Mapperley Plains. I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Mr P Summers
Headteacher

Be kind. Be curious. Be my best.

OPAL Platinum: a huge thank you to our Play Team

We are delighted to share that Mapperley Plains achieved the OPAL Platinum Award on 13 November, with a final audit score of 96%. Our reviewer praised the range of play, children's engagement and the social spaces across our grounds. A huge thank you goes to our whole Play Team. Their care, creativity and energy help children build, explore, imagine, make friends and find their own ways to play every day. Thank you too to our children, staff and families for everything they have contributed. This is a school-community achievement to be proud of.

Find out more on our website: outdoor play at Mapperley Plains

Christmas collection for Guru Nanak's Mission

Next week we're collecting chocolate Christmas selection boxes for local families. The Nottingham charity provides free meals and includes the boxes in the food and toy parcels it gives out at Christmas. One of our school families helps run the project, and two girls from our school are keen supporters. If you can, please send a selection box into school next week. Thank you for helping us support local families this Christmas.

School car park

Please be reminded that the school car park is for authorised vehicles only and should not be used for dropping off or collecting children. The car park is often busy with staff vehicles, deliveries, and visitors, and using it for drop-offs or pick-ups can create unnecessary safety risks. We also ask that children and adults do not walk through the car park to access the school site. Please use the designated pedestrian entrances and pathways at all times. These measures are in place to help ensure the safety of all pupils, families, staff, and visitors. We would appreciate your cooperation and understanding in following these arrangements.

Helping your child explain a bullying worry

If your child finds it difficult to explain a worry, Coram Kidscape's picture-supported guide offers ways to write, draw or use symbols to show what has happened and how they feel. Our anti-bullying page links to the printable guide and an optional record sheet for keeping notes before speaking to school. You do not need to complete a form before asking us for help.

Find out more on our website: supporting your child with friendship worries

MPPS Diary Dates

Week	Day	Date	Timings	Description
48	Tue	24/11/26	15:45–16:15	KS1 Little Wandle parent session (Year 1: Buttercup; Year 2: Clover)
49	Tue	01/12/26	10:00 and 16:00	Reception tour for September 2027 starters
50	Tue	08/12/26	KS1 – 09:45 F1/F2 – 13:45	Nativity performances
50	Thu	10/12/26	All day	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner
50	Thu	10/12/26	F1/F2 – 09:45 KS1 – 13:45	Nativity performances
51	Tue	15/12/26	All day	Cinderella: whole-school pantomime
51	Thu	17/12/26	10:30–12:00	Choir visit to Parry Court (information to follow)
51	Fri	18/12/26	09:00	Autumn 2 Celebration Assembly (invitation only)
51	Fri	18/12/26	All day	Last day of autumn term
Christmas Break 21/12/26–01/01/27				
1	Mon	04/01/27	All day	Children return to school
2	Fri	15/01/27	All day	Reception applications close for September 2027
3	Wed	20/01/27	All day	Year 6 visit to the Holocaust Centre
4	Fri	29/01/27	All day	INSET day: school closed to children
6	Fri	12/02/27	Time TBC	Spring 1 Celebration Assembly (invitation only)
February Half Term 15/02/27–19/02/27				
8	Mon	22/02/27	All day	Children return to school
9	Mon	01/03/27	All day	Secondary school offer day
12	Thu	25/03/27	09:00	Spring 2 Celebration Assembly (invitation only)
12	Fri	26/03/27	All day	School closed – Good Friday
Easter Break 26/03/27–09/04/27				
15	Mon	12/04/27	All day	Children return to school
15	Fri	16/04/27	All day	Reception school offer day
18	Mon	03/05/27	All day	Early May bank holiday: school closed
18	Wed	05/05/27	Wed–Fri	Year 4 Castleton residential (information to follow)
19	Mon	10/05/27	Mon–Thu	KS2 SATs week (10–13 May)
21	Mon	24/05/27	Mon–Wed	Year 6 PGL Caythorpe Court residential (24–26 May)
21	Fri	28/05/27	Time TBC	Summer 1 Celebration Assembly (invitation only)
Summer Half Term 31/05/27–04/06/27				
23	Mon	07/06/27	All day	INSET day: school closed to children
23	Tue	08/06/27	All day	Children return to school
30	Tue	27/07/27	Time TBC	Summer 2 Celebration Assembly (invitation only)
30	Wed	28/07/27	All day	Last day of summer term
Summer Break From 29/07/27				

Safeguarding at Mapperley Plains

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you are worried about the safety or wellbeing of a child, please contact the school on 0115 964 9360 or safeguarding@mapperleyplains.notts.sch.uk. If a child is at immediate risk of harm, contact the police on 999.

Inspiring learners.
Shaping futures.