



Maidwell Primary School

www.maidwellprimary.net



Newsletter No 132

Autumn.1 2025

Diary Dates

Start of Term:
3rd September

End of Term:
24th October

Our website includes a diary/calendar function which is maintained as our central point of information for all dates of events and activities in school.

There is also an option to download entries from the website into your own diary / calendar.

<https://www.maidwellprimary.net/Diary/>

Medication before school.



If you give your child any medication before school, (i.e. inhaler, nurofen...) please ensure a member of staff is verbally informed **AND** the online form is completed:

<https://www.maidwellprimary.net/Forms/>

Welcome back to the first Autumn term of the new school year – I do hope you and your family have had a relaxing break.

I'm delighted to be able to welcome our Reception class of 2025:

Cecily, Dorothea, Farrah, Felicity, Frankie, George, George, Gus, Nell, Storm

I'm also delighted to welcome Caylen into Year 5.

We hope you are your families love being part of our Maidwell family. *Mr Woods*

WATER BOTTLES

Water bottles should always be brought in to school and should only contain unflavoured water please.

Significant damage can be caused to teeth if children drink sugary drinks (even no-added sugar drinks) without the opportunity to clean their teeth soon after drinking. We encourage the children to drink all through the day so if they are regularly drinking a sugar based drink, their teeth could potentially be exposed to sugar throughout the day.

If your child does not have a bottle in school, they will be provided with a loan bottle. Please can any bottle borrowed be washed and returned the next day. Thank you.



PARKING REMINDER

Thank you for parking with care and consideration in the vicinity of the school:

- Our neighbours experience difficulties when exiting/entering their driveways if cars are parked opposite them.
- Please do not use the entrance to the staff car park as a turning area as staff are often leaving/arriving at the same time as pupils.
- Please remember that the lane by the church is vehicular access for residential driveways and houses and should be kept clear at all times.

Please ensure any grandparents/childminders are also aware of these pointers.

Thank you



All electronic documents: newsletters, letters, forms and policies are available in printed form - please ask at the school office.

Food Allergies

Please remember that we are a **nut-free school** due to having children with **SEVERE** nut allergies in our classes. **Please ensure packed lunches are nut free.**
Thank you for your consideration.



Birthday sweets, cakes and other edible celebratory treats.

Please do not send any edible sweets or treats into school for other children to share.
This includes birthdays, festivals or other celebrations. Instead, we would welcome an inscribed book donation for the school library. **** Thank you for the books we have recently received. ****

Whilst I can understand the disappointment and frustration with the above request, I do hope you can understand why this has to be the case. If you are unsure and would like further clarification or just to share your thoughts on this, please feel free to contact me. Mr Woods

Term Dates

Full academic year dates are published on the school website and include the school's five Staff Training Days. **Training days are not detailed on the calendar on West Northamptonshire Council's website.**

Open Library Sessions

Open Library Sessions continue with Mrs Henson on a Tuesday after school.

In addition to the children being able to access our library, our adults' library is also permanently available adjacent to the main school entrance - please feel free to browse.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Please remember that we need 48 hours' notice if you wish to book a place. If you wish to cancel your commitment, the school needs a term's notice to enable us to adjust staffing provision.

Breakfast Club costs £5.80 per session, is available from 8am and includes a breakfast and activities until the start of the school day at 9am.

Notice Period Reminder

Please remember that all sessions charged by the school (Breakfast Club and Get Outside Club) require a **FULL TERM'S NOTICE** (ie: two half terms) if you no longer wish for your child to use the facilities.

Please remember that **PE Kit in school colours** is to be worn in school **ALL DAY** on a Monday and Thursday. On colder days, **children are asked to wear tracksuit bottoms** for the day. It would be appreciated if PE kit did not include printed / overly colourful T-shirts or other items of fashion clothing. Plain clothing (or PE kit with the school logo) would be preferred.
Outdoor trainers (in addition to the footwear being worn indoors) would also be appreciated if the ground outdoors is wet / muddy.



PE (including swimming) is a statutory, not optional, part of the school curriculum and as such every step possible must be taken to ensure your child can take part - please speak to us if you are concerned about your child's participation in their PE lessons.

Safeguarding at Maidwell Primary School

- **Safeguarding is given the highest priority at Maidwell Primary School.**
- Safeguarding is everyone's business.
- ***It could happen here.***
- Designated Lead for Safeguarding (DSL): **Mr Geoff Woods**
- Deputy Designated Lead for Safeguarding (DDSL): **Mrs Tracey Wake**
- Please find Maidwell Primary School's Safeguarding Policy on the school website.
- If you have any concerns please report your concern to the DSL or DDSL.

