



Mapledene Termly
News
Winter Issue
2024



Key dates for January - April 2025

Monday 23rd December 2023 Centre Closes at 2pm Christmas Break
Thursday 2nd & Friday 3rd January 2025 Centre Closed Inset Day - Monday 6th January Centre reopens for children from 8am - 5.45pm - Wednesday 29th January Chinese New Year
Monday 7th April - Thursday 17th April Easter Holiday - Tuesday 22nd April Centre Closed Inset Day
Thursday 6th February Extended Services Parent's Forum - Friday 7th February Day Care Parent's Forum - Friday 14th February Valentines/Friendship Day - Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February Half Term - Wednesday 19th February Red Book Day - Friday 28th February St David's Day
Tuesday 4th March Shrove Tuesday - Thursday 6th March World Book Day
Friday 7th - Friday 14th March British Science Week - Monday 17th March St Patrick's Day/Parent Teacher Consultations - Friday 21st March Red Nose/Comic Relief - Friday 28th March Mother's Day - Monday 31st March Eid
Friday 11th April Playing Out - Monday 14th March Easter Bonnet Workshop - Wednesday 16th March Easter Parade

Visit our web page at www.mapledenechildrenscentre.co.uk

Termly News

We congratulate our sight preemies manager, Luke on the birth of his new baby and thank everyone who helped us to raise £380 for Children in Need. All enquires linked to nursery fees, extra days or invoices, please email Pamela for assistance. If you live in Hackney and have a child with, SEND or are you a young person with SEND? If you are, Hackney's 0-25 SEND Local Offer website has information about service and support options on offer locally, click on the link for more information www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk We have a NO SMOKING or VAPING policy that we must adhere to. We ask you kindly to not smoke or vape insight of the building on drop off and pick up. If you are unable to collect your child at the end of the day, please note that we will not allow anyone under the age of 16 to collect children. We also do not allow staff to babysit children registered at Mapledene.

Mapledene will close for Christmas on Monday 23rd December at 2pm. Please make arrangements for your child, to be collected no later than 2pm. We wish you all, a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Mapledene will open for the children on Monday 6th January 2025 at 8am - 5.45pm.

Apples & Seedlings

Staff will plan nature trails for the children to explore and get to know their community. Children in Apples & Seedlings will experience visits to their local shops and learn about people in the community who help them. Staff will organise a visit to a police station, laundrette, hairdressers and other places of interest within the community. Apples & Seedlings children will also compare homes and what they like to do with their families.

Maples

Maples children have a busy term ahead of them as they incorporate the new theme 'My Home and Neighbourhood'. They will have opportunities to explore their own neighbourhood and visit the Museum of the Home. Your children will talk about their own homes and what they do as a family, including places they have visited. Maples children will celebrate different events and learn more about diversity. As a class they will vote for change, to their role play area and participate in collecting role play tools. Maples children will focus on their books of the term which include 'people who help us', 'all are welcome' and 'my mummies home, my daddies' home. Maples will also welcome more children into their class as they help their new friends become familiar with the routine.



If you have not already completed your online primary school application for your child to start school in September 2025. Please do so before the closing date of Wednesday 15th January 2025. Applications received after the closing date will be deemed as late which can affect your choice list of schools. If you need help with your application, please let the office know.

Curriculum

Our new theme for the spring term will be 'My Home and Neighbourhood' Teaching children about their home and neighbourhood helps them build a sense of belonging, safety, and responsibility. Here are some effective and fun ways you can help your children: You can attend neighbourhood events, festivals, or markets to help your children engage with their community. Share stories or interesting facts about your home, neighbourhood, or city that you remember as a child. You can take regular walks, pointing out key landmarks like parks, schools, shops, and emergency services. Introduce your neighbours to your children to help them learn the names of a few trusted people. This can foster community spirit and safety. Helping your child learn about their home and family adopts a sense of identity, and connection. Look at these very practical and fun ways to teach your children about their home and family...Create a family tree with names, photos, and relationships and share stories about each person. Develop a photo album and look through old family pictures and explain who is in them, where they were taken, and what they represent. Involve your children in small household tasks to show how everyone contributes, like setting the table or organizing toys. Talk to your children about what makes your family special, such as hobbies, traditions, or phrases. Talk about kindness, sharing, and other values important to your family, using examples from your daily life. Mapledene's new theme, will be interrupted in different ways linked to the age and stage of all our children. We ask you all, to get involved in your child's learning by sparing some time to come in and participate in activities. You can even share your story telling or creative skills with us.



