

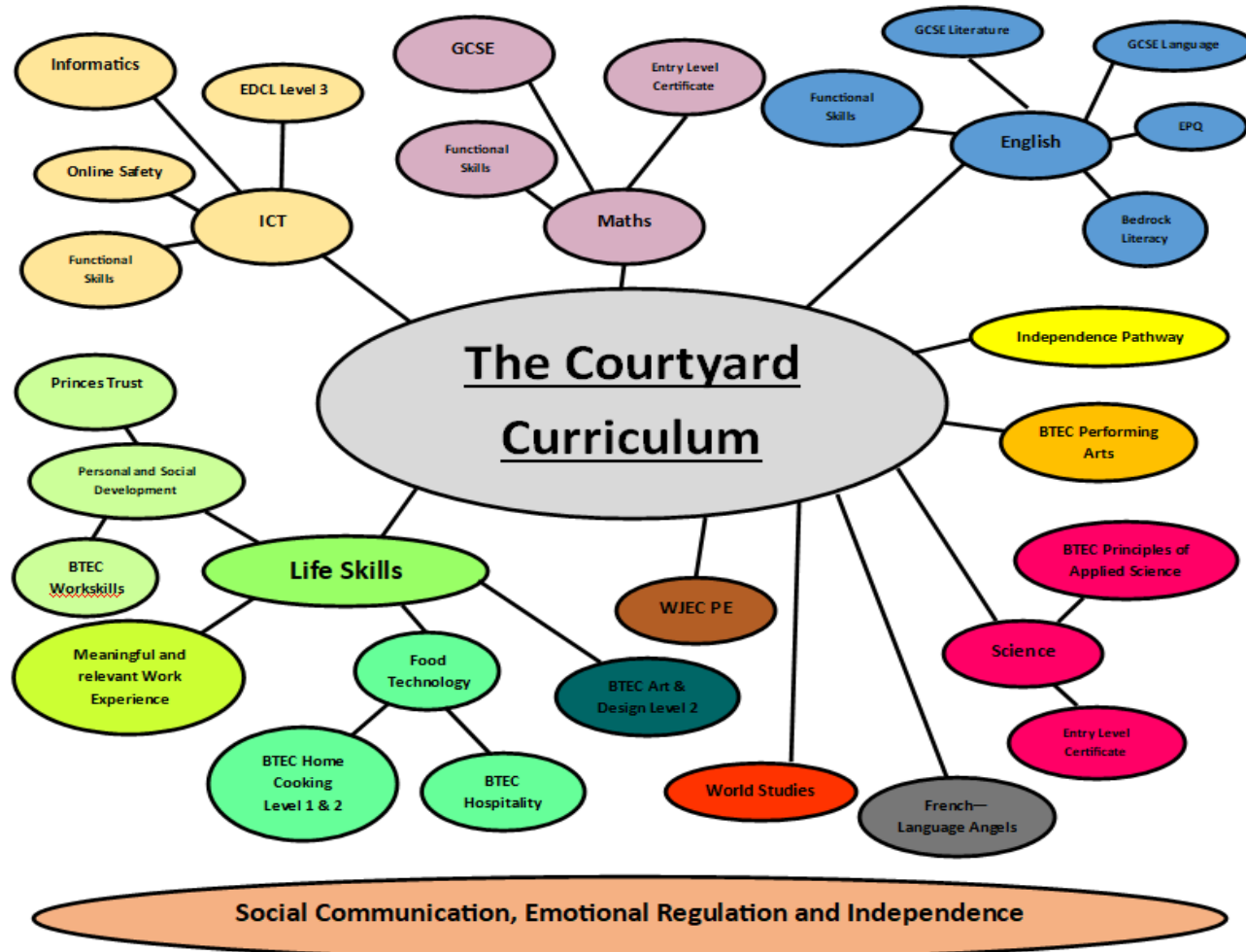
The Courtyard aims to offer an outstanding educational and social provision that will equip our students with the skills and experiences needed to discover and live out their potential.



St Mary Magdalene Academy  
**The Courtyard**

## The Courtyard Fortnightly Newsletter - Friday 14th October 2022

### Creating an inspiring and aspirational curriculum



As mentioned in the previous newsletter, the Courtyard curriculum continues to evolve to best meet the needs, interests and aspirations of our cohort of students. We continue to ensure that students are working towards qualifications that will benefit them in the future as they continue their journey into college, training or employment.

At the heart of the Courtyard curriculum is our understanding that being ready for college, training or employment isn't just about qualifications, hence our significant focus on the life skills of social communication, emotional regulation and independence.

