



Maun News

November 2024

It's official...on Friday 1st November, Maun Infant and Nursery School became an academy and formally joined the Forge Trust! Confirmation was given with very short notice in advance of our conversion date, leaving no time to share this exciting news prior to the holidays. However, we're very pleased to start the half-term with our new status and continue our work alongside the seven other academies in the Trust.



Despite the recent holiday for children, the last two weeks have been a very busy time at school! School offices by the main entrance were redecorated over the summer and in the October break, work was completed to fully redecorate our school entrance and hall. We think the new colour scheme has given a brighter and more modern look to this part of our school building, and look forward to the same treatment in other areas throughout school, in time to come.



Significant work has also been completed in our school library, where the floor has been raised so there is no longer a step down into this area. This will improve internal access to classroom areas on the back of our building and the new flooring has given a real lift to the space. Huge thanks go to the Forge Trust who have organised and fully funded this work. What a super start to academy life!



Staffing News

By now, I'm sure you're already aware of the tragic loss of Mrs Frearson's husband, who passed away very suddenly just after the start of the new school year. Dave was a very well known member of the local community, who had clearly touched many people's lives, shown by the number of people who attended his funeral a few weeks ago.

Though Mrs Frearson is not back at school yet, we're keeping in regular contact and hope to have her back with us soon. In the meantime, we're keeping Mrs Frearson and her family in our thoughts, and sending lots of love.

On a much happier note, I'm pleased to let you know that there were more wedding bells during the half-term break, following Mrs Hunt's marriage over the summer. Miss Grubb has now tied the knot too. Many congratulations to the new Mr and Mrs Pugh!



Parking

Please be reminded to drive and park courteously on Walesby Lane, particularly at the start and end of the school day when the traffic is heaviest. Grass verges and driveways of residents MUST remain clear, along with the area of road outside

Forest View which is marked with zig-zags. This is for the safety of the children and families at both academies. Thank you.

Science Achievement

I'm delighted to let you know that our curriculum development in Science over the last year, has been recognised through successful accreditation of the Primary Science Quality Mark (PSQM). As our Science curriculum leader, Mrs Hunt has been the driving force behind the work this has entailed, lots of which has been done outside of school in her own time, for the benefit of our children. Thank you for your hard work and dedication Mrs Hunt - we're thrilled to have our curriculum achievements acknowledged!



OPAL Development

Please remember to think of us if you have items at home which you no longer have a need for, as we continue to develop our play provision at school. This term, our children have particularly loved using the new digging area and mud kitchens, and are waiting in anticipation of the upcoming opening of our newly developed sand pit. (I suspect some of the staff are just as excited as the children!)



Our new welly storage racks are now in situ and are ready for use from this half-term, when it's likely the weather may be more wet. As a result, we'd ask that all

children in F2, Y1 and Y2 now bring in a pair of wellies which will stay at school. Please label both wellies inside, with the name of your child before sending in (and be aware that we will label any wellies where this has not been done already).

I'm sure you can imagine that getting all our children trained up to quickly and sensibly change from school shoes into wellies (and back again at the end of playtime), will be a challenge. Please do as much as you can to help us by ensuring that your child knows what their own school shoes and wellies look like, and supporting their independence with changing between the two. Having a practice at home would be particularly

helpful and very much appreciated! Please be aware that changing will happen outside to avoid mud being brought into school. Other OPAL schools have great success with this, even with their youngest children, and we firmly believe that if others can do it, so can we!

Please also note that:

- Children without wellies will not be able to access areas on the playground/field which may become muddy
- Children will not be permitted to wear wellies indoors so must have school shoes to change into (wellies are uncomfortable to sit in on the carpet and will bring mud inside after playtimes)

School Start and Drop-Off

Please be reminded that the school day for full-time children in F2, Y1 and Y2 starts at 8.55am. To offer some flexibility at this busy time, and especially for families with more than one child to drop off, we do aim to open our doors from 8.45am each day. However, this is not a guarantee, particularly on a Friday when all school staff meet for a weekly briefing before the start of the school day.

School Finish and Pick-Up

Similarly, we continue to offer a 10-minute 'pick-up slot' at the end of each day to try and reduce the congestion around our school site at this time. Though the school day for children F2-Y2 ends officially at 3.25pm, school doors will be open between 3.20 and 3.30pm for pick-up.

Please be aware that we make maximum use of all the time children spend in school for learning purposes, including right up to the end of the day. Increasingly over the last few months, we've noticed some families coming early to collect children on more than one occasion. Not only does this result in missed learning time for children, it places pressure on the school office at a time when there is only one member of staff. If Mrs Solomon is regularly taken away from her desk to fetch children for early collection, she is unable to address the queries of parents popping to the hatch, or answer phones to ensure important last-minute messages are passed onto class teachers.