Road safety:

Please can we remind you that children should be accompanied onto the playground before school and back to cars at the end of the day. Draughton Road is narrow, does not have a footpath, and is often used by large vehicles so, despite being a village lane, our road does have a significant number of hazards.

When dropping off children for breakfast club, please ensure they are **escorted** to the breakfast club entrance by an adult.

Please use the path from the playground and never use the car park entrance.

Picking up at the end of the school day / after a school club:

Can we please remind you that if your child is being picked up by someone other than yourself, we require you to inform us in advance. Doing so will avoid delay at the end of the school day. Please be mindful to avoid telephoning with regular changes close to the end of the school day, particularly on a Thursday or Friday when the school office is not permanently covered. The end of the school day is an especially busy time for all the school staff and you may experience your call not being answered in time.

Bumped Heads

Please remember that the school will inform you if your child has had a head bump by placing a head-bump wristband on their wrist. Details of the bump will be recorded on the wristband.

If your child is wearing a head-bump wristband when they come home, please refer to the school website for further head-bump advice. <https://www.maidwellprimary.net/Information/Health-and-Medical/>

If you are in any doubt concerning your child's health as a result of their head-bump, please do not delay in seeking medical assistance for your child.

Please take time to review your ParentPay account on a regular basis and ensure any payments are made in a timely fashion. We don't always send out separate reminders for payments due.



IRIS Please take time to review your ParentMail account on a regular basis to ensure your contact details are up to date **including a mobile phone number to receive SMS text messages.**

Please also detail any changes in emergency contact details **SEPARATELY and DIRECTLY** to the school office.



Martin Young will be joining us via Zoom on **Monday 15th September** to support us by creating images to further illustrate our stories and provide the children with writing stimuli for the term.

Thank you to the PTA for their amazing support last school year - your support is always appreciated.

THANK YOU PTA



AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS (Years 1 to 6)

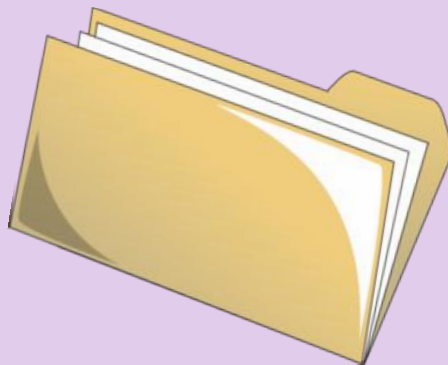
- ❖ If you would like to book a space for your child at the school's Get Outside Club (Tuesday) please contact the school office.
- ❖ For all our sports clubs please visit:
www.freestylegroup.co.uk
- ❖ For our Science club (Friday) please visit:
www.atomicscience.org/online-bookings

Parents' Consultations (Years 1 to 6): November 2025

Tuesday 11th Nov 2025 3:40-5:30pm Thursday 13th Nov 2025 3:40-6:30pm

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

The following policies are significant documents that can always be found on our [website](#):



- School Behaviour Policy
- Attendance Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

All of our other policies can also be found in the same area of the website. Policies can be provided in hard copy printed format if you would prefer. Please ask at the office.

The following forms are particular forms that you may find useful and these can always be found on our [website](#):



- Leave of Absence request
- Off-site Visit - Parental Consent
- Medical and medication forms

All of our other forms can also be found in the same area of the website. Forms can be provided in hard copy printed format if you would prefer. Please ask at the office.

Online Safety: In school we use a number of defences to ensure both our computer systems, staff and children are safe when we use the internet. These include:

- Exa Networks provide our internet filtering through a product called SurfProtect. This protection is always on and cannot be bypassed.
- Ashby Computers manage our network updates including Windows OS updates and our anti-virus, a product called ESET.

All of these systems are monitored by school staff and governors.



Medication before school

If your child is given some medication before school, such as Calpol, please ensure this is detailed to us via the form:

[Medication administered before school notification](#)

Medication administered before school notification

Maidwell Primary School
 (01604) 686240
busar@maidwell.northants.sch.uk
www.maidwellprimary.net
 Headteacher: Mr Geoff Woods

Information entered on this form is stored securely on the Cognito Forms platform until we download your submission. Submissions are then immediately deleted from the Cognito platform. For your information and GDPR compliance, please note the Cognito Forms platform is hosted outside of the UK / Europe.