In order for your child to make maximum progress in all areas of the Courtyard curriculum offer, it is crucial that they attend school every day. Progress can only occur if learning is embedded into the long-term memory. Skills, knowledge and understanding must be repeated frequently in order to be remembered.

**Support your child to achieve their potential by ensuring they attend school every day.**

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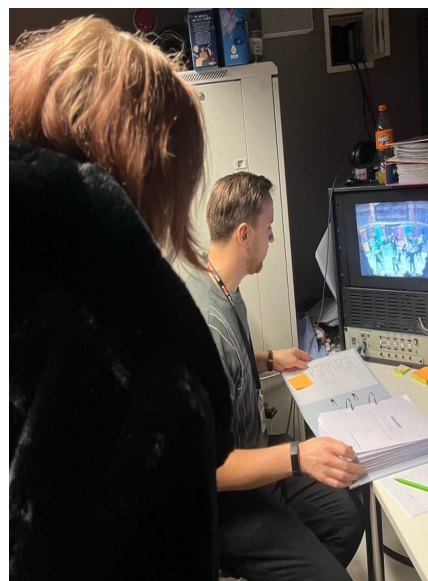
## SIXTH FORM UPDATE

### Student WORK EXPERIENCE

Work experience placements are a great way of introducing our students to the world of work and helping them explore different career options. This term some of our Sixth Formers had the opportunity to gain some work experience at farms, banks, theatres and a university.

We aim to equip our students with the life skills and tools needed to support them in making decisions for their future and where they aspire to be upon leaving The Courtyard.

After a successful first half of the Autumn Term here are a few snap shots of our students taking part in their allocated work experience:



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## Jack Petchey Award for Student of the Term

### WINNER: YIGIT CAGIRIR

Students said:

“Yigit deserves the award because he is always friendly and welcoming, especially to students who are new to the school this year”

Staff said:

“Yigit’s attendance, behaviour and attitude to learning generally have been brilliant this term. He is kind, has a great sense of humour and really deserves this award”



## JACK PETCHY AWARDS



### WINNER: DESTINY ENYINDA

Students said:

“Destiny should win the Student of the Term because she is always kind”

Staff said:

“Destiny is a hard working, friendly and positive student who has made a fantastic start to her time at the Courtyard. Well done Destiny and keep up the great work!”

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## School Council



During this first half term the School Council for this academic year was elected. Students worked independently on speeches to put themselves forward for the council and to explain why they would be good members of the council. The whole school participated in the election and we have a fantastic group of students representing the student voice!

The school council meets every Monday to discuss issues and upcoming events. This half term we have discussed how to adapt to the new premises at Saint Davids, brainstormed ideas for the Jack Petchey award and put forward ideas for new events that the students can take part in.

Next half term, we will focus on creating solutions for any issues that are discussed or brought forward by students. The council will be writing articles, editing features and collating students' writing across the whole school that will contribute to the School Magazine. The School Council will be instrumental in organising the Christmas party at the end of term to ensure their fellow students can celebrate in style and have lots of fun!

I am very impressed and proud of the effort and respect shown in School Council meetings this half term; the students are responsible, fair and articulate themselves brilliantly. The School Council has established a positive and effective communication between staff and students that benefits everyone.

Miss Coburn



Charlie - Chairman  
Chloe - Deputy Chairwoman  
Keira - Secretary and KS5 Representative  
Harry - Communications Officer  
Dorian - Treasurer  
Elliot - KS4 Representative  
Kodee - Independence Officer  
Jesiah - New Student Representative  
Jack - Editor of School Magazine  
Naomi - Editor of School Magazine

