

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 12 November 2021

### Headteachers Notice

# Farewell



Time to say goodbye...

My feelings of pride and excitement outweigh my feelings of sadness when I announce that Mrs Healy will be leaving the Courtyard on Friday 3 December. After 5 priceless years at the Courtyard, Mrs Healy is leaving to lead her own school in Thailand.

### Words can never communicate how thankful we are

Words can never express how thankful I was, 5 years ago, when Mrs Healy accepted the position of Deputy: Teaching and Learning at the Courtyard. The impact she has had is both measureable and immeasurable.

The quality of teaching and learning has increased; standards have increased; pupil achievement has increased. Mrs Healy has brought about changes to the Courtyard's provision that has led to all pupils making positive progress and being in a positive position to continue their learning and develop after graduation.

What is immeasurable is the confidence that staff and pupils now have in themselves because of the guidance, support and advice Mrs Healy has provided. I think every pupil could narrative a moment when Mrs Healy has sat them down for a chat and they have stood up feeling 10 times taller. Mrs Healy believes that everyone has potential, that everyone can achieve and progress, that everyone should hold onto their dreams and work towards achieving them. She is the epitome of quality education.

It has been an absolute pleasure to work alongside Mrs Healy to take the Courtyard's provision from strength to strength.

We will be celebrating Mrs Healy's time at the Courtyard on Friday 3 December, her final day. From 2:45pm onwards, we welcome parents, alumni, ex-staff and governors to join us at the Courtyard to thank Mrs Healy for her unlimited commitment to the school and to wish her all the very best for the future. We really hope you will join us.

To support Mrs Healy as she transitions from UK life to Island life, we are gathering contributions to create a mindfulness garden in her new residence on the island of Koh Phangan. Mrs Healy finds extreme comfort in nature and nurturing the environment around her. She is in no doubt that her new role will be challenging and she is looking forward to warm and calm evenings in her tranquil gardens, remembering her happy times at the Courtyard. If you would like to donate to Mrs Healy's Mindfulness Garden, please click [here](#).

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**

## Mrs Healy's Highlights

Developing a love of literature— Performing to an audience of 200 people - Macbeth 2018



Donations to Mrs Healy's leaving gift can be made below:

[Donation](#)

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**

Celebrations this week

**Behaviour and Safety**



**KS4 Star of the Week**

- Yigit** for completing his impressive map design in ICT
- Naomi** for cleaning the table after her art lesson
- Charlie** for showing his mature side in maths class.
- Naomi** for excellent contribution in independence class
- David** for writing well considered lyrics in Creative Expression
- Daniel** for excellent focus in his English assessment.
- Charlie** for his articulate and mature speech in the first school council meeting.
- Charlie** for maturely assisting in the kitchen by cleaning up his colleagues' mess.
- Charlie** for an excellent contribution to World Studies

**KS5 Star of the Week**

- Jack B** for asking relevant questions in his ICT work
- Xaundre** for completing his Science work to an excellent standard and completing extension tasks.
- Xaundre** for completing his Science work to an excellent standard and completing extension tasks.
- Liz** for writing a passionate and well-informed essay about deforestation.
- Aymene** for excellent work and thoughtful answers in his double Workskills lesson.
- Jack B** for working very hard on creating a beautiful design for Workday Christmas Card
- Liz** for writing a beautiful poem for Workday using the themes of belonging and inclusion.

| Most Dojo points this week |    | Bronze – 500 points | Silver – 100 points | Gold – 1500 points | Platinum – 2000 points |
|----------------------------|----|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| LULA                       | 29 |                     |                     |                    |                        |
| DORIAN                     | 28 |                     |                     |                    |                        |
| IAN                        | 25 |                     |                     |                    |                        |
| HENRY                      | 24 |                     |                     |                    |                        |
| PROM                       | 24 |                     |                     |                    |                        |
| NAOMI                      | 22 |                     |                     |                    |                        |
| ELSHARIEF                  | 22 |                     |                     |                    |                        |
| AZAROAH                    | 21 |                     |                     |                    |                        |



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**

## Teaching and Learning update



### Independent Learning Tasks (ILTs)

Well done to the many pupils who spend their Half Term completing their ILTs (Independent Learning Tasks). Teachers have set one task per week although pupils are welcome to complete more per week if they choose and then request further work from their teachers.

