

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 1 October 2021

Headteachers Notice

The importance of regular attendance

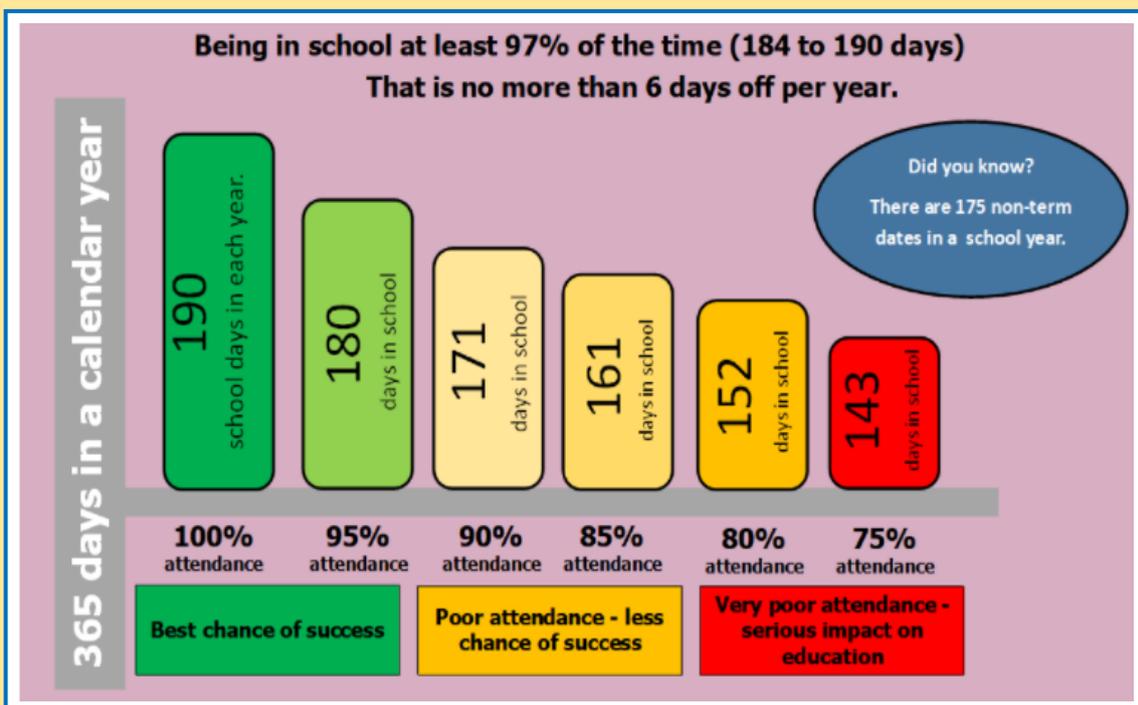
I can not stress enough how important it is for your children to attend school every day. Just one day off a fortnight equates to a 90% attendance figure, which, as you can see from the chart below, is classified as poor attendance. Pupils at the Courtyard have experienced challenges with their learning in their previous settings. Let's work together to reduce the impact of these challenges by ensuring good/outstanding attendance.

We understand that the presence of Covid in our community is still a concern. However, I am assured by our continuing 100% negative cases since March 2021 that, as a community, we are following the Public Health guidelines incredibly well.

If your child is unwell with a cold, they should still be attending school. If your child is tired, they should still be attending school. We ask where possible, that medical appointments are scheduled for outside of school hours.

As an educational provision, we are doing everything within our means to ensure your children are receiving the best possible education to ensure they achieve their potential, both academically, socially and emotionally. We can't do our work if your child is not in school. Please support us to educate your children.

If you would like to discuss this further, please contact Louise Norman or Alison Rush on 0203 859 6530.



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Celebrations this week

Behaviour and Safety



KS4 Star of the Week

Angelina for her mature attitude supporting other students at The Courtyard
Cory for exceptional knowledge and positive attitude and focus in English
Nevan and **Ruby** for excellent team work during World Studies
RDO for enthusiasm in English and proactive attitude
Naomi for great work in independence
Dillon for working really hard on his soundtrack project
Jack B for writing down helpful notes

KS5 Star of the Week

Dennis for contributing to the discussions in Science productively
Aaron for sharing his ideas and working hard in Science
Tyrese QB for his well designed music festival logo in ICT
XRE for focusing excellently on story writing
Dev for working hard in maths this week.
Katie for focus and excellent contribution in PSD
Tyrese E in the employability workshop

Most Dojo points this week		Bronze – 200 points		Silver – 350 points		Gold – 500 points	
TYRESE	14	MADDY	258	BLAISE	430	RUBY	503
PROM	15	ALEXIA	281	AARON	444	CHLOE	534
KATIE	15					LULA	549
						CALLUM	755
						JONNO	817
						JAMES	896
						TYRESE E	919
						ALFIE	954
						SHANE	970
						DENNIS	992
						PARIS	1007
						WILL	1023
						MAX	1025
						JOHN	1034
						PROM	1044
						KEIRA	1069
						JACK	1103
						KATIE	1132
						DILLON	1138
						LIZ	1170
						NEVAN	1264
						TYRESE Q	1282
						FRED	1317
						ELSHARIEF	1366
						AZARIAH	1399
						XAUNDRE	1406
						HENRY	1422
						ANGELINA	1534
						AYMENE	1534
						DORIAN	1619
						CHARLIE	1723

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Teaching and Learning update



Most parents and pupils will have now received the individual pupil qualification records which indicate any qualifications already passed at The Courtyard and which qualifications pupils are working towards. If you have not yet received it, please expect to receive it by the end of next week at the latest.