## SUMMER TERM FORTNIGHTLY SUBJECT FOCUS

Week Beginning	Monday 31st October	Monday 7th November
<b>Maths Entry Level</b>	Multiplication	Division
<b>Maths FSL1</b>	Scale drawing	Fractions and decimals
<b>Maths GCSE</b>	Algebra (unknowns)	Algebra (unknowns)
<b>Maths Statistics</b>	Understanding Population, Sampling	Recognising and using Sampling meth-
<b>English Entry Level</b>	Connective sentences to explain. Punctu-	Paragraphs and extended writing
<b>English FSL1</b>	Creating the opening chapter to their	Review and edit their dystopian story.
<b>English GCSE Lang Group 1</b>	Non Fiction Paper 2	Non Fiction Paper 2
<b>English GCSE Lit Group 1</b>	Poetry Anthology - Conflict	Poetry Anthology - Conflict
<b>English GCSE Lit Group 2</b>	Using Key Terms to deconstruct texts-	The language of comparison
<b>ICT Informatics</b>	2 x coding tasks	2 x coding tasks
<b>ICT FSL1 &amp; 2</b>	Using spreadsheets software to produce graphs and perform calculations.	Use the MAX, MIN and AVERAGE functions
<b>ICT BCS/ICDL L3 PPT</b>	Looking at features of PowerPoint	Looking at features of PowerPoint
<b>Entry1-3</b>	Introduction to spreadsheets	Features of a spreadsheet exercise
<b>Science Entry Level</b>	Stopping Distances	Speed=distance/time
<b>Science BTEC</b>	Identify methods of producing electricity from different sources	Demonstrate building simple series and parallel
<b>Home Cooking</b>	To understand that everything we do need Energy	Practical Lesson
<b>Hospitality</b>	Explain the concept of occupational skills	Practical Lesson
<b>PSD</b>	To describe positives of social media	To recognise when we are being manipulated by online content
<b>WorkSkills BTEC</b>	Reflecting on our own skills, qualities and behaviours	Reflecting on our own skills, qualities and behaviours
<b>P.E.</b>	VolleyBall: adhering to the rules/conventions.	Volleyball:To be able to perform skills associated with team game
<b>World Studies</b>	Consumer Culture: Fast Fashion, Cheap Distraction	Fossil Fuels: Oil wells and fracking
<b>Art</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- BTEC unit 1: Creating wallpaper design with the theme of mechanisms</li> <li>- BTEC unit 3: Intro to fabrics</li> <li>Fabric priming</li> <li>- BTEC unit 6: Comparing contemporary art with Pop Art</li> <li>- AQA: Showing texture in Still Life</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- BTEC unit 1: Clock museum evaluation</li> <li>- BTEC unit 3: Stencils</li> <li>- BTEC unit 6: Creating a piece of Contemporary art based on Takashi Murakami's art</li> <li>- AQA: Using acrylic paint in Still Life</li> </ul>

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## THE COURTYARD COMMUNITY



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### Courtyard Parent Workshops: 2022-23

This year we will continue the success of the Parent Workshop programme.

The thematic focus for the workshops offered this year is:

**360 Autism - How we support pupils in all aspects of learning and life.**

The workshops will continue to be conducted via Zoom so that parents can access more easily from home and also watch the recording if unable to attend on the day.

A mixture of Courtyard staff, the external professionals we work with and outside agencies who provide services to young people in Islington will host the workshops.

I do hope that you will be able to attend.

They will run on **Wednesdays from 4:00pm – 5:00pm.**

Any questions, please contact the school office on 0203 859 6350

Wednesdays 4:00pm – 5:00pm	Deliverer	Focus
<b>17th - 28th October Half Term</b>		
2nd November	Head of Pastoral - Alison Rush	New Pupils Settling In Review
16th November	Specialist teacher for Literacy - Cherina Redman	Dyslexia and Literacy friendly strategies
30th November	Lead for STEM - Fajri Aitken	Science/Technology/Maths at the Courtyard
14th December	Lead for LCC - Fran Leigh	Language/Communication/Culture at the Courtyard
<b>19th December - 3rd January - Christmas Holidays</b>		
11th January	Safeguarding - Louise Norman	Safeguarding at the Courtyard
25th January	Headteacher - Deborah Shepherd	Courtyard residential
8th February	Pastoral Team - Alison Rush/Eve Pennington	Behaviour and Safety at The Courtyard
<b>13th - 17th February Half Term</b>		
1st March	Independence Group Leaders - Eirinie Theodorou/Joe Lawn	The Courtyard's Independence Curriculum
15th March	Lead for Maths - Joseph Walters	Preparing for exams
29th March	Speech and Language Therapist - Claire Harvey	Speech and Language - Visual resources to support learning
<b>3rd - 14th April Easter Holidays</b>		
26th April	CAMHS Clinician - Will Roberts	Managing anxiety
10th May	Educational Psychologist - Laura Kelly	Emotional school-based avoidance
24th May	Art Therapist - Simone Scott	Art Therapy to support emotional regulation
<b>29th May-2nd June Half Term</b>		
14th June	ICT Teacher - Annah Sigola	Digital footprint
28th June	Head of Careers - Elena Vidal	World of work for parents and carers: tools, advice and information

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## THE COURTYARD COMMUNITY

SUPPORTED BY  
MAYOR OF LONDON



### **We're helping parents and carers support young people and children throughout Camden and Islington with a series of webinars**

#### **Speech, language, and communication needs**

Thursday 20 October, 12noon – 1.30pm

Specialist speech and language therapists will teach you how to use different techniques in communicating and understanding your child or young person.