Parent support is highly appreciated with this as getting into the habit of engaging with work at home is a crucial skill going forward into college, university and indeed, work.

We highly encourage these tasks to be done by pupils on their own and teachers are making every effort to provide tasks which can be done independently.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself or subject teachers with any questions or requests for further tasks.

### Parent Workshops

Thank you again to all who attended the workshop on Wednesday led by our Speech and Language Therapist, Claire Harvey.

The recording is not available at present but I will send it the next newsletter.

\*\*\*Please note the change in date to the next two workshops\*\*\*

The next workshop will be led by Miss Lucas and will explain the Independence Curriculum at The Courtyard. This is a valuable part of our offer at the school and we hope current parents of pupils accessing the Independence Curriculum will attend.



| Wednesdays<br>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                                       |
| <b>20-29th October Half Term</b>                    |                                                                    |                                                                     |
| 10th November                                       | Speech and Language Therapist - Claire Harvey                      | Speech and Language - Comic strip conversations                     |
| 24th November                                       | Independence Group Lead - Hannah Lucas                             | The Courtyard's Independence Curriculum                             |
| 8th December                                        | Lead for Maths - Fajri Aitken                                      | Maths at The Courtyard                                              |
| <b>20th December-3rd January Christmas Holidays</b> |                                                                    |                                                                     |
| 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                                             |
| <b>14-18th February Half Term</b>                   |                                                                    |                                                                     |
| 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                 |
| <b>4-18th April Easter Holidays</b>                 |                                                                    |                                                                     |
| 27th April                                          | Art Therapist - Simone Scott                                       | Art Therapy at The Courtyard                                        |
| 11th May                                            | CAMHS Clinician                                                    | CAMHS - Managing Anxiety                                            |
| <b>30th May-3rd June Half Term</b>                  |                                                                    |                                                                     |
| 15th June                                           | Islington Progression to Adulthood – Stephen Caulfield             | Progression to Adulthood service in Islington                       |

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**

## 6th Form



A safe space for active and effective listening, sharing and allyship.

You can ask questions and receive guided answers/support about employment, friendships, relationships, etc. from Ambitious about Autism and LIFT.

Looking forward to seeing you there!



Ambitious about Autism and LIFT will be joining us. We want to create a safe space for active and effective listening, sharing and allyship. Students will be able to ask questions and receive guided answers/support about employment, friendships, relationships, etc

### Work Experience with WorkDay

Jack B. and Liz have been working really hard in their first task "Create a Christmas Card", Jack made a beautiful design and Liz wrote a poem including the themes of belonging and inclusion. The company will send this Christmas card to all employees globally, and to all clients. We will share the card with parents too!

We are organizing the first Alumni Event of the year.

We are expecting Alumni from all previous years to participate in the meet. Since many of our students have been away from the school for many years, it will be wonderful to see old friends after long time and foster new ties as well.

This will be a great opportunity to catch-up with old friends and relish & refresh past memories.

Ambitious about Autism and LIFT will be joining us. We want to create



You have been invited to our first Careers Event of the year. This will take place on Thursday 25th November 2021.

Please see the attached poster for the careers event between: **2:00pm - 3:15pm** for Pupils and Parents in school.

Please confirm your attendance.

Any questions please contact the office.

### Sixth Form Masterclass with Peabody

On Thursday 11th November Sixth formers had a masterclass with Alex Petford - Director Customer Operations - Peabody.

Students learnt about the importance of gaining knowledge, skills and experience to help them both in your career and in life in general. On top of that, by gaining additional skills in communication and problem solving and achieving your goals, they can also increase their confidence.



