



AUTUMN TERM 1 – WEEK 4

Absence Policy

In order to avoid any confusion, if your learner is unwell or unable to attend school, please contact Mel in the office. We are keen to avoid interrupting our Parents/Carers where possible by calling to check attendance and would appreciate your support with this. The office will then be able to pass messages to class teachers.

Headteacher's Award



This week's Headteacher's Award is given to Isaac C for being so independent coming in and out of school.

George's joke of the week!

Ever heard of the guy who was afraid of lifts?

He took steps to avoid it!

Social Media

As the term progresses, we are sharing lots of great pictures and notices on our social media accounts. To keep up to date with these, please follow the accounts on Facebook (Magdalen Court School) and Instagram - magdalencourtschool1.

Stars of the Week!



Oak - Henry
Larch - Theo
Beech - Charlotte & Ethan
Holly - Toby
Elm - Harrison
Hazel - Cameron
Ash - Phoenix
Post 16 - Tia

Getting

know

to

you!

Let's get to know Lily,
our new SEND Admin
Assistant!

What's your favourite dinosaur?

asked