#### **Supporting young people experiencing trauma and depression**

Thursday 10 November, 6–8pm

Facilitated by Dr Julia Jenkinson, who specialises in supporting young people and families.

#### **Supporting young people with neurodiverse conditions**

Wednesday 23 November, 6 – 7.30pm

Facilitators will share knowledge and lived experiences about attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), oppositional defiant disorder (ODD), and the autistic spectrum.

#### **How to keep young people safe within the community**

Thursday 8 December, 6 – 8pm

Facilitated by Marcel Campbell, who is an expert with working with young people and families. Marcel helps parents and carers to find solutions on how to access positive activities for young people.

#### **An information session around young people who are missing alcohol and substances misuse**

Thursday 12 January 2023, 6 – 7.30pm

Facilitated by the Islington young people's drug and alcohol service, attendees will learn about the most common drugs being used, such as nitrous oxide balloons.

**Sign up for free at [www.islington.gov.uk/SafetyEvents](http://www.islington.gov.uk/SafetyEvents)**

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## INTERNET SAFETY & USEFUL APPS FOR NEURODIVERGENT PEOPLE

### Online safety tips for parents of teenagers 14+ Year Olds

internetmatters.org

As they get older 8 out of 10 teens spend most of their time online chatting to friends on social media or in games\*

\*Source: In their own words, The digital lives of schoolchildren - Cybersurvey 2019.

#### Checklist:

##### Keep talking

Stay interested in what they're doing online and discuss what they might have come across. Don't be afraid to tackle difficult subjects like cyberbullying, and sexting and pornography. Help them to be critical of things they see online and judge the quality and reliability of online sources. Acknowledge that this is difficult considering how content can be manipulated online to persuade even the most savvy people. Talk together about how to manage some of these challenges and why it is important.

##### Manage their online reputation

Let them know that anything they upload, email or message could stay online forever. Remind them that they should only post things online that they wouldn't mind you, their teacher or a future employer seeing. There are lots of stories in the media that highlight the importance of online reputation and clearly demonstrate how things that happened years ago can resurface in the future. See our [online reputation advice hub](#) to get tips to support young people on this issue.

##### Adjust controls

Adjust the **parental controls** on your broadband and internet-enabled devices, depending on your child's age. Your broadband provider can tell you how. Find out how to set up safe search in Google by going to the [Google Safety Centre](#). Remember that at this age they are likely to have friends with unfiltered devices and whilst parental controls and filtering is important this needs to be



done alongside dialogue and discussion.

#### Privacy matters

Make sure they set **high privacy settings on social networks**. Encourage them to regularly change their passwords and never to share or put online any of their personal details like phone number, address or their school. [Visit our social media privacy how-to guides](#) to support them.

#### Stay safe on the move

Make sure safety and privacy settings are activated on their mobile devices and they aren't sharing private information. Be aware that using public WiFi might not filter inappropriate content, so look for friendly WiFi symbols when you're out and about. **Also, encourage them to use the parental control tools on their device** just in case they do connect to an unfiltered WiFi - such as at a friend's house.



#### Know this stuff matters, but don't know where to turn?

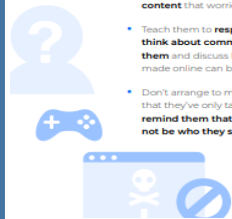
Internet Matters is a free online resource for every parent in the UK. We'll show you the best ways to protect your children online - with information, advice and support on all the big online safety issues.



#### Learn about it:

##### Teach your child some simple rules

- Make sure your child knows how to **block abusive comments and report content** that worries them.
- Teach them to **respect others online and think about comments before they post them** and discuss how easily comments made online can be misinterpreted.
- Don't arrange to meet people in real life that they've only talked to online and **remind them that some people may not be who they say they are**.
- Advise them to **use secure and legal sites to download music and games** to avoid experiencing the risks associated with streaming content from unauthorised sites. [Visit our 'Dangers of digital piracy' advice hub](#), more advice.
- **Check attachments and pop-ups for viruses** before they click or download anything.
- When using the internet for homework, **make sure they use information appropriately** and explain things in their own words rather than copying.



