

Maplewell Newsletter

Aspire, Nurture, Personalise, Success and Engage

Issue 28

SEN National Athletics Championships:

On Saturday and Sunday, 7 Students went to Coventry to compete in the National SEN Championships. As always, the students were amazing and produced some incredible performances with them setting new PB's and winning 19 Medals between them! Some Standout performances include: Ellis S running 100m in 13.7, Skala L running 200m in 28 seconds & J running 1500m in 5 mins 4 secs.



Reminders:

Please also remember that Maplewell is a nut free school. Please refrain from sending your child to school with any snacks containing nuts. Thank you!



Please remember to label your child's clothes to avoid confusion.

COMPASS NEWS:

10 CJ have been very busy for the last month, we have weeded, planted and grown lots of things. Many of the students have been very keen to be involved in the process and have loved seeing the progress that a month has made on the garden. We have grown some raspberries, and are growing strawberries, blueberries, tyme, coriander, sage and parsley, We are growing many different flowers. With the flowers in bloom this has brought many bees visiting to pollinate our flowers, we have spoken about the importance of bees and the students have an understanding of this now and love when they come to visit.



1

KEY DATES
END OF TERM

Friday 7th July

2

KEY DATES
August Bank Holiday

Monday 28th August

3

KEY DATES
School Opens

Wednesday 30th August

Staff Training Days

Thursday 24th August 2023

Friday 25th August 2023

Tuesday 29th August 2023

PE News:

The football team has been competing in the Midlands Football League this year. Their solid performances were enough for them to win Division C and qualify them for the Semi-finals of the tournament. The boys played a very good side from Wolverhampton and ended up losing 5-0, but huge credit to them, they kept on fighting and supporting each other right to the end!



4JMC Pride Week:

Last week, 4JMC were busy learning about Pride. We had a special Pride assembly with Mrs Stanton and learned about acceptance and LGBTQIA+. We have talked about this more during tutor time; what it means to be equal and that it is okay to be you. Tutor groups were given the challenge of decorating their classroom door - our class had lots of fun printing our hands to make our rainbow display. We think it looks great! 4JMC



Post 16 Wheelbarrow Competition:

The students took part in the Wheelbarrow Competition, each group was asked to choose a theme related to the events of 2023. We had some excellent entries.



- 1st Place: Wellbeing: 5ER
- 2nd Place: Wimbledon: 5SD
- 3rd Place: Pride: 5DF



Physical Activity:

A number of students have progressed with their cycle training this term, and are now either riding independently or are very close to achieving this. For each of them, progress has happened because they have shown a willingness to repeatedly practice and a steely determination to improve.

Kirsty North, Health Interventions Support Worker



Could you help provide opportunities for our students?

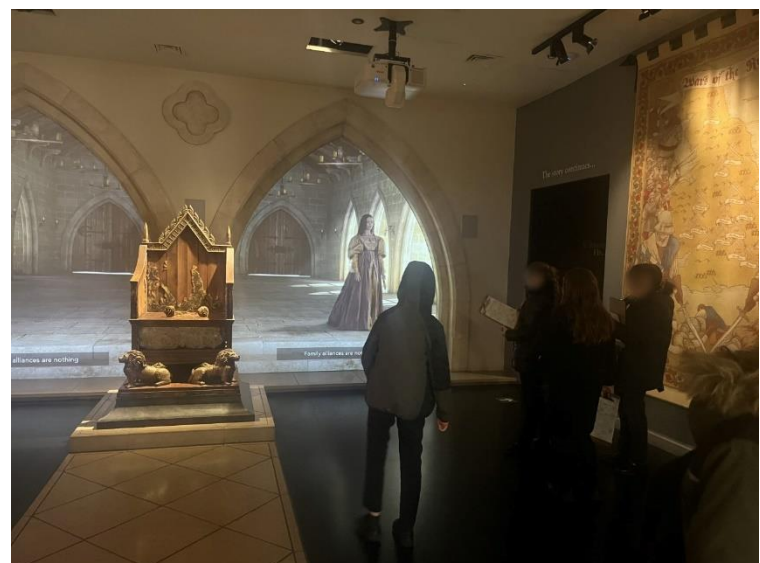
We are always looking for local businesses that will inspire and educate our students and expand our curriculum. If you can provide work experience, please give us a call on 01509 891906.

Humanities News:

This term in Humanities has been a busy one with lots of extra-curricular activities happening! The Year 8's had a visit from Mel Gould who is an ex-Soldier and the Curator of the Carillon Museum in Loughborough. Mel brought in a number of artefacts from the Museum related to WW1, which the students were allowed to handle and discussed the stories and history behind each one. Students finished off the session by dressing up and posing for a photo as the 'Maplewell Fusiliers'. Year 8 Map have also been out to visit Quorn War Memorial, where they were met by Mary Baird, a local Historian that has researched the lives of the young soldiers that fought and died in WW1 from Quorn. Mary showed the students photos and brought the names on the Memorial to life through her explanations of their histories and subsequent deaths. We then travelled to Quorn churchyard where the students had a talk delivered to them on the War Graves there, and were able to ask questions. This is part of the Local History unit covered at school where once back in the classroom, students continue with their research on these individuals and begin writing a report on them and their findings! Finally, Year 8 had a visit from the Author and Illustrator of the book 'Songster', which students learn about in Y8/9 History lessons. They were read to, shown paintings and images from the book (even some that were not included!) and told stories of this fantastic local War Horse, which the students (and staff) found fascinating.