### 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 expectations.



### Work Experience with Freightliners City Farm



Lula had a fantastic first day at the farm.

Lula received a tour of the farm and was informed of the tasks that she's going to undertake:

- o helping with daily feeding routines
- o mucking out enclosures and cleaning fences
- o keeping visitor areas clean by regularly sweeping the yard and paths
- o providing exercise and enrichment for the animals



### Work Experience with The University of Oxford

Blaise will contribute to the work that the University of Oxford does in FAIR sharing in a way that will increase his understanding of Life Science research, and how scientific data is structured and handled.

This should provide him with insight into what happens with scientific data after it has been created; how it is published, shared with other researchers, and structured so that it is findable, interoperable, accessible and re-usable within the research community.



**SUMMER TERM: Subject Focus**  
**Mon 1 November - Mon 8 November**

| Week Beginning                   | Mon 1 Nov                                                                        | Mon 8 Nov                                                                                |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Maths Entry Level</b>         | Multiplication and Division                                                      | Assessment Week                                                                          |
| <b>Maths FSL1</b>                | Multiplication and Division                                                      | Assessment Week                                                                          |
| <b>Maths GCSE</b>                | Ratio and Proportion                                                             | Assessment Week                                                                          |
| <b>English Entry Level</b>       | Non-Fiction - The features of an advert                                          | Creating a TV advert for trainers or headphones / Assessments                            |
| <b>English FSL1</b>              | Non-Fiction - The features of an advert                                          | Creating a TV advert for trainers or headphones / Assessments                            |
| <b>English GCSE Lang</b>         | Is it possible to sell anything? Persuasive Techniques and creation of a product | Creating a billboard and analysis / Assessments                                          |
| <b>English GCSE Lit</b>          | Macbeth montage editing and analysis of a tragic hero                            | Inspector Calls: Socialism, Capitalism and Class - Act 1                                 |
| <b>ICT Informatics</b>           | x 2 coding tasks                                                                 | x 2 coding tasks                                                                         |
| <b>ICT FSL1</b>                  | FSL1 Revision June 2018 past paper                                               | Autumn Assessment FSL1 June 2018 past paper                                              |
| <b>ICT FSL2</b>                  | FSL2 Revision June 2018 past paper                                               | Autumn Assessment FSL2 June 2018 past paper                                              |
| <b>ICT ECDL L3 PPT</b>           | ICDL Revision June 2018 past paper                                               | Autumn Assessment ICDL Level 3 past paper                                                |
| <b>Science BTEC Principles</b>   | Environmental change, Deforestation.                                             | Pesticides & Fertilisers and their affects on the environment                            |
| <b>Science BTEC Applications</b> | Diseases                                                                         | Immune system                                                                            |
| <b>Home Cooking</b>              | Kitchen hygiene                                                                  | Food and safety hazard                                                                   |
| <b>Hospitality</b>               | Occupational Skills                                                              | Occupational Skills                                                                      |
| <b>PSD</b>                       | Puberty Recap                                                                    | Intimate relationships                                                                   |
| <b>WorkSkills BTEC</b>           | Strengths and weaknesses                                                         | Strengths and weaknesses and how to apply these to a work environment                    |
| <b>P.E.</b>                      | Yoga: working on breathing techniques and meditation poses                       | Yoga: Continuing breathing techniques and working on Mountain, Warrior 1 and child poses |
| <b>Creative Expression</b>       | Shakespeare and Hip Hop                                                          | Song structure                                                                           |
| <b>World Studies</b>             | Lesson 1: What Do You Know About Myths?                                          | Lesson 2: What is a Myth?                                                                |
| <b>Art</b>                       | Creating collages to experiment with proportions and scale                       | Ink marbling experiments and acrylic paint shading                                       |
| <b>RSE 6th Form</b>              | Identity : to discover ways to describe identity                                 | Identity : What part of our identity describes us the most                               |
| Independence group 2             | Revising various cooking methods and terminology                                 | Cooking a healthy dish using a newly discovered cooking method (scrambled eggs)          |