



Mayflower Primary School



Evington Drive, Leicester. LE5 5PH

www.mayflower.leicester.sch.uk
office@mayflower.leicester.sch.uk



Artsmark
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Weekly Newsletter – Edition 1

Now that the work is well underway for our Temporary Modular School on the playing fields on Ethel Road, I felt that the time was right to convert our weekly Temporary Closure Newsletter to just a Weekly Newsletter, where I can provide an update on all the exciting events that have been happening in school. I will also provide a photo-montage of some of the exciting learning that has taken place across each of our sites. I hope you welcome this small change to service, and that the focus can finally shift at Mayflower from RAAC to curriculum. As always, your feedback is most welcome, and I hope that the frequency of publications will more than make up for the possible lack of breadth!

DfE Visit to Mayflower

On Tuesday of this week, we were delighted to host a visit from a very senior official at the Department for Education. He wanted to see what life was really like on the ground for children, parents and staff during the current RAAC crisis. In the evening, I received the most wonderful report, and although I am not allowed to share specific details, the attending official commended everything we had done, and also recognised just how challenging the situation has been to manage. Quite rightly, the children were singled out for their behaviour, positivity, and also the capacity they have to adapt to new challenges. This is very welcome to hear, and also the fact staff efforts have been universally praised. Parents were also mentioned, and it is great to know that the DfE are taking such care to find out what is actually happening in schools. Going forward, my hope is that Government Ministers will now be able to say the right things to support school, as opposed to some of the platitudes that were published at the end of last month.

Nursery and Reception New Entrants

It gives me great pleasure to welcome all of our new children to Mayflower in Nursery and Reception Year. Already we have been struck by just how school-ready they are and quite literally everyone is raring to go! I have spent quite a lot of time with them this week, especially in the outdoor learning areas, and their confidence and creativity really shine through. Thank you for preparing them for school in such an excellent way, and I know that all of the staff are really looking forward to the year ahead.

Swimming in Year 4

As most of you will know, I have a real passion for the teaching of swimming, and it has been my pleasure to lead this with the children in Year 4. Our first session was last week, and today, the children swam again. One of the children in CR had asked me to bring along a crocodile, and I was more than happy to do this. Luckily, he only watched from poolside, but I wonder what he will do next week!! More seriously, the children have really enjoyed this weekly visit, and I remain proud that they will receive a total of 36-hours of tuition by the end of the year, which should be enough to ensure they can swim 25-metres unaided, which is the national standard for Year 6.

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Beaumanor Residential – Year 6

Excitement is also building in Year 6 where the staff have already introduced the residential to Beaumanor Hall. At the end of October, for 2-nights and 3-days, the children will be engaged in lots of adventurous activities, including the world-famous high-ropes and zip-wire! This provision will help the children to gain a real sense of independence, instil an eagerness to embrace challenge, to always aim high, and also a recognition that more can be achieved when we all work together. A parents' information has been organised, as follows:

- Date: Thursday 21st September 2023
- Time: From 4.00 pm
- Venue: Mayflower Primary School

If your child is in Year 6, we would be delighted if you could attend, and our firm intention is to ensure that all of our children come along, have fun, and experience that wonderful sense of achievement at the end of each day. I shall look forward to seeing you there!!

Wellies and Worms in Year 2

This week, some of the children from Year 2 have been walking up to the allotment for their weekly sessions with Mrs. Barnes. While there, they will engage in all manner of exciting activities, including the aforementioned worms. Given the rather warm and dry weather we have been experiencing, they might be hard to find, but look out on the Twitter Feed, and we'll be sure to share our findings with you! As these sessions continue to develop, please keep an eye out for harvest produce, because this is the time that all of the fruit and vegetables we have planted will be ripened and ready for consumption back at school. If there is a real surplus, we will encourage the children to take this home. As always, there is plenty for the children in Year 2 to look forward to!!

Middy Supervisors

I am delighted to report that we have successfully recruited another Middy Supervisor to our already established team, and she will be joining us in the very near future. I am also interested in recruiting more supervisors to the team, and am working my way through the names that have already been provided. If any of you are interested and have not already been in touch with the school, please feel free to email me:

- lwhitney@mayflower.leicester.sch.uk

And Finally....

My very sincere thanks for the outstanding support you continue to provide to school as our new systems begin to embed. Look out for the 2nd edition this time next week....

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Wow Moments in School

Here is a small selection of some of the amazing things that have been happening in school since the beginning of term:



Butterfly art in Y1



Shape sorting in Y1



Y3 Learning Partners



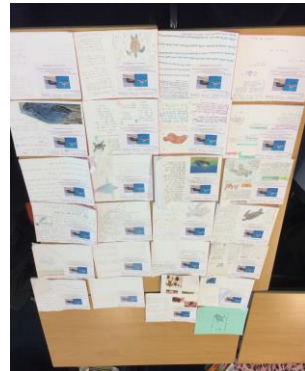
Ukulele in Y3



Swimming in Y4



One-word Goals in Y5



Turtles in Y5



Kindness in Y5



Shark research in Y5



Portraits in Y6



Portraits in Y6



Conscience Alley in Y6

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