

The Courtyard aims to offer an outstanding educational and social provision that will equip our students with the skills and experiences needed to discover and live out their potential



St Mary Magdalene Academy  
**The Courtyard**

## The Courtyard Weekly Newsletter—Friday 9 October 2020

### Deputy for Behaviour and Safety Notice—Louise Norman

#### Celebrations this week

##### Star of the week:

- Aaron for working hard at the gym after school
- Max for working hard at the gym after school
- Charlotte for completing her amazing business logos in ICT.
- Dillon for his improved chess skills at games club
- Xaundre for being an excellent poker player
- William for listening and calming down when he got frustrated.
- Paris for her fantastic engagement and positive attitude in RSE lessons!!
- Elsharief for excellent time keeping to get his lunch independently!
- Callum for being kind and respectful to his peers.
- Kion, for working well with Dennis and producing a good sales pitch, in English.
- Tyrese E for working well independently in Workskills.
- Chloe for her hard work and helpfulness in the lesson.
- Maddy for working well in art and asking questions to improve her work



##### Student/s with the most merits this week:

Well done to, Tyrese QB, Nathan M and Charlotte!

**This week's Votes For Schools topic:** This week, we are marking [Black History Month 2020](#) with a topic centred on a longstanding debate that has been brought to the fore by this year's anti-racism protests here in the UK: diversity in the school curriculum. Students will be reflecting on the question: "**Does the curriculum represent you?**", which will provide them with the opportunity to explore how diverse their education is, and how this could be improved upon.

### Deputy for Teaching and Learning Notice—Katherine Healy

#### INDEPENDENT LEARNING TASKS (ILTs) (Homework)

The Courtyard's vision and goal for our pupils is to leave us with enough confidence, qualifications and independence to live a successful, adult, independent life. This includes going on to college to pursue a course or training in a subject or area which is a passion for our pupils. It is therefore imperative that we prepare pupils for this and being able to study independently is a key skill.

Next week's ILT is ENGLISH

## Independent Learning Task



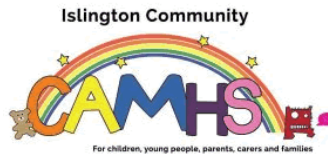
Teachers have posted the task on Google Classroom so pupils can do their work on the computer. A hard copy of this task is attached to the email this week.

## Courtyard Parent Workshops: 2020-21

The next Parent Workshop will be on **Wednesday 4th November from 4-5pm.**

It will be held by the **Dami Onegbasen, our new CAMHS clinician** who will be sharing information about **supporting your child's mental health at home.**

As last week, the workshop will be conducted via Google Meet. Mrs Healy will be sharing the invitation to join on Monday 2nd November. The session will also be recorded and emailed to parents who are unable to attend. I would encourage you to attend if you can so that you can ask questions to our host and get immediate responses to any specific inquiries.



## Black History Month—English

Mrs Redman, our Lead Teacher for English, has planned a comprehensive programme of study for English next week, including:

- Groups being divided into teams to complete a general knowledge quiz consisting of 3 rounds: Research / Guess the Person / Name the Country.
- Groups watching a variety of films such as:



- The Help: - The novel/film takes place nearly a century after the end of slavery, yet many of the black characters still work extremely demanding and unpleasant jobs. What factors (social, economic, educational, etc.) keep them in these sorts of positions?
- Pride: - How is racism depicted in this film and how do the main characters respond to racism?
- The Blind Side: - "The Blind Side simply depicts the struggle of a black American male on his journey to becoming a member of a white American society". To what extent do you agree or disagree with this summary of the film?
- A Wrinkle in Time: - What does the main character value the most in life? How can you tell?
- Black Panther: - "Black Panther is more than a superhero movie. It's cultural footprint is enormous". Agree or disagree?
- Groups writing their own openings of a story based on the below image (a black and white photo of performers at Notting Hill Carnival many years ago)



- A number of teachers will be engaging in BHM activities. See p.6 for an overview of what will be going on in lessons at The Courtyard next week.

## This week's Votes For Schools Topic:



### Vote Results:

Two weeks ago, we worked with our friends at /Together to find out your opinions on volunteering in your community. Here's what you thought:

#### Should everyone volunteer in their community?



"'Everyone' is a strong word. Not everyone should or has the capacity to. People don't always have the time, energy or health to volunteer."

Yes  
33.8%



No  
66.2%

"Give back! Do your part for the greater good! There's nothing stopping you!"



### This week's VoteTopic:

This week, we're celebrating Black History Month! Following many discussions this year about representation in the curriculum, we want to know if you feel that the curriculum does a good job of representing you.

#### Does the curriculum represent you?



##### Discuss at home:

- What you learned in school and whether it represents you, your history and your identity.
- What Black history you learned in school – was it diverse? Did you learn much about Black British history?
- The things you like and don't like about your school curriculum.

##### Student research points:

- Find out who The Black Curriculum are and what they do.
- Look up an interesting person or event that represents your history or background and explain your choice.
- Find out what the National Curriculum is and why it exists.
- Use the [Black History Month UK website](#) to learn about a person or event you've never heard of before.