#### Talk about it: Tips for a meaningful conversation

- Make sure your child knows **they can come to you if they're upset by something they've seen online** and make sure that you listen and don't overreact - the important thing is that they have come to you for help and support.
- **Tell them you trust them to do the right thing** rather than over monitoring their internet use.
- If your child comes to you with an issue, **stay calm and listen without judging them** and don't threaten to take away their devices.
- **Tackle peer pressure** by explaining that if they're talked into bullying someone online or sending inappropriate images it may get reported to their school or even the police. [Visit our guide to see more tips on online peer pressure to support young people](#).
- **Talk to them about how much time they spend online** and make sure this is balanced against other activities. [See our 'Screen time, guide for 14+' for age-specific advice](#).
- Discuss how they can **report any harmful or inappropriate content or behaviour** that they encounter online - empower them to take control themselves.

#### Deal with it

You can find out where to get help and advice on the [Report issue, page of internetmatters.org](#), where we include information on how to report problems - and which relevant organisations and agencies to turn to.

On this page, we also provide information on how to deal with any specific issues you may encounter with your child, such as [cyberbullying](#), [finding inappropriate content](#), [privacy and identity](#), [theft](#), your child's [online reputation](#), [online pornography](#), and [child grooming](#).

#### Learn more about apps

It can be difficult to stay on top of what apps your child is using and who they are talking to online - [find out more about the latest apps at internetmatters.org/apps](#).



Visit [internetmatters.org](#) for more advice

InternetMatters | internetmatters | @im\_org

internetmatters.org

### APPS FOR DYSPLEXIC LEARNERS

SOUNDSLITERACY  
WHAT IS DYSLÉXIA  
DYSLÉXIA QUEST  
HAPPY MATH MULTIPLICATION RHYMES  
RHYMES  
READ 2 ME  
PHONICS WITH PHONOGRAM  
DYSEGCXIA  
DD'S DICTIONARY: A DYSLÉXIC DICTIONARY

### APPS FOR AUTISTIC LEARNERS

SIGHT WORDS  
SEQUENCES FOR AUTISM  
SEE TOUCH LEARN  
WORDS ON WHEELS  
VERBAL ME  
AUTISM IHELP  
AUTISM DDT SHAPES  
AUTISM DDT LETTERS  
SPEECH WITH MILO

### APPS FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED

VIA  
DRAGON DICTATION  
LIGHT DETECTOR  
COLOR ID  
TAPTAPSEE  
BE MY EYES- HELPING BLIND SEE  
TALKING CALCULATOR  
SAYTEXT  
ACCESSNOTE  
VISUAL BRAILLER

### APPS FOR LEARNERS WITH WRITING DIFFICULTIES

THE WRITING MACHINE  
IWRITE WORDS  
LETTER SCHOOL  
ALPHA WRITER  
ABC POCKET PHONICS  
WORD MAGIC





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## COURTYARD CELEBRATIONS



### KS4 Star of the week

Jesiah for working so diligently in English .

Bobby for supporting a classmates in getting back into green zone by being thoughtful and kind .

Jack N for showing huge improvement in his spellings and Queenie for showing great enthusiasm in PE.

Yigit for excellent effort in Maths.

Sam good humour and make his Keyworker group smile .

### KS4 Star of the week

Martin for trying really hard to give a compliment in PSD class

Daniel K and Ian and for creating excellent speeches in French.

Sam for showing tenacity when learning about ratio

Sam, Prom and Martin for an excellent science experiment exploring their hypotheses!

### KS4 Star of the week

Khaleel, Harry, Elliott, Fawaz, Yasin Jack N, Daniel K for creating an e-safety poster with good advice.

Jesiah for staying regulated for a whole day of RSE

Destiny and Eden, for outstanding work in Performing Arts.

### **Sports Star:**

**BOBBY**

**For great development  
in Football Tennis**



### **Keyworker with the most dojos:**

**Ms Coburn**

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## **COURTYARD CELEBRATIONS**



### **KS5 Star of the week**

Elshaday for always trying in lesson

Callum for completing and explaining his work excellently in Maths

Shane for outstanding work in Performing Arts.

Keira for outstanding work in Performing Arts.

### **KS5 Star of the week**

Tyrese for creating excellent speeches in French.

Dorian for creating excellent speeches in French.

Liz for always going a step forward in French

Jack B for outstanding work in Performing Arts.

### **School Council Stars of the week**

Charlie, Jack B, Keira, Harry, Elliot, Jesiah and Naomi for excellently representing the School Council when meeting with governors.

**KS5 Student with the most Dojo points this week:**

**DORIAN**



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## SNAPSHOTS OF THE LAST TWO WEEKS