Year 7 MAP visited King Richard III Visitor Centre, which coincides with their curriculum topics of 'Medieval Realms and Tudor England'. On this trip students took part in a workshop looking at whether King Richard III was a good/ bad King and whether they believed he did or didn't kill the Princes in the tower (his Nephews). Students then had to draw their own conclusions, using different historical sources and evidence to support this. All students displayed the key skills of listening, problem solving, creativity and teamwork from our skills builder framework. Students behaved exceptionally well and thoroughly enjoyed the day. This then fed into their curriculum and we studied King Richard and Henry VII the following lesson in more depth. In addition, students had a tour of the museum where they saw where King Richard was uncovered, read about how he was found and why he died there, while being provided with opportunities to ask questions from a Historical guide. There was also a little bit of dressing up, as what trip is not complete without a costume?



Maplewell Careers:

At Maplewell, it is important to us that our definition of Careers is inclusive and acknowledges that full-time, paid employment is not a realistic goal for all our students, and so at Maplewell, Careers is defined as Preparing for Adulthood. Families can find lots of information and resources on the Maplewell Careers website to help them make decisions about next steps, Further and Higher Education, Specialist Providers, The World of Work, Experiences of Work and Employment, by going to: <https://www.maplewell.leics.sch.uk/careers/> or by going to the school website and clicking on 'Pastoral' and then 'Careers'. Research shows that parents have the biggest influence on young people's career choices, so visit the school website to make sure you are as informed as you can be about their career choices and how best to prepare them for adulthood.



Post 16 Leavers Day:

On Friday 30th we had Leavers Day, and all the students had a great day. The theme was It's a Knockout. We had three different inflatables. Students took part in teams. The students all received a gift and a voucher for all their hard work. Thankfully the weather was kind to us and a great day was had by all.

The yearly cups were presented to:

- Level 2: Adam B
- Level 1: Connor W
- Entry 3: Jacob A
- Entry 2: Lilly-Sue L
- Effort: Freddy J



Dance Festival:

13 Maplewell students took part in a recent dance festival at the Curve Theatre in Leicester. They worked incredibly hard alongside Miss Crossley, to create an energetic and uplifting dance piece that warmed the hearts of the audience.



Medieval Day:

Last week the Year 7 and 8's were fortunate to experience activities linked to the Medieval Era. A local company, Aeons and Era's, came in and taught them lots of different skills, including: axe throwing, warrior training with broad swords, crossbows and catapults. The students had a great day and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The company that came in are holding a family event here at Maplewell Hall School on Saturday 15th July. If you would like to find out more information about the activities they will be offering the link to their page is <https://aeons-eras.co.uk/events/heroes-legends/>



Beacon Hill Sculpture Trail:

The Up to Beacon Hill Sculpture Trail opened in June and will be up until September 17, and is open from dawn until dusk. The trail celebrates harmony and healing for the planet and people. Featured in the trail is a timeline of the changes of the planet which begins 560-million years ago. It is inspired by the discovery of the Charnia fossil at Beacon Hill in 1957. The trail features more than 30 pieces of sculpture, including the return of the tiny tree people. You'll also be able to search for Oscar the Scottie dog, made from clay, who will move around the trail throughout the summer.



The sculptures are made by local artists, schools and community groups. All of our Year 8 students were involved in making the willow dragonflies which are now on display as part of the trail. Some of our students will be visiting the trail with school, but it is free to everyone to walk the trail, so do feel free to visit over the summer. A Fascinating Fossil Day is planned for August, involving free willow workshops and talks by The National Forest Company, geoheritage officer, Dr Jack Matthews. You can reserve your space by visiting the website www.artspace-lboro.co.uk.



Staff Success:

Well done to Miss Hurst for completing her skydive for charity, she jumped from 14,000 ft.

She managed to raise a massive £2,500 for Macmillan Cancer Support. Thank you to everyone who has donated.

“I’m overwhelmed by the amount of support I’ve received and I know this money will make a big difference.”

£203 could pay for a Macmillan nurse for a whole day!



