

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 3 December 2021

Christmas at the Courtyard—Dates for your diary

Christmas Jumper Day—Friday 10 December—£2 donation—raising funds for Save the Children

Christmas Carols—Wednesday 15 December—2:30pm—parents are invited to this outside event—warm drink and mince pies/sausage rolls

End of term—Friday 17th December at 12:30pm—no school lunch on this day

Learning from home

On Tuesday 7th and Thursday 9th December, our pupils will be learning from home via Google Classroom. Please support your child to access their learning from home on these days.

	Tuesday 7th December	Thursday 9th December
P1—8:55—9:55	Home Cooking / Hospitality	PSD / Workskills
P2—9:55—10:55	Maths	English
BREAK		
P3—11:30—12:30	Science	ICT
LUNCH		
P4—1:15—2:15	World Studies	Creative Expression
P5 2:15—3:15	Art	RES / Independence / Literacy

Covid update

With two weeks to go until the Christmas break, it is incredibly important that we continue to look after ourselves and others by wearing masks, washing hands regularly and maintaining our social distance.

Please look after our school community by supporting your child to carry out a lateral flow test at least once a week. Home testing kits can be ordered via this link <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

If your child presents with Covid symptoms, please complete a lateral flow test to ensure a negative result before sending your child to school.

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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 via this link:

<https://www.giftround.co.uk/page/618da241ef626>



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Teaching and Learning update



FAREWELL



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a joy and a privilege to spend the last five years of my career at The Courtyard. You and your children have taught me so much and I have developed and grown as a senior leader beyond my imaginings.

It is with sadness that I say goodbye to such wonderful experiences and memories of my time here, but also with happiness that I have been lucky enough to get to know and work with so many of you.

The Courtyard is, indeed, a special place, and one which I doubt is possible to replace or recreate. However, I will take inspiration from all I have learned here to my next position in Thailand and will most certainly retain the incredibly strong links I have with everyone at The Courtyard.

I look forward to hearing all the positive news which is regularly shared via this newsletter and wish everyone a fond farewell!

Parent Workshops

Thank you again to all who attended the workshop on Wednesday about the Independence Curriculum led by Hannah Lucas.

The recordings for both that workshop and the Comic Book Conversations workshop led by Claire Harvey are now available.

PLEASE CLICK [HERE](#) TO ACCESS THE DOCUMENT WITH ALL THE RECORDINGS AVAILABLE SO FAR.

A reminder that the next workshop on the 8th December will be led by Mr Aitken, our Lead Teacher for Maths and he will be explaining how maths is taught at The Courtyard.



8 th December	Lead for Maths - Fajri Aitken	Maths at The Courtyard
20th December-3rd January Christmas Holidays		
12 th January	Headteacher - Deborah Shepherd	Courtyard residential
26 th January	Pastoral Team - Louise Norman and Alison Rush	Behaviour and Safety at The Courtyard
9 th February	ICT Teacher - Annah Sigola	Safer Internet Day 2022
14-18th February Half Term		
2 nd March	Head of Sixth Form - Elena Vidal	World of work for parents and carers: tools, advice and information
16 th March	Nilesh Bhudia (CEO Temptations) & Elena Vidal (Head of Sixth Form)	An employer's perspective: work experience/ paid job
30 th March	Centre 404	The Centre 404 service for young people with Autism
4-18th April Easter Holidays		
27 th April	Art Therapist - Simone Scott	Art Therapy at The Courtyard
11 th May	CAMHS Clinician	CAMHS - Managing Anxiety
30th May-3rd June Half Term		
15 th June	Islington Progression to Adulthood – Stephen Caulfield	Progression to Adulthood service in Islington

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Celebrations this week

Behaviour and Safety



KS4 Star of the Week

Dillon for a beautifully crafted story in world studies.

Kiera for helping get water for her peers at SMMA lunch

Naomi for independently following instructions on coding in ICT

James for asking lots of questions and doing the work in WE

Elshaday for concentrating well in art lessons.

Naomi for positive engagement during the Employability Workshop

KS5 Star of the Week

Xaundre for his great knowledge of Pythagoras theorem in maths.

Luke for outstanding participation and work ethic in maths.

Jack B for always having positive behaviour in pe when doing yoga and for excellent work in hospitality.

Jack B and **Liz** for excellent presentation in their work experience

Callum for concentrating well and working independently on his persuasive letter.

Azariah for exhibiting tremendous independence from washing up without instruction to setting up the theatre room without instruction. Brilliant work!

Lula for her engagement and participation in independence.

Dev for having a really positive attitude in English, focusing on his work as well as helping others

Blaise for always offering up a contrarian point of view into scientific discussions.

Lula for producing an eye catching Music Flyer in ICT

Alexia for great work in the Macbeth workshop

Dev for great focus in all classes this week.

