

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 11 NOVEMBER 2022



PARENT/CARER VOICE

As parents and carers of the students of the Courtyard, your opinions are hugely important to us in order to ensure we are providing the best possible educational provision for your children.

There are many ways in which your views are gathered. These include Annual Reviews which are being held at the moment for students in Years 11 and 14.

You will also have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress during the Autumn term progress meetings that will be held on Tuesday 6th and Friday 9th December.

I would also like to gather your views via an online parent/carers survey which can be accessed via this [LINK](#).

Please support your child's growth and education by completing the survey today.



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Parent/Carer Workshops

Please note the dates and topics of the parent/carers workshops which are held virtually on Wednesday afternoons from 4pm-5pm.

Wednesdays 4:00pm – 5:00pm	Deliverer	Focus
17th - 28th October Half Term		
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
19th December - 3rd January - Christmas Holidays		
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
13th - 17th February Half Term		
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
3rd - 14th April Easter Holidays		
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
29th May-2nd June Half Term		
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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SIXTH FORM UPDATE

There is an amazing event Ms Vidal have planned on 8th December to help bridge the link between employers who are/want to be more neurodiverse friendly and neurodiverse people. Especially our students!



NEURODIVERSITY REVERSE JOBS FAIR

SAVE THE DATE!

THURSDAY 8TH DECEMBER: 4.30PM-6.30PM

LOCATION TBC

We would like to invite employers who are neurodiversity friendly or would like to become neurodiversity friendly. LNSEN London Neurodiversity SEND Employer Network can support employers with training and job carving before or after the event.

During the event, very talented neurodivergent young people (16+) will deliver a short presentation (3min long) about their career journey/ skills/ talents, and we hope that employers will offer them a work trial opportunity afterwards where they can showcase their skills in the workplace and eventually get a job/ paid internship/ paid work experience opportunity.

Please get in touch if you are interested in investing in neurodiversity inclusion in the workplace!

Looking forward to seeing you there!



BUT, prior to the event on Thursday 24th November. The 6th form team will hold an after school even to help you create a CV and 'Mood Board' to give you a better chance of getting employment. Below is an example.

Work passport

Working with me:

What I'm good at (my talents) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sociable • making people happy • reading • following instructions 	What I find challenging <p>Speaking how I feel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impulsive • Public Speaking • Focusing • Exams 	How to work with me <p>Don't yell because it makes me stressed.</p> <p>Writing down instructions because it will help me remember what to do.</p> <p>Constructive Feedback - because if someone just insults me and overall, it will just make me feel bad.</p> <p>Give me some time to do the work.</p>
What others think I'm good at <p>Creative independent asking questions I.T skills</p>	Other things to know about me <p>I have 3 cats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Puff and Mugs (Bengal Cats) • Lola (British Short - Hair) • Spartacus (Tabby) • Lucky (Moggie) <p>I have a 2 dogs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honey (Golden Retriever) • Coco (Half Yorkshire Terrier and Half Jack Russell) 	I would like to be/ to have a job in <p>I'd like to be a baker and own my own cafe but I'd also like to be singer / songwriter</p>
Things I love <p>Baking Pets Family Friends Being Creative</p>		

Chloe's quote on having a part time job.

"I never like talking to new people but my job has helped to overcome this and I feel welcomed there. It's such a good thing to get in to now so you can get started for your future. What I would say is don't give up. You will find a job, you just have to look for it"

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HEALTH & SPORTS UPDATE



Sports can teach important social skills such as honesty, teamwork, commitment, having respect for others and understanding rules. These skills can contribute greatly to the overall development of a child. Here are a few things our students have been doing in their PE lessons:

Crunches



- Lie on your back with knees bent and pointing to the sky, with hands by your side and pointing down toward your feet
- Reach for your ankles by squeezing your belly muscles and slightly lifting your shoulders off the floor
- Hold for one second, then return down to the starting position



Squats



- Stand with feet hip-width apart
- Lower down as if you were about to sit, keeping your back straight and pushing your bottom out behind you
- Raise arms straight in front of you for balance, making sure you can see your toes over your knees
- Hold position for one second after thighs are parallel to the floor
- Return to standing position



Butterfly Kicks



- Lie on your back with arms by your sides, palms down
- Lift heels about 6 inches off the ground
- Make small up and down scissor movements with legs, fluttering like butterfly wings
- Be sure to keep your back on the ground



Push-ups



- Start on your hands and knees, with hands slightly wider than shoulder-distance apart
- Walk your hands forward several steps while keeping your back as straight as a board
- Use your arms to lower your chest down as far as you can, or until your chin almost touches the floor, keeping your belly tight and back straight
- Push your chest up to return to starting position
- **Easier Option:** Perform same movement leaning against a wall



Side Leg Lifts



- Lie on your side, facing forward with legs out straight, rest head on your hand
- Lift your top leg up two feet, pause for three seconds
- Lower to starting position
- Repeat on each side