For **advice** on where to go if you are worried by anything explored in the lessons, head to the **next slide**.



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@VotesForSchools2020



## Need some advice or information?

### Advice

**BLACK MINDS MATTER UK**

**Black Minds Matter** are on a mission to connect **Black individuals and families with free mental health services**. Click the image to find out more, or search "Black Minds Matter".

**Sad Girls Club** is a US-based non-profit organisation that seeks to **connect young people and break the stigma surrounding mental health**. Click the image for their site, or search for them.

~~SMALL TALK~~  
**REAL TALK**

**BBC FUTURE**

BBC Future's article on "Why race matters when it comes to mental health" provides useful guidance and information on **how to ensure you are looking after yourself and others**.

### Information

#### SHOW RACISM THE RED CARD

**Show Racism the Red Card** is the UK's leading **anti-racism educational charity**, running sessions around the country. Click the image to read their reports, or search "The Red Card".

**The Black Curriculum** have some great resources on their website, including their **plans for making Black history and culture a key part of the curriculum**. Why not look them up?

**THE BLACK CURRICULUM**

**BIM 2020**

To learn more about **those who are long overdue a place in our history books**, the Black History Month website is a great place to start. Search "**Great Black Britons BHM**" or click the image.

@VotesForSchools2020

# Important messages from Islington:



## **An important message from Cllr Kaya Comer-Schwartz, Lead Member for Children and Families and Julie Billett, Director of Public Health for Islington and Camden**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Islington Council's top priority is keeping people safe and supported throughout the pandemic. As a parent or carer, we want to reassure you that our work with schools to ensure they are kept safe for children, school staff and their families is our top priority.

Schools in Islington spent the summer holidays putting in place measures to protect children, staff and their families and they continue to keep those plans under close review to help prevent the spread of coronavirus.

You will be aware that the government recently announced new national restrictions to help stop the spread of coronavirus, but these measures do not affect schools, which will remain open for all children.

Like many other boroughs, there have been a very small number of confirmed coronavirus cases in our Islington schools – in each case, the council works closely with the school to ensure appropriate action is taken to keep everyone safe. If you would like further information on the measures schools are putting in place, contact your child's school or email [pupilservices@islington.gov.uk](mailto:pupilservices@islington.gov.uk) or call 020 7527 3747.

School is the best place for children and young people to learn, build their confidence and support their wellbeing and development. That's why it's so important that we all work together to make sure we keep schools safe. To help protect yourselves, your families and everyone in your community, please remember to:

- **Stick with six** – do not meet with more than six people at any time, indoors or outdoors and try to limit the number of people you see socially over a short period. When meeting with anyone who isn't from your household, stay 2m apart.
- **Wash your hands regularly** – for 20 seconds, with soap and running water, especially before and after school, before and after eating, and after using a tissue or the toilet.
- Wear a **face covering** in public places, including shops and public transport and when picking up or dropping off your child.
- **Create space** – stay 2m apart from people who are not from your household, particularly in public places. **Please do not stay and chat at the school gates at drop off and pick up times. Remember to keep a safe distance from other people outside your household or your child's bubble group.**

Please find more useful information over the page on how we're here to help with financial and practical support and help getting into jobs and training.

Thank you for playing your part in tackling this virus and keeping you, your friends and your family safe.

Yours,

Cllr Kaya Comer-Schwartz  
**Lead Member for Children and Families**

Julie Billett  
**Director of Public Health for Islington and Camden**





# Important messages from Islington:

## Check your symptoms

The symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If you or someone in your household start to develop any these symptoms make sure you self-isolate straight away and book a covid test - either by calling 119 or booking online at: [www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test](https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test)

We know it can be hard to get a test - but please keep trying because new appointments and test kits should become available throughout the day. There is now a local test centre in Islington - but you must book before you visit.

## Support if you're on a low income

People on a low income and who cannot work from home may be entitled to a one-off payment of £500 through the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme. Details of how to claim will be available on our website [www.islington.gov.uk](https://www.islington.gov.uk)

## Help getting into work or training

Anyone who is unemployed or facing unemployment who needs help getting back into work or retraining please contact our iWork team on 020 7527 2706 or email [iWork@islington.gov.uk](mailto:iWork@islington.gov.uk)

## Flu vaccination

Primary school and Year 7 pupils can get the free, annual flu vaccine at school – this is even more important this year. Flu vaccines will be administered through the school.

You can contact the **school nursing team** with any questions or concerns about Covid-19, for example if you are from a Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic group or if there are grandparents or vulnerable family members at home. Email [whh-tr.IslingtonSchoolNursing@nhs.net](mailto:whh-tr.IslingtonSchoolNursing@nhs.net) or call 020 3316 8021.

## We are here to help

Please remember that the council continues to support people in the borough who are struggling due to coronavirus and need practical help or support and the **We are Islington** helpline is open 7 days a week. Call 020 7527 8222 or email [weareislington@islington.gov.uk](mailto:weareislington@islington.gov.uk).