Some information which I meant to share with you in the last newsletter was about our great success in pupils passing qualifications last year, despite the disruption caused by the pandemic. This is testament to the dedication of our teachers and the support of parents and carers to your children.

Our Maths and Statistics GCSE pass rate was 100%

Our English GCSE pass rate was 78%

Our whole school Maths pass rate, including Functional Skills was 75%

Our whole school English pass rate, including Functional Skills was 80%

Our whole school ICT pass rate, including Functional Skills and the ICDL L3 was 88%

Parent Workshops

Thank you to parents who attended the first Parent Workshop of the year on Wednesday. I explained The Courtyard's curriculum and the qualifications we have on offer.

If you were unable to attend, you can find the recording [here](#)

Access Passcode: AN4j!w05

The next workshop is mainly for the parents of our new pupils as Miss Norman's session will be a review of how they have settled and what strategies the school has implemented to facilitate this.



Wednesdays 4:00pm – 5:00pm	Deliverer	Focus
29th September	Deputy for Teaching and Learning - Katherine Healy	Teaching and Learning at The Courtyard
13th October	Deputy for Pastoral - Louise Norman	New Pupils Settling In Review
20-29th October Half Term		
10th November	Speech and Language Therapist - Claire Harvey	Speech and Language - Comic strip conversations
24th November	Lead for Maths - Fajri Aitken	Maths at The Courtyard
8th December	Independence Group Lead - Hannah Lucas	The Courtyard's Independence Curriculum
20th December-3rd January Christmas Holidays		
12th January	Headteacher - Deborah Shepherd	Courtyard residential
26th January	Pastoral Team - Louise Norman and Alison Rush	Behaviour and Safety at The Courtyard
9th February	ICT Teacher - Annah Sigola	Safer Internet Day 2022
14-18th February Half Term		
2nd March	Head of Sixth Form - Elena Vidal	World of work for parents and carers: tools, advice and information
16th March	Nilesh Bhudia (CEO Temptations) & Elena Vidal (Head of Sixth Form)	An employer's perspective: work experience/ paid job
30th March	Centre 404	The Centre 404 service for young people with Autism
4-18th April Easter Holidays		
27th April	Art Therapist - Simone Scott	Art Therapy at The Courtyard
11th May	CAMHS Clinician	CAMHS - Managing Anxiety
30th May-3rd June Half Term		
15th June	Islington Progression to Adulthood – Stephen Caulfield	Progression to Adulthood service in Islington

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6th Form

Yesterday 30th September, The Courtyard hosted the first virtual employability workshop of the new academic year.

We had three brilliant speakers. Each professional delivered a 15 min talk followed by a 5 min Q&A.

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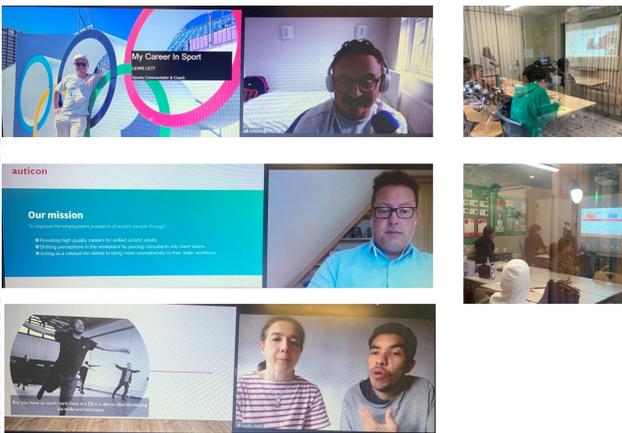
VIRTUAL EMPLOYABILITY WORKSHOP

Intro to the job sector
Thursday 30th September - P3

LEWIE LETT
11:30-11:50 -Sports Industry. Lewie is a sports commentator, host, presenter and coach for Volleyball England

SARAH ARCHDEACON
11:50-12:10 Creative Arts Industry & DJ. Sarah is Corall's Artistic Director. She joined the company in 1991 and leads the organisation's creative direction.

STEVEN HILL
12:10-12:30 Steve has started and sold several businesses as well as having had senior roles in large global tech companies. Steve's focus is primarily around data analytics, machine learning and artificial intelligence.