Child's FIRST Name and Surname INITIAL (do not include your child's full surname) *

Child's class: *

☐ Reception ☐ Class 1 ☐ Class 2 ☐ Class 3

Medication: *

Reason for medication: *

Administration details (time, quantity, how):
Please detail WHEN the medication was administered and HOW much was administered.

Date administered: *

I can confirm that the medication detailed above was administered to my child as specified.

Signed (enter full name as signature) * Date *

If your child is taken ill suddenly during the day and we need to consult with a doctor or the ambulance service in your absence, it is essential we can detail what medication your child may have received that day.

Likewise, if your child takes regular medication or has a change in their medication, please ensure we are updated as soon as possible.

Routine Medical Appointments.

Where ever possible, please try and schedule routine doctors, dentist and optician appointments outside of core school time (9am to 3:30pm). School absences for medical appointments should be notified via: [Application for Leave of Absence](#)

Documentation of the appointment can also be provided via the link on the form which can prove useful should the DfE/WNC later challenge your request.

Our attendance registers are continually monitored (DfE / WNC) for regular patterns of absence and numerous routine medical appointments may well be flagged as unauthorised rather than authorised.

An authorised absence (medical) will not be granted for appointments across an entire day without prior discussion.

Thank You

Attendance

At Maidwell Primary School we know that good attendance is the key to successful schooling. We believe that all our pupils are entitled to the highest standard of education and are capable of achieving great things. However, this is only possible if children attend school every day.



All schools are obliged to rigorously monitor and challenge poor pupil attendance including **regular lateness**.

Regular absence is identified by considering those children who may be below the threshold of 96% attendance.

Persistent absence (below 90%) will often trigger involvement with the WNC attendance officers where further support can be discussed and offered.

The law states that children should attend school every day and there is no entitlement for parents to take their child on holiday during term time. It makes it clear that Headteachers cannot authorise any absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

I hope you can appreciate from the details above that attendance is very closely monitored, not just by school, but also by WNC and the DfE - our registers are electronically uploaded to the WNC and DfE on a daily basis.

I urge you to contact me and discuss any potential reasons for an absence or regular lateness to see if we can help in anyway to avoid further problems. Likewise, if you are concerned about your child's current attendance record, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you, *Mr Woods*

TIMES-TABLES



Times-tables are an essential tool for any child to be successful in maths.

So many aspects of maths can be hampered without sufficient times-tables knowledge but how can we encourage our children to learn them?

Whole class times-tables 'teaching' in school has a very limited effect.

Children need to 'rote learn' their tables, individually - this means committing them to memory as a known fact - something they can recall instantly.

Deriving tables by finger counting, using patterns, counting up in multiples are all excellent methods for practising their tables BUT cannot replace long-term the need for tables to be committed to memory.

We would always recommend a range of learning strategies:

- Verbally chanting,
- Mixed questioning,
- Computer timed games and activities such as RockStars,
- Poems,
- Songs.

No one technique will work for all children. However, what we do know from research is that regular and often is the best approach. **In reality, we have found over the years that 3 minutes daily practise (and it really does mean every day!) is the best way of learning our times-tables.**

If you need further advice on which tables your child should be practising, please contact your child's teacher. Also, if your child's RockStars login isn't working, please contact your child's teacher.

Finally, children in Year 4 sit the national Multiplication Tables Check in June each year. This is a computer based test of 25 random questions from any of the tables up to 12x12 with each individual answer having a time limit of just 6 seconds.

SWIMMING (YEAR 4)

Our swimming lessons form an integral part of our core PE curriculum and as such, participation is not optional.



Generally, if children are well enough to attend school then we believe they are well enough to attend their swimming lessons.

However, we appreciate sometimes children may need to miss an isolated lesson as they are recovering from an illness however we would ask that you discuss any longer term problems with a member of staff rather than allowing your child to persistently miss their swimming lessons.

If your child does need to miss their swimming lesson, please detail this in writing (via bursar@maidwell.northants-ecl.gov.uk).

Children need a swimming hat, swimming costume and towel to swim.

Children do not need their own armbands, floats or other swimming aids as these are all provided by the school.

Please also refer to our [information on our website](#) regarding the wearing of goggles as this is not appropriate for all children.

We often find we need to correct children not following the safe procedure for fitting and removing their goggles.

To avoid any eye injuries, please can you review the safety information detailed above and confirm with your child they are confident on how to use their goggles.



HANDGEL

Due to the obvious close proximity between children when in school, bugs and infections can potentially spread quite easily and quickly through a single class / the entire school.