## **Subject focus in lessons next week beginning 12th October 2020**

<b>Maths Entry Level</b>	Black History Month connections - explore influential black figures in STEM careers, engineering paper airplanes project
<b>Maths FSL1</b>	Black History Month connections - explore influential black figures in STEM careers, engineering paper airplanes project
<b>Maths GCSE</b>	Black History Month connections - explore influential black figures in STEM careers, engineering paper airplanes project
<b>Maths Statistics</b>	Black History Month connections - explore influential black figures in STEM careers, engineering paper airplanes project
<b>Maths A/AS</b>	Black History Month connections - explore influential black figures in STEM careers, engineering paper airplanes project
<b>English Entry Level</b>	Black History Month connections - analysing films and producing descriptive writing
<b>English FSL1</b>	Black History Month: Organisational features
<b>English GCSE Lang</b>	Black History Month connections - exploring influential black figures,
<b>English GCSE Lit</b>	Black History Month: Poetry (Langston Hughes and Maya Angelou)
<b>ICT Informatics</b>	Introduction to Computer Science: The Maze coding 15 to 20 challenge .
<b>ICT FSL1</b>	Black History Month- stories of influential black Britons who have impacted UK laws and equal rights.
<b>ICT FSL2</b>	Black History Month- stories of influential black Britons who have impacted UK laws and equal rights.
<b>ICT ECDL L3 PPT</b>	Black History Month- stories of influential black Britons who have impacted UK laws and equal rights.
<b>Science BTEC</b>	Black History Month - explore influential black figures. looking at science trail.
<b>Home Cooking</b>	Food safety Hazards
<b>Hospitality</b>	Types of Hospitality Business or Occupational Skills
<b>PSD</b>	Healthy Living: Dental Health
<b>WorkSkills BTEC</b>	<b>Year 1:</b> Skills Assessment to match personal skills and qualities with different career possibilities. <b>Year 2:</b> Personal and Social Relationships: Respect and Responsibility.
<b>P.E.</b>	Games week
<b>Creative Expression</b>	Creating a puppet show under the direction of a team leader.
<b>World Studies</b>	Our symbolic world - Looking at early forms of our symbolic thinking
<b>Art</b>	Learning about and creating artwork in the style of black artists such as: Jean Michel Basquiat, Kara Walker and Jack Whitten
<b>RSE 6th Form</b>	To reframe negative thinking and identify ways to learn from setbacks
<b>RSE 6th Form Independence Group</b>	To be able to explain differences between male and female clothes
<b>Independence Group</b>	Creating a healthy food plan.

## This week at The Courtyard

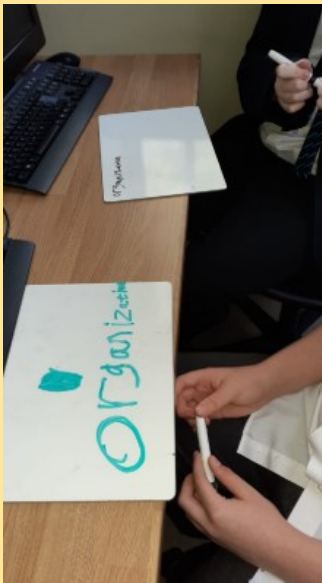


**Garden study:** Jonathan—Y13



**Hot Seating in Creative Expression:**

Tyrese—Y12, Max—Y11, Miss Lucas, ???



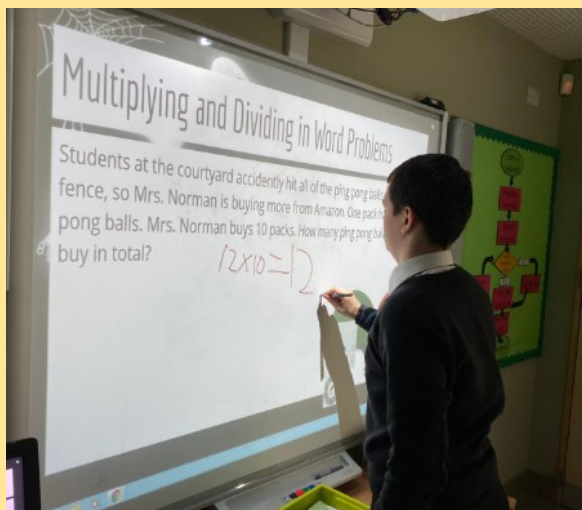
**Is The Courtyard a business or an organisation? ICT:** The opinion is unanimous!



**Happy faces at The Courtyard:** Keira—Y11 and Paris—Y10



## This week at The Courtyard



**Real world application in Maths with Miss Barton: Buying new ping pong balls when they all get hit over the fence!**

William—Y10



**P.E. in the church gardens:**

Enkel—Y9, Paris—Y10, Lula—Y11, Mr Saunders, Azariah—Y13, Keira—Y11, Miss Bromovsky



**Independence Group—creating conversations. Clockwise from above:**

Lula—Y11, Azariah—Y13

ElSharief—Y13, Mr Lopez, Jonathan—Y13, Paris—Y10, Miss Bromovsky, Henry—Y13