Most Dojo points this week		Bronze – 500 points	Silver – 100 points	Gold – 1500 points	Platinum – 2000 points
Azariah	39				
Kodee	38				
Dorian	32				
Lula	30				
Naomi	29				
Daniel	27				
John	26				

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6th Form



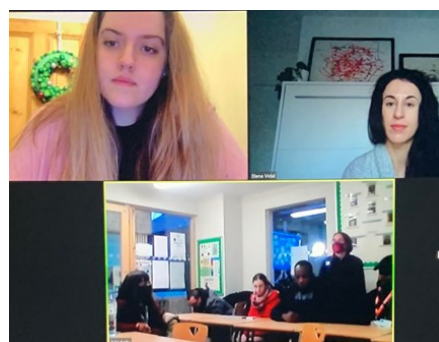
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ALUMNI EVENT

THURSDAY 2ND DECEMBER

3.30-5PM

Our 1st Alumni event on 2nd December came to fruition with many of our previous students sharing some of their experiences of work, studying and personal growth that they have had since their time at The Courtyard. Everyone has been on their own unique journey and it was wonderful to hear about all of their success. It was also a safe place for students to speak about the challenges they faced and how they could use these events to overcome their challenges. Francesca, our representative from LIFT delivered a session around employability and built a connection for the alumni students to be able to reach out to LIFT for support when they are looking for jobs. The session ended with alumni students socialising and catching up with each other.



Congratulations!

We are pleased to announce that Mr Kelly has accepted the role of Assistant Head of Sixth Form.

In the last few years Mr Kelly has helped with the day-to-day pastoral welfare of the Sixth Form, assisted with the preparation of social events, and provided support for students applying for courses in college. Now, thanks to his knowledge and experience, he will be a key part of the coordination of the Sixth form.

Please join me in congratulating Mr Kelly and wishing him best luck in his new role!

SUMMER TERM: Subject Focus - Mon - 15, 22, 29 November

Week Beginning	Mon 15th Nov	Mon 22 Nov	Mon 29 Nov
Maths Entry Level	Multiplication and Division	Multiplication and Division	Fractions, Percent, Decimals
Maths FSL1	Multiplication and Division	Multiplication and Division	Multiplication and Division
Maths GCSE	Transformation mixed - Translation, Reflection, Rotation and Enlargement	Transformation mixed - Translation, Reflection, Rotation and Enlargement	Writing a letter of complaint and planning aspirations for the future
English Entry Level	Create a fictional plot and plan creative writing response	Writing a creative story. Black History Month connections - exploring influential black figures	Writing a letter of complaint and planning aspirations for the future
English FSL1	Create a fictional plot and plan creative writing response	Writing a creative story. Exploring Black literature and poetry.	Creating an emotive story around a 'social cause' which is persuasive
English GCSE Lang	Completion of narrative writing, redrafting and front covers	Discussion and creation of a social cause	Inspector Calls - language devices and full text overview
English GCSE Lit	Completion of Macbeth plot and analysis	Macbeth filming and ideas for soundtracks	x 2 coding tasks
ICT Informatics	x 2 coding tasks	x 2 coding tasks	Create your music festival flyer: include date, time, place and any other necessary information.
ICT FSL1	E-Safety How to keep safe when using the Internet?	Introduction to planning your Music Festival	Create your music festival flyer: include date, time, place and any other necessary information.
ICT FSL2	E-Safety How to keep safe when using the Internet?	Introduction to planning your Music Festival	Looking at features of Power-Point Presentation. e.g. Design Menu Features with screenshots and annotations
ICT ECDL L3 PPT	E-Safety How to keep safe when using the Internet?	Presentation Planning: Audience and Environment. Understand how audience demographic (age, educational level, occupation, cultural background) and knowledge of subject impacts on planning of a presentation.	Recycling, renewable resources & energy
Science BTEC Principles	Predator/Prey Relationships	Completion of projects	Screening for Diseases
Science BTEC Applications	Diseases	Completion of projects	Nutritional needs throughout life Part 2
Home Cooking	Kitchen hygiene	Food and safety hazard	Personal skills/ personal attributes
Hospitality	Hospitality roles	Effective working skills in hospitality	STI's
PSD	Puberty, conception and birth.	Puberty, conception and birth.	Editing Btech Assessment
WorkSkills BTEC	Assessing own self-management skills for work	Assessing own self-management skills for work	Yoga - perform 'The Butterfly' warm up routine. perform 'The Angle Balance'
P.E.	Tag Rugby - To develop dodging skills to lose a defender.	Tag Rugby - To be able to apply the rules and tactics you have learnt to play in a tag rugby game	Finishing and exporting songs
Creative Expression	Importance of being creative and open-minded when producing music.	Lyric writing and song structure.	Lesson 5: Creating our own Origin Stories
World Studies	Introduction to a foreign country	Introduction to a foreign country	Artist study - Piet Mondrian
Art	To learn about Alma Thomas and to create artwork inspired by her paintings	To learn about Jean-Michel Basquiat and to create artwork in the style of his paintings	Identity: 'The Skin I'm In' excerpt analysis
RSE 6th Form	To learn how to recognise signs that someone might need support for mental health concerns	To learn about mental health issues that most commonly affect young people.	To learn about mental health issues that most commonly affect young people.
Independence group 1	Prepare and to cook one of the meal plan meals consisting of 8 or more ingredients.	Trying a new cooking method.	Nutritional value from the food groups.
Independence group 2	Making toast and social communication	making toast and social communication.	making toast and social communication.