Hand hygiene is an important factor in school as this can limit the spread of infections. Please can we ask that your child(ren) are actively encouraged to use the handgel situated at our doors.

EYFS STORY MORNING

We hold regular Talk for Writing mornings in our EYFS class. Parents of children in Reception are welcome to attend and see how we develop your child's story telling and Talk for Writing skills.

Please refer to our online diary for the date of our next story morning.

ONLINE SAFETY

Online safety is one particular area of our children's lives that is changing on an almost daily basis.

Fortunately, there are a number of particularly good resources available for parents to help navigate the dangers online:



Further information and many of these links can also be found on our school website [online-safety](#) page.

Spotlight: Maths

During last school year and this coming school year, we have engaged with a maths project called Enigma Maths Hub (<https://enigmamathshub.co.uk/>).

This project has allowed us to contribute to, and benefit from, extensive research across many aspects of the teaching of maths. We have always prided ourselves on our maths results (along with our other subjects) and we have seen this project as an opportunity to truly embed a range of secure ideas and practices to ensure our prior successes will continue backed up by solid research evidence.

We use the White Rose teaching scheme (<https://whiteroseeducation.com/>) for our maths teaching and this has fitted in seamlessly with our participation with the Enigma Maths Hub project.

Please feel free to ask if you would like further information.



Message from the NHS School Nurse Team



Did you know that every school has an NHS School Nurse team? We are a team of Qualified School Nurses, Community Staff Nurses, Healthy Child Practitioners and School Nurse Assistants. We work all year-round Monday to Friday (excluding Bank Holidays). We are happy to provide information, advice and guidance on a range of health needs from Reception to Year 13.

We can be contacted:

- By phone - 0800 170 7055 option 4
- Live chat: <https://www.nhft.nhs.uk/0-19>
- www.nhft.nhs.uk/childrenshub
- Chat-Health - our text-based School Nurse messaging service for parents and young people aged 11 and over, Monday to Friday 8:30 to 4:30 - 07507 329600
- On 'X' (twitter) SchoolNursesNHFT

You can also contact us for school aged immunisation queries:

- By phone - 0800 170 7055 option 5
- [Children's resources, tips and advice hub \(NHFT\)](#)

Do I need to keep my child off school?



Chicken Pox Until all spots have crusted over	Conjunctivitis No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Diarrhoea & Vomiting 48 hours from last episode	Glandular Fever No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Hand, foot & mouth No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Impetigo Until lesions are crusted & healed or 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
Measles or German Measles 4 days from onset of rash	Mumps 5 days from onset of swelling	Scabies Until after first treatment	Scarlet Fever 24 hours after commencing antibiotics	Slapped Cheek No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Whooping Cough 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
Flu Until recovered	Head Lice No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Threadworms No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Tonsillitis No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed		

LOST PROPERTY

All lost property is kept in a box in the school entrance - please ask and it can be made available to you at any time.

At the end of each half-term, any remaining lost property is checked for names and then stored in a labelled bag. These bags can also be made available to you - please ask at the school office.

After two half-terms, any remaining lost property is disposed of.



Advance Dates

Reception 2026
Open Days
30th Sept
22nd Oct
20th Nov

Sharing Assembly
24th Oct 2:45pm

Check out the school diary on our website:

<https://www.maidwellprimary.net/Diary/> for up to date details.

Reception

04/09/2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00 → 9:10 Register				
9:10 → 9:30 Phonics				
Continuous Provision 9:30 → 10:10	Continuous Provision 9:30 → 10:10	Continuous Provision 9:30 → 10:10	Continuous Provision 9:30 → 10:10	Continuous Provision 9:30 → 10:10
English Input 10:10 → 10:30	English Input 10:10 → 10:30	English Input 10:10 → 10:30	English Input 10:10 → 10:30	English Input 10:10 → 10:30
10:30 → 10:45 Break				
Maths Input 10:45 → 11:05	Maths Input 10:45 → 11:05	Maths Input 10:45 → 11:05	Maths Input 10:45 → 11:05	Maths Input 10:45 → 11:05
Continuous Provision	Continuous Provision	Continuous Provision	Continuous Provision	Continuous Provision
Guided Reading 11:30 → 12:00	Guided Reading 11:30 → 12:00	Guided Reading 11:30 → 12:00	Guided Reading 11:30 → 12:00	Guided Reading 11:30 → 12:00
12:00 → 1:15 Lunch				
PE 1:15 → 2:00	Adult-led Activity 1:30 → 2:30		Handwriting 2:30 → 3:00	Continuous Provision
PE 1:15 → 2:00	Adult-led Activity 1:30 → 2:00	Continuous Provision 2:00 → 3:30		
	Adult-led Activity 2:00 → 2:45		Continuous Provision 2:45 → 3:30	
Adult-led Activity 1:30 → 2:00		Continuous Provision 2:00 → 3:15		Book Club

