

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 Fortnightly Newsletter—Friday 14th January 2022**

### **Courtyard Residential—Macaroni Woods—12-15 May 2022**

We are delighted to announce the return of the school's annual school residential to Macaroni Woods.

Macaroni Woods is a residential adventure centre located in the heart of the Cotswolds, approximately 2 hours from London. This residential provides a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to engage with each other and staff in a more informal environment, developing a variety of skills that our more formal school setting does not provide the opportunity to.



Places will cost £180. This cost covers all accommodation, transport, food and entry to activities. Pupils are not required to bring any other money.

More details can be found in the email sent out earlier today. We are restricted to only 15 pupil places. Places are allocated on a first come, first served basis. Places can be reserved by replying to the email or returning the reply slip attached to the letter.

### **School Survey Results—Dec 2021**

Before Christmas we asked pupils, parents and staff to complete surveys to provide us with feedback on our provision and guidance on how things could be improved.

I am delighted to report very positive feedback. Thank you all for your contributions.

#### **Parent survey highlights:**

94.1% of parents feel their children are safe in school

88.2% of parents feel their children are making good progress at school

100% of parents feel that the Courtyard expects their child to work hard and achieve their best

100% of parents feel that behaviour is managed appropriately

100% of parents feel their child is happy and well looked after

#### **Pupil survey highlights:**

87.5% of pupils enjoy coming to school

92% of pupils feel safe at school

86.9% of pupils have friends at school

#### **Staff survey highlights:**

100% of staff are proud to be part of the Courtyard team

100% of staff feel children are safe at school

94.4% of staff feel the school is well led and well managed

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## S.C.E.R.I Curriculum

At the courtyard from Spring Term 1 we are starting to implement a new SCERI curriculum. SCERI refers to Social Communication, Emotional Regulation and Independence respectively. At the courtyard we believe that it is important to teach our pupils skills that aren't achieved academically. The SCERI targets are skills which will help students live and work independently once they have graduated from The Courtyard. These targets will change every term and is going to be implemented through a Keyworker curriculum, as well as teachers utilising them in every lesson.

Every student will have their own personalised targets for the term that relate to the themes under each heading.

For Social Communication the target this term is "Asking Questions". We want students to be able to ask questions to support their understanding inside and outside of the classroom setting.

For Emotional Regulation the target for this term is "Managing Change". We want students to be able to recognise that change is going to happen, and it is manageable.

For Independence the target this term is "Organisation". We want students to develop their organisational skills to support themselves throughout the day, or even learn how to set long-term goals for themselves.

We are also using the 'Skills Builder' platform to help explore each target.

If you would like to work through the targets together at home you can go to: [www.skillsbuilder.org/homezone/getting-started](http://www.skillsbuilder.org/homezone/getting-started) and follow their resources for home learning.

For Social Communication we are looking at the 'Listening' and 'Speaking' Programs



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### Subject focus for the next 2 weeks from Monday 17th January

Week Beginning	Mon 17th Jan	Mon 24th Jan
<b>Maths Entry Level</b>	Recognise, name and describe properties of 2D Shapes	Recognise, name and describe properties of 3D Shapes
<b>Maths FSL1</b>	Fractions - writing, ordering, adding/subtracting, fractions of amounts	Fractions, decimal and percentage conversions and percentage of amounts
<b>Maths GCSE</b>	Plans and Elevations	Constructions, Loci and Bearing
<b>English Entry Lev-</b>	How authors build excitement/tension	Analysing characterisations
<b>English FSL1</b>	Identifying authors techniques to create a villain	Analysing characterisations
<b>ICT Informatics</b>	complete 2 coding tasks / Informatics Course- E-Safety project 1	complete 2 coding tasks / Informatics Course- E-Safety project 1
<b>ICT FSL1</b>	Create your Music Festival Excel Spread sheet include all items that would sell and the cost	Music Festival Spreadsheet using sum formulas to work out the Total Cost
<b>ICT FSL2</b>	Create your Music Festival Excel Spreadsheet include all items that would sell and the cost	Music Festival Spreadsheet using sum formulas to work out the Total Cost
<b>ICT ECDL L3 PPT</b>	Apply settings so that slides advance manually, advance using timings if present. Apply settings so that slide show is presented with animation, without animation	Level 3 PowerPoint Presentation Spring Assessment
<b>Science BTEC</b>	Lifestyle Choices	Lifestyle Choices and Diseases
<b>Home Cooking</b>	Practical assessments and write up.	Learning to make Chicken Goujons and evaluating
<b>Hospitality</b>	Unit 3 continued: Storing Food Safely	Learning to make Chicken Goujons and evaluating
<b>PSD</b>	Keeping safe online and where to get help.	Keeping our bodies safe- including learning about different types of assault.
<b>WorkSkills BTEC</b>	Presentation requirements in different types of workplace	The effects of inappropriate personal presentation in the workplace
<b>P.E.</b>	Cardiovascular endurance	Muscular endurance
<b>Creative Expres-</b>	Reading body language in drama.	Understanding the use of vocal tone in drama.
<b>World Studies</b>	Revision of the Balkan Peninsula and Nationalism	The Austro-Hungarian Empire - Looking at Ethnicity and Culture
<b>Art</b>	Comparing historical artwork to contemporary artwork	Creating artwork based on historical and contemporary research
<b>RSE 6th Form</b>	Why do people have Romantic Relationships	Relationship Scenarios: Identifying different types of negative and positive relationships
<b>RSE 6th Form In-</b>	Continuing Positive and Negative behaviours	What is Love? Exploring examples
<b>Independence group</b>	Understanding behaviours that would cement a friendships and behaviours that would destroy a friendship.	Using a bank card and learning about paying for things online

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## 6th form update



### SIXTH FORM MASTERCLASS WITH ITV



Yesterday, Thursday 13th November Sixth formers had a masterclass with Michele Voznick- Head of Legal for Data and Privacy - Media and Entertainment at ITV Broadcasting.