Triceps Dips



- Sit on the edge of a chair, and place your hands at your sides, gripping the chair
- Slide your bottom off the seat
- Bend at your elbows to lower your body down
- Push yourself up until your arms are straight
- Repeat up and down as if you're scratching your back with the chair, without your back touching it



WEEKLY SUBJECT FOCUS

Week Beginning	Monday 14th November 2022	Monday 21st November 2022
Maths Entry Level	fractions	decimals
Maths FSL1	fractions and decimals	percentages
Maths GCSE	fractions decimals and percentages	fractions decimals and percentages
Maths Statistics	Ways to collect data	Ways to collect data
English Entry Level	Describing settings	Creating and describing characters
English FSL1	Introduction to persuasive writing styles	Exploration on persuasive writing techniques
English GCSE Lang	Non Fiction Purpose	Non- Fiction Audience
English GCSE Lit Group 1	Poetry Anthology - Conflict	Poetry Anthology - Conflict
English GCSE Lit Group 2	The language of comparison	Transactional Text Types
ICT Informatics	2 x coding tasks	2 x coding tasks
ICT FSL1 & 2	using the SUM function	Understanding IF Then formulas
ICT BCS/ICDL L3 PPT	using the SUM function	Looking at features of PowerPoint Presentation. e.g. Design Menu Features with screenshots and annotations
ICT Entry 1-3	Understanding why businesses & organisations use spreadsheets exercises	Understanding why businesses & organisations use spreadsheets exercises
Science BTEC Principles	Speed=distance/time	Energy Transfers
Science BTEC	Describe electrical power in terms of voltage and current.	Describe methods of producing a.c. and d.c. electricity.
French	To learn how to say and spell numbers 10-100 in units of ten	learn the next five verbs / every day activities that they might do in their day. These will build on the
Home Cooking	Nutrients in our food	Practical Lesson
Hospitality	To understand what is personal and interpersonal skills	Practical Lesson
PSD	I can recognise how and why our data is collected online.	I can describe risks associated with social media
WorkSkills BTEC	Considering different job roles	Producing CVs
P.E.	Volleyball: Develop serve skills	Volleyball: Develop spike skills
Performing Arts	to be able to write a short dialogue between two/three characters.	To be able to rehearse the scene and think about costume ideas
World Studies	Amazon Rainforest: The Lungs of the Planet	Future energy: Clean, green and renewable
Art	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BTEC unit 1: Warm and cold colours - BTEC unit 3: Priming fabric and applying stencils - BTEC unit 6: Expressionism introduction - AQA: Still life: overlapping lines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BTEC unit 1: Lino printing - BTEC unit 3: Priming fabric and applying stencils - BTEC unit 6: Expressionism practical - AQA: Still Life: overlapping lines using two objects
Independence group 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Neurodiversity awareness: Introduction to what neurodiversity and how we are all different. - Puberty: To identify the differences in physical changes between male and female puberty. - Safety in the community: To identify two safe places they could go to if they were anxious or needed help and to role play asking a safe stranger for help. - Food: To create a meal plan with a varied diet. To cook a healthy dish with given ingredients and evaluate it. 	
Independence group 2		

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COURTYARD CELEBRATIONS



KS4 Star of the week

Adam for brilliant effort and focus in Maths lessons

Jesiah for his great understanding of Fractions

Kodee for creating a hilarious scene in improvisation.

Adam for his smooth transition to the Courtyard

Alfredo for his focus and engagement in all lessons

Martin for creating a hilarious scene in improvisation

KS4 Star of the week

Jesiah and for appropriately using the word of the week in the right context.

Khaleel for creating a hilarious scene in improvisation

Alfredo for brilliant effort and focus in Maths lessons

Joshua for helping setting up the rowing machines in PE

Luke W for showing pure determination in the gym

KS4 SCERI Stars of the week

Alfredo and Adam for working independently in on spreadsheets

Sam for excellent teamwork and focus in French

Prom for excellent focus and effort in Drama

Eden for excellent effort in Drama.

Luke W for working hard on his creative writing task at home.

James for using a low volume and a calm tone when cooking pizzas on Friday

Students with the most

Dojos:

LUKE W



Keyworker with the
most merits:

ERYK

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COURTYARD CELEBRATIONS



KS5 Star of the week

Dorian for being incredible during his Science lesson

Kiera for appropriately using the word of the week in the right context

John for great focus and effort in Drama

KS5 Star of the week

Aymen for using strategies to regulate himself

Amy for making our new volunteer Olivia feel welcome

The student council for representing the school in a mature and positive way

KS5 SCERI Stars of the week

Callum for working independently in on spreadsheets

Dorian for helping others with the speeches in French

Chloe for talking very confidently about the benefits of having a job and encouraging other 6th formers

Aymene for regulating his emotions and positively adjusting his behaviour in Wednesday's ICT lesson

Kiera for helping others in Workskills lessons

Dorian always happy to come into room 1 to ask teachers how they are before p1 lessons

Elshaday for using strategies to get back to the green zone

Students with the most

Dojos:

WILL



SPORTS STAR:

Dev for his excellent recollection of the muscles in the body