To help us manage this more effectively, all parents and carers should:

- Try to make arrangements so that children are only collected early when there is a valid reason and no other option (heavy rain or having a friend waiting, don't count as valid reasons I'm afraid)
- Give prior notice to the school office by phone or email when an early collection is necessary. This should be by no later than 2.30pm on the day, to give us chance to get a message down to class so that your child can be ready for you when you arrive

Many thanks in anticipation of your support with this.

Events This Half-Term



As always, it's going to be a busy half-term in the run up to Christmas! In the next few weeks, some events to be aware of are:

The **Book Fayre** arrives tomorrow, on Tuesday 5th November and will be with us until Friday 8th. There are always lots of lovely books to choose from so please come and have a browse after school on one of these days.



As is tradition, the **Remembrance Day parade** will be taking place through Ollerton on the morning of Sunday 10th November. It's also tradition for a small group of Maun children to represent the school in the procession, laying a wreath in the memorial garden on behalf of the school. Usually, this role is undertaken by 6-8 Year 2 children (though this is not essential), wearing school uniform and accompanied by a parent or carer. Please let us know by Wednesday this week if you are planning to attend the parade on Sunday and would like your child to be considered to join the procession on behalf of the school. Should many children be put forward, we will choose names at random and confirm by the end of the week. Many thanks.

Help Needed



Poppies will be available from today, outside from the bottom of the school path each morning and

from the book fayre after school each day this week.

Anti-Bullying Week will be taking place from Monday 11th November. The theme this year is 'Choose Respect' which is particularly close to our hearts at Maun and fits perfectly with our school rule to 'be respectful'. Work during the week will include children across school considering how to



ODD SOCKS DAY

show respect for people's diversity. As always, we will also be partaking in **Odd Socks Day** on Tuesday 12th November, when children are invited to wear odd socks (with normal school uniform please) as this is a very visual way to represent diversity, plus it's good fun too! We've already begun practising our song about our favourite socks to sing on the day (if your child hasn't already, do ask them to sing it to you).

Friday 15th November is **Children in Need**. On the day, children are invited to come dressed in something yellow or otherwise Pudsey-related and make a cash donation to the cause. (Please don't go out and buy anything especially for the day, simple non-uniform is also fine too.)



And finally, it's already that time of year when parents and carers of nursery-aged children are starting to apply for full-time school places for next September 2025. Applications for school places at Maun, should be made through the Admissions Hub at Notts County Council between 4th November and 15th January. To help local families make a decision about whether or not we are the right place for their child, we will be holding an **Open Evening** on Tuesday 19th November between 5 and 6pm. Please do come along if your child is due to start full-time schooling in Reception (also known as F2 or 'Butterflies' at Maun) next September (2025), and let relevant friends and family members in the local community know, if they are not already members of our Maun Team.

Open Evening

Will your child be starting school for the first time next September 2025?

Join us for our Open Evening, before you apply for a school place, to find out if Maun Infant and Nursery School is the right place for your child.

Maun INFANT & NURSERY

School admissions

Application period	Open Evening	Start of school
4th November - 15th January	Tuesday 19th November 2024	September 2025

Many thanks as always for your continued support of the school.

Best wishes,

Miss Norman

Headteacher

Diary Dates:

Mon 4 th Nov	Children back to school
Tues 5 th Nov	School photo retakes
Tues 5 th – Fri 8 th Nov	Book Fayre after school in hall
WB Mon 11 th Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-Bullying Week • Clubs start
Tues 12 th Nov	Odd Socks Day
Fri 15 th Nov	Children in Need
Tues 19 th Nov	Open Evening (new F2s 2025)
Thurs 12 th Dec, 2pm	KS1 Christmas Performance
Mon 16 th Dec, 9.30am	KS1 Christmas Performance
Tues 17 th Dec	KS1 Panto Visit
Thurs 19 th Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas Parties • Christmas Dinner
Fri 20 th Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas Jumper Day • Last day of term
Mon 23 rd Dec – Fri 3 rd Jan	Christmas holidays
Mon 6 th Jan 2025	Children back to school
Thurs 9 th Jan	New nursery children start date
Thurs 16 th Jan	School Dinner Taster day
Tues 11 th Feb	Safer Internet Day
Mon 17 th – Fri 21 st Feb	Half-term holidays
Thurs 6 th Mar	World Book Day
Mon 7 th Apr – Fri 18 th Apr	Easter holidays
Mon 21 st Apr	Bank holiday
Mon 5 th May	Bank holiday

Thurs 22 nd – Fri 23 rd May	Y2 Perlethorpe Residential
Mon 26 th – Fri 30 th May	Half-term holidays
Mon 2 nd – Thurs 5 th June	INSET Days
WB Mon 9 th June	Y1 Phonics Screening Check week
Tues 29 th July	Last day of term
Mon 1 st Sept 2025	Start of new school year 2025-26