Future Influencers at De Monfort University:

To end this year's 'Experience of Work', ten of our Maplewell students, three from Year 10 and 7 from Post 16 got the opportunity to take part in the Future Influencers Academy. Not only did they have the opportunity for some great learning, they also got to experience a university at first hand. The course was action packed starting with an introduction day with some ice-breakers where students got to be filmed in the G Room presenting the weather, flying through clouds, going to Hogwarts and walking on the moon using the latest technology. The rest of the day, students got to see how the professionals made content and how it was edited. This set the scene for the days to follow, where students got to learn how to record and produce their own short film and use Capcut which is one of the latest programs used by bloggers on TiKTok and YouTube. They learnt how to edit their films, synchronised sound to the film, choose and add a background and sharpen the colour and lighting to get the best results. The tutors went above and beyond to give the students a full experience. They were taken to the Greenhouse in the Art department and had a presentation around how a student could progress using art as the learning tool, and how fantastic results could be achieved. On the last day after doing the final edits of their films the students were taken to The Rooftop Garden to have their lunch with amazing views over Leicester. This was followed by a trip to The New Walk Museum and a look at 'time gone by'. The whole experience was great and really took the students out of their comfort zone but they all rose to the challenge brilliantly and were a credit to Maplewell!

Look out on the Website for further opportunities around work experience and experience of work or contact carmenblades@maplewell.leics.sch.uk



Post 16 D OF E:

In June nine students from P16 undertook their assessed three-day expedition. Groups walked for approximately 12.5km each day, camping at Tilton on the Hill for both nights. All students really excelled by demonstrating the huge variety of skills they had gained during their training sessions. Before undertaking the expedition, they learnt how to navigate using OS maps, pitch tents, Trangia cook, work as a team, administer first aid and observe the Countryside Code to name just a few. They supported each other throughout, ensuring morale was high, even under the torrential rain that swept across the county on the second morning.





YOUNG CARERS

If you're a young carer, you probably look after one of your parents or care for a brother or sister. You may do extra jobs in and around the home, such as cooking, cleaning, or helping someone get dressed and move around. You may also give a lot of physical help to a parent, brother, or sister who's disabled or ill. Along with doing things to help your brother or sister, you may be giving them and your parents emotional support too.

**MAPLEWELL
1ST EDITION**

WHO CARES?

Maplewell Cares!
We would like to offer further support to our young carers. We understand how hard this can be!
We will be offering termly groups, family support and a friendly face whenever you need some someone to talk to. More information to follow.....



Letter from the Head: End of Year Roundup

Dear Parents/Carers

I have to start with commenting on what a fantastic event the Prom was last week. It is our first Prom for a number of years and what a night it was! It was great to see so many of our Year 11 and Post 16 pupils enjoying themselves and having such a wonderful time. The DJ commented that he had never seen such an enthusiastic bunch of people before. Some pupils never left the dance floor all night. It was wonderful to see your children looking really swish and it was an immensely proud moment for us all. I am really looking forward to see if we can make it bigger and better next year.

At the other end of the school, we have had some really successful transition days for our new year 7 pupils and their families. After overcoming initial nerves, it was fantastic to see so many young people excited to be attending Maplewell in the future. The transition days were a great opportunity to share our wonderful school with a new cohort. It culminated in a whole school barbecue, where the catering staff excelled yet again, as they have all year.

Moving up to a new year group can also be a challenging time for pupils, parents and staff alike. We have strived to give our pupils as comprehensive a handover as possible. This is a process supported by our excellent teachers, pastoral team and support staff. It always amazes me to see pupils taking part in transition to post 16 during the last 2 weeks of term. It makes me realise how quickly time goes by and how we should all treasure the time that we spend at Maplewell.

Please do not hesitate in contacting us if there is anything more that we could be doing as part of the transition process. If you speak to us directly, we can respond quickly and get the very best outcomes for your children. Please do not criticise school on social media. This is particularly disheartening for everyone connected to the school and does not give us a fair opportunity to rectify any concerns.

This year has been an historic one for Maplewell Hall School, where we have finally been recognised, by OFSTED, as an outstanding school. I believe that the school has been so for a number of years but to finally get the ratification is satisfying for everyone connected to the school. We continue to grow as a school, with nearly 300 pupils and 180 staff. When I first came to Maplewell there were 112 pupils. The site development continues year on year in order to provide resources of the highest quality for all of our pupils. More changes will take place during the summer break, with state-of-the-art toilets being installed.

I wish to say a massive thank you to Miss Goode, who has been at Maplewell for over 20 years. She has always been conscientious in her planning in order to provide lessons of the very highest quality, across a range of subjects. She is an outstanding teacher and person, who is moving onto pastures new. Her positive demeanour and presence will be sorely missed by staff and pupils alike.

Thank you to all of the staff and governors for making Maplewell such a unique place and ensuring that we continue to provide the very best for your children. Thank you to every single parent and carer who continue to support the school and help us to move forwards. My final thank you is to the pupils. It is your school and one that you should be proud of. Enjoy the days that you spend with us and I hope that you appreciate all of the opportunities that we give you, in preparing for life beyond school. Have a wonderful summer break and we look forward to seeing you in the Autumn Term.

Jason Brooks

Headteacher