TRIP TO MELIA WHITE HOUSE HOTEL

On Thursday 7th October, 8 Sixth formers from The Courtyard and 4 students from Samuel Rhodes school will have the opportunity to visit Melia White House Hotel in Warren Street.

Students will have a tour of the hotel and go through the different departments. Our students will learn more about all the different jobs there are at Melia hotels, the career journey of some of your staff and also about what good customer service looks like.



SOCIAL EVENING FOR SIXTH FORMERS: Film & Pizza!

On Wednesday 13th October from 3.30pm to 5pm

Billy Chandler, former student, Autism Champion Ambassador and actor, will come to the CY alongside his friend Jack RH O'Sullivan, Director of Psychopath. Psychopath received two nominations at London Shorts for Best Cinematography and Best UK Short. Students will be able to ask questions and have a great time while enjoying a delicious pizza!



Masterclass for the Sixth formers with Matt Syrett, a senior 3D artist

An experienced 3D Artist with a demonstrated history of working in the computer games industry delivered a masterclass to our Sixth formers on Wednesday 29th September about his career journey and his current job.

Matt talked to students about the art skills he specialized in and the programmes he uses, i.e. Texture Painting, Tortoise SVN, Adobe Photoshop, UV Mapping, and 3D Visualization.



Sleep Stories NOW TV

Matt was asked to help produce the sets for this NOW TV advert which was filmed a few months ago, using Virtual Production inside of UE4.

Click [here](#) to watch the video

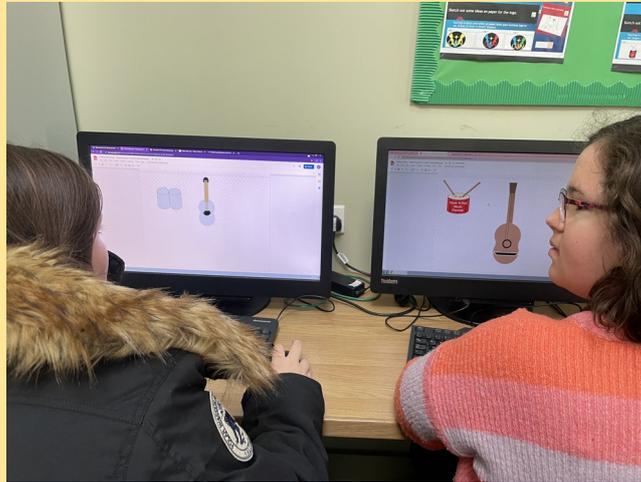
SUMMER TERM: Subject Focus

Mon 20 September - Mon 27 September

Week Beginning	Mon 20th Sept	Mon 27th Sept
Maths Entry Level	Place Value	Adding and Subtracting
Maths FSL1	Place Value	Adding and Subtracting
Maths GCSE	Transformation - Translation and Reflection	Transformation - Rotation and Enlargement
English Entry Level	Introduction to different genres and their features	Create a fictional plot and plan creative writing response
English FSL1	Introduction to different genres and their features	Create a fictional plot and plan creative writing response
English GCSE Lang	Baseline Assessments + Introduction to Mythology and Creative Writing	Drafting a Narrative based on chosen genre
English GCSE Lit	Baseline Assessments	Macbeth: Plot, Characterisation, moving image
ICT Informatics	x 2 coding tasks	x 2 coding tasks
ICT FSL1	Baseline assessments	Baseline assessments
ICT FSL2	Baseline assessments	Baseline assessments
ICT ECDL L3 PPT	Baseline assessments	Feedback & making improvements to baseline
Science BTEC Principles	Variation & Evolution	Classifying animals
Science BTEC Applications	Diet & Exercise Plans	Improving the health of the population
Home Cooking	Introduction to health & safety	Personal hygiene
Hospitality	Introduction to hospitality	Hospitality businesses
PSD	Simple strategies to help manage negative opinions/ comments	Different ways we have changed as we have grown older
WorkSkills BTEC	Using self-management skills to complete tasks within a given time period	Using self-management skills to complete tasks within a given time period
P.E.	Tag Rugby - To be able to use the 'forward pass' and 'offside' rules.	Tag Rugby - To be able to play games using tagging rules.
Creative Expression	Music production - layering tracks and editing.	Music production - automation.
World Studies	Map Reading	Basic Map Making
Art	To learn how to create and use mood boards	To use the mood boards and mind maps as
RSE 6th Form	To learn about how negative thinking patterns can impact on our response to disappointment.	To learn strategies to build resilience by re-framing negative thinking
RSE 6th Form- Independ-	To be able to explain differences between male	To be able to explain differences between male
Independence group 1	7 day healthy eating plan.	Planning and preparing a healthy meal.
Independence group 2	Safety in the kitchen	Preparing making a snack

ICT LESSONS

ICT lesson KCu CNe working happily together creating shapes and logos



Impressive work from BTh in ICT lesson