Environmentally Friendly Tote Book Bags

We have taken delivery of brand-new cloth Book Bags. Each bag cost £6 and are available to purchase from your child's room base and the office. These bags are very versatile and can be used to carry your child's reading books and work they have created at nursery.

Max's Bispoke Bird House



Max from Maples room, was very pleased and proud, to donate his new bird house to all his friends at Mapledene. It is now ready for birds and his friends to enjoy.

Good Manners Matter

At Mapledene, we strongly believe that promoting good manners in our children, involves teaching them the values of respect, kindness, and consideration for others. We help your children to adapt their manners to different environments and role play scenarios, like greeting their friends in the morning, asking for help, requesting more or saying sorry. Staff use role play and set up learning scenarios to support your children in developing respect for all. Good manners are a lifelong skill; by fostering them early together we can help your children to build strong social relationships and a solid foundation for their future success. Please and Thank You goes a long way.

Extended Services

Mapledene's January - April 2025 Programme of Activities is available on our website or you can pick up a copy at reception. The programme offers fun activities every day that are suitable for all ages and stages of your child's development. Mango room staff are on hand to support you with parenting issues and give advice on child development as well as signpost you to other agencies. Check out the programme of activities for session start times, there is a cut of time for each session so please come early to avoid disappointment. Our stay and play sessions are attached to messy play, physical literacy, bouncy castle and little cooks. You are welcome to come and see for yourself.

Friends of Mapledene

We are currently, still looking for a new Friends of Mapledene Secretary, Chair and Treasure. Their role is to oversee fund raising for Mapledene. Friends of Mapledene meets virtually once a term at a time that is convenient for all members. We hope these positions will be taken up by our parents. Funds raised will go towards Mapledene's whole centre Summer Trip for 2025.

Video Interaction Guidance (VIG)

VIG supports parents with children under the age of three years old, to become more sensitive to their child's communication. A VIG therapist works with the parent to look together at videos of successful, positive moments between them and their child, helping the parent to recognize their strengths and discover new skills. If this is something you feel would help you as a parent, please see a member of the office staff for further information.

Christmas Performances



Please contact the office immediately if you have made changes to your contact details.

Staffing Structure

Mapledene said goodbye to the finance officer Serap in November, and look forward to welcoming Arif our new finance officer in January 2025. **Apples and Seedlings** room will continue to be led by Liz who will be supported by Olu, Tola, Tannae, Rumena and Mirembe. **Palms** room will be led by Merlene and supported by Krystle, Kayland, Jack, Tanya and Georgina. **Maples** room will be led by Krishna and supported by Yasmin, Jasmin and Scarlett. **Mango** room staff is led by Nasima who is supported by Mariam. **Kitchen** is led by Chantelle, and supported by Maseray and Deslin. Please note that staff are used across the centre to cover and support other rooms. We also host students on placement or work experience throughout the year.

What children say and do

Children are like sponges and will absorb what is going on around them, this includes actions, words spoken and gestures. Mapledene's children come from a wide variety of families and will bring with them, what they have learnt from home and consolidate this with what they have learnt from nursery and their friends. On occasion your child may come home with a new word or phrase they may have heard and will repeat what they hear. Staff talk to the children as a group to make them aware of how words or phrases spoken may harm others. We work closely with parents to make sure we are all saying and doing the same thing at home and nursery. Having open discussions with children, helps them to have a better understanding of how words carry meaning.

Palms

Palms room children will work within the new theme 'My Home and Neighbourhood'. This will include community walks, supporting the children to focus their attention on places within their community that is important to them. Staff will support Palms children to help recognise and celebrate families and different types of homes. Through story and role play scenarios, palms children will have opportunity to talk about their families and share pictures and stories about what they do at home. You can support your children with this by ensuring they take part in show and tell and feed back to staff about what your children have experienced at home with their family.

Picture updates

We would all like to thank Briony (Simran's mum) for her time and patience. Briony set up a photo shoot for staffs' professional pictures, to update the staff board. Briony also took an amazing selection of children's pictures participating in their daily routine. These pictures have been used to update our admissions brochure and will also be used to update our website. Briony, your time and efforts were very much appreciated.

Useful links

Pick Up the Cup <https://education.hackney.gov.uk/content/introduce-solid-foods-and-pick-cup?guidebook=1250>

Teach your children basic Makaton signs <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/p07ctr6/mr-tumble>

Common childhood illnesses <https://cambspborochildrenshealth.nhs.uk/common-illnesses/>

Childcare Choices <https://mailchi.mp/db5688d6b1b7/15-hours-childcare-application-date-now-announced?e=de312b3af3>

Self-regulation <https://birthto5matters.org.uk/self-regulation/>