

# Mabel Prichard School

## Weekly Newsletter



### Message from the Headteacher

#### 12th July 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had a wonderful week with the two summer festivals celebrating our learners' achievements throughout the year. One of our secondary students, Julian, organised an ice cream van for both sites and there were some stunning performances from our choir and individual learners and we officially opened our sensory wall on primary. There are photos later in the newsletter.

We also had Break Through Properties into secondary on Wednesday to work on our sensory garden. They cleared the whole area and put a drop curve into one end, which has improved accessibility at both ends. The space is now clear and refreshed and is ready to start planting for the autumn harvest.

We are very much looking forward to our assemblies for the year 14s leaving us and the primary students who are moving sites to secondary next week. The secondary assembly is at 1.45pm in Titanium Class and Rosie's Cafe will be open afterwards. The primary assembly at 10:00am in the primary hall.

You will shortly receive information about your son or daughter's class and class teacher for next year. I am sure you have also seen our consultation about the expansion of the school on the primary site, which means in September we start to move away from a 'primary' and 'secondary' model to a blended model where the current primary site will blend key stage 2 and 3 over the next few years. We have a first few year 6s not moving to secondary next year in preparation for this.

Sharing the new class lists is also an opportunity to say goodbye to two of our teachers. Firstly, a goodbye to Hamish, who joined us as a Pastoral Support Worker, Higher Level Teaching Assistant and has been Green class teacher for the last year. He is moving to Iffley Academy, another Gallery Trust School and we wish him all the best but will very much continue to work with him within the Trust. Sam Butler-McLees is also leaving after nearly 4 years working in our early years/key stage 1 phase, and leading it for the last 2 and a half. Sam is moving to a special school in Swindon and we also wish her well. We would like to thank both Sam and Hamish for the work they have done with our learners and feel confident they will be a great asset in their new schools.

You will also receive your son or daughter's annual report from their teacher next week along with a survey asking for your views of the school.

Have a wonderful weekend. I believe there is a football match.

Best wishes

Lucy

### Coming up:

Thursday 18th July  
Secondary leavers' assembly

Friday 19th July  
Primary 'movers on' assembly

Break up for summer holidays  
1pm

Member of the



Artsmark  
Gold Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England

# News from the Classrooms

## Purple Class

Purple class have had a busy term. We have enjoyed continuing with our phonics work and it has been great to see their, progress, confidence, and enjoyment around reading develop. The pupils have been continuing to develop their writing skills by writing their names, simple sentences and some of the pupils have begun to use their imagination and creativity to develop their ideas into stories.



The pupils have embraced the new Maths for Life scheme of work and have enjoyed the number, capacity and data handling topic. Not only have they been developing their mathematical thinking, they have been developing their creativity, social skills and problem-solving skills.



In class, the pupils have continued to develop their life skills, by working on their communication skills. This term we have enjoyed learning about being healthy and linked this to our cooking session by chopping and experiencing a variety of fruit. We have continued to visit SOAP (South Oxfordshire Adventure Playground) and it has been lovely to see the pupils in Purple class developing their friendships and learning to socialise with others.



# News from the Classrooms

## Titanium Class

Titanium class have had another action packed half term, they all enjoyed the summer festival this week, it was lovely to celebrate with family and friends. Thanks to Julian who arranged for the ice cream van to attend, you made lots of people very happy. We have also made people happy by serving delicious food in Rosie's cafe. The theme for food over the past four weeks has been Euro 2024 every week we have been cooking a different dish from the competition, a firm favourite was Turkish kebabs. The students also arranged a sweep stake for staff and have enjoyed recording the results from the matches. Come on England!



A highlight of the term has been our visit from Pam Clements (Pat Butcher) it was lovely to hear about her career and enjoy a cup of tea and cake with her. We have also attended weekly career lessons students particularly enjoyed learning about the weirdest jobs, lots of them (and staff) were interested in becoming professional sleepers. Students will start their work experience placements in September, which is very exciting. Joshua, Kaylah and Rhianna will return to Donnington Doorstep after the holidays they are all thriving on their placements, well done we are very proud of you all.

We are now busy preparing for our leavers assembly on and are going to be sad to say good bye to our leavers but are exciting for them all and their colleges are very lucky to be having them.





HEADTEACHER'S  
**AWARDS**  
AWARDED FOR AIMING HIGH





# Summer Festival





## Skills Builder Focus: Aiming High

This term our Skills Builder Focus is 'Aiming High'. Everyone can Aim High, we all have strengths and areas to develop. Aiming High is about having clear goals that are relevant and important to you.

With two weeks of term left everyone's minds are beginning to look to the summer holidays. Now is a great time to think about not only the summer holidays but of the future too. What would we like to achieve in the coming months or even just over the summer holidays? When thinking about the summer holidays, consider what a successful summer holiday will look like? How will you achieve this and what might you need?

The Skills Builder Homezone has some great skills challenges for families that you might like to consider exploring over the summer holidays. They can be found at [Skills Builder Homezone](#).

We would love to see anything you do at home with your son or daughter that shows their success so please continue to share on Class Dojo.



## SEND Oxfordshire Conversations for Parents and Carers

<https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/send-oxfordshire-conversations-for-parents-and-carers-july-2024>

Oxfordshire County Council are bringing together parents and carers of children and young people with SEND across Oxfordshire and representatives from the SEND local area, including the county council, NHS Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board and the Oxfordshire Parent Carers Forum in order to share a brief update on the overall progress they are making to improve SEND services and put a spotlight on:

- Listening to the voice and views of SEND children and young people.
- Their work with mainstream schools to develop enhanced support for SEND.
- Progress they are making to improve the timeliness of education and health care (EHC) needs assessments.

Throughout the events, there will be opportunities for attendees to ask questions and provide feedback. There are 2 sessions taking place on 1st July from 12:00-13:30 or 19:30-21:00. Booking closes on 28th June. Parents and carers also have the opportunity to complete a [survey](#).

# Upcoming Autism-friendly Openings at the Oxford University Museum of Natural History

Autism-Friendly Openings coming up at the Oxford University Museum of Natural History between now and the end of the Summer Holidays.



Saturday 6th July, 9am - 10am  
Saturday 3rd August, 9am - 10am  
Friday 23rd August, 9am - 10am

The sessions are free but booking is required which can be done via the [website](#).

## Short Breaks

Please find below links to the July Short Breaks newsletters.



[Short Breaks Update for Families with Disabled Children and Young People March 24](#)

[Short Breaks update - Parent/Carer Support Groups](#)

## Keeping Safe Online



[Internet Matters](#)

[NSPCC](#)

[Safer Internet](#)

[ThinkuKnow](#)

[Childnet](#)