Class 1

04/09/2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday		
9:00 → 9:10 Handwriting / Maths						
9:10 → 9:30 Phonics / Spelling						
English 9:30 → 10:00	English 9:30 → 10:15	English 9:30 → 10:15	English 9:30 → 10:15	English 9:30 → 10:00		
Yoga 10:00 → 10:30	10:15 → 10:30 Assembly		10:30 → 10:45 Break	Spellings		
Grammar 11:00 → 11:30				Maths 10:45 → 11:30		
Maths 10:45 → 11:30		Guided Reading 11:30 → 12:00		Guided Reading 11:30 → 12:00		
Maths 10:45 → 11:30		Guided Reading 11:30 → 12:00				
Maths 10:45 → 11:30		Guided Reading 11:30 → 12:00				
Maths 10:45 → 11:30		Guided Reading 11:30 → 12:00				
12:00 → 1:15 Lunch						
PE 1:15 → 2:00		Science 2:00 → 3:30				
Class Reader	RE 1:30 → 2:30		Handwriting & Booktalk 2:30 → 3:30			
Music 1:15 → 2:00		2:00 → 2:15 Class Reader	Computing & Online Safety 2:15 → 3:30			
PE 1:15 → 2:00			History / Geography 2:15 → 3:30			
Class Reader	RHE 1:35 → 2:35		Handwriting 2:35 → 3:05	Book Club		

Class 2

04/09/2025

Monday	Grammar 9:00 → 9:30		Yoga 9:30 → 10:00	Grammar 10:00 → 10:30		Class Reader 10:45 → 11:00		Maths 11:00 → 12:00		RE 1:15 → 2:00		PE 2:00 → 2:45	Spelling & Handwriting 2:45 → 3:30				
Tuesday	Spelling & Handwriting 9:00 → 9:15					English 9:15 → 10:15		Maths 11:00 → 12:00		Homework 1:15 → 2:00		Computing & Online Safety 2:00 → 3:30					
Wednesday						English 9:15 → 10:15											
Thursday						English 9:15 → 10:15											
Friday						English 9:15 → 10:15											
					Assembly 10:15 → 10:30		Break 10:30 → 10:45										
		Reading 10:45 → 11:15		Maths 11:15 → 12:00		Reading 10:45 → 11:15		Maths 11:15 → 12:00		Spanish 1:15 → 2:00		Music 2:00 → 2:45		RHE 2:45 → 3:30			
		Reading 10:45 → 11:15		Maths 11:15 → 12:00		Reading 10:45 → 11:15		Maths 11:15 → 12:00		Class Reader 1:15 → 1:30		History / Geography 1:30 → 2:45		PE 2:45 → 3:30			
		Reading 10:45 → 11:15		Maths 11:15 → 12:00		Reading 10:45 → 11:15		Maths 11:15 → 12:00		Reading 1:30 → 2:00		Science 2:00 → 3:30					
														Lunch 12:00 → 1:15			

Class 3

04/09/2025

Monday	Yoga 9 → 9:30		Maths 9:30 → 10:30		Break 10:30 → 10:45	English 10:45 → 11:30		Reading 11:30 → 12:00		Lunch 12:00 → 1:15	Grammar 1:30 → 2:00		RE 2:00 → 2:45		PE 2:45 → 3:30		
Tuesday	Spelling & Handwriting 9:00 → 9:15		Maths 9:15 → 10:15			English 10:45 → 11:30		Reading 11:30 → 12:00			Class Reader 1:15 → 1:30		Reading 1:30 → 2:00		Science 2:00 → 3:30		
Wednesday			Maths 9:15 → 10:15			English 10:45 → 11:30		Reading 11:30 → 12:00			Grammar 1:30 → 2:00		Spanish 2:00 → 2:45		Music 2:45 → 3:30		
Thursday			Maths 9:15 → 10:15			English 10:45 → 11:30		Reading 11:30 → 12:00			Maths 1:30 → 2:00		PE 2:00 → 2:45		Maths 2:45 → 3:30		
Friday			Spellings & Homework 9 → 9:30			English 9:30 → 10:30		History / Geography 10:45 → 12:00			Assembly 1:30 → 2:30		Computing & Online Safety 1:30 → 2:30		RHE 2:30 → 3:30		