Michele shared her career journey with students and explained the different routes into becoming a solicitor. Students had many interesting questions related to Data Protection and Privacy, such what cookie privacy is, and what happens if you don't accept cookies.

### TRANSITION SESSIONS



The first two sessions for the Independence students will take place on Thursday 27th January P4 & 5 and on Thursday 10th February P4 & 5.

For the rest of the leavers, these sessions will take place one every two weeks during keyworker time. On a rotational basis, there will be a masterclass one week and in the following week there will be a key worker session for Sixth formers led by Mr Kelly and a transition session for leavers led by Elena Vidal. The first transition session for leavers will be next Thursday 20th January.

### Work Experience with Multiplex

During this session students worked with the senior social value and community manager, Amy Dawson and the project director, Andrew Feighery. This session consisted of a welcome, personal introductions and settling in, an introduction to the project, some light quizzes and interactive engagement on what they understand about construction and what their favourite buildings are and why, and finally, some information and detail about what the 6 weeks will look like so they understand the set up and expecta-



TAKE THE LEAD



Next week the sixth formers will be starting their journey on a short course called 'Take the Lead', which uses drama skills and techniques to prepare students for the workplace as well as outside world after school. Take the Lead involves a performance-packed virtual launch event to kick start the experience, followed by a performance at the Old Vic called 'A Number', then four workshops covering speech and language techniques, team building and confidence building. Miss Lucas and Miss Dixon, who are leading Take the Lead, are very excited about the course and expect that students will be heavily inspired and motivated afterward!

### Work Experience Update

Autumn WE placements extremely successful, a big well done to all students participating and a big thank you to all members of staff who supported the placements.

The WE projects that have ended are The Garden Classroom and WorkDay, the rest of the placements are continuing although they're shortly coming to an end. At the moment, Multiplex and Soapbox are on hold due to Covid restrictions, they will hopefully resume soon. New WE placements will begin after February half term.

### Visits to colleges

The Sixth form team is organizing visits to colleges. These visits will be very enjoyable and enriching for them as students will have the opportunity to ask questions and take pictures. We encourage all Sixth formers to attend unless your child is leaving and has only one preferred choice/ has a secured place already. These visits will help leavers to decide which college will be the right fit for them. We also encourage parents to come along, especially if your child is a leaver. Your child will bring a letter home today with the first visit to college next Tuesday, City and Islington.

Confirmed visits:

CITY AND ISLINGTON - Tues 18th Jan

CONEL - Tues 25th Jan

CAPEL MANOR- Tues 1st Feb

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## Courtyard Celebrations



### 14.01.22 KS4 Star of the week

Ruby for asking for extra work and completing it by the next day

Luke for contributing to his world studies class and being curious about his learning

Katie for completing her PSD work in the office independently to a high standard.

Katie for her great effort in Science this week.

James for working really well on his 'cut-outs' lesson in art

### 14.01.22 KS4 Star of the week

Ruby for her mature attitude towards developing her skills in asking questions.

Daniel, Ian and Jack N, for all working extremely well in their keyworker using their social skills to ask a variety of questions to each other.

Katie for her excellent work in hospitality

Kodee for his hard work and his discussion contributions in English.

Dorian for help encouraging his peers to push on in the lesson

### 14.01.22 KS5 Star of the week

Azariah for retaining so much information about healthy eating and nutrition

Dennis for staying without being asked to throughout lunch break to work on an essay for 'A Christmas Carol'

Amy for excellently defending her argument in RSE

Henry for effort and independence in English.

Aymene for giving his all whilst planking

### 14.01.22 KS5 Star of the week

Callum for his focus and listening skills in ICT lessons

Azariah for remembering features of Excel Spreadsheet in ICT

Angelina for leading 2 relaxing meditation sessions this week

Dev for working incredibly hard and listened carefully during Literacy

Angelina for being an amazing friend and welcoming in Queenie to the courtyard with pen arms

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Most merits last week	Bronze – 200 points	Silver – 350 points	Gold – 500 points	Platinum – 700 points
IAN 54	DORIAN 499			
KODEE 51	PROM 486			
XAUNDRE 49	WILLIAM 466			
AYMENE 43	DILLION 408			
DANIEL 40	CHARLIE 394			
	IAN 392			
	KODEE 369			
	JOHN 362			
	RUBY 321			
	NAOMI 320			
	XAUNDRE 301			
	SHANE 296			
	DANIEL 296			
	ANGELINA 281			
	YIGIT 272			
	JACK N 267			
	JACK B 258			
	KATIE 255			

**Keyworker with the most Dojos**

Miss Nahar and Mr Black



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### A snapshot of the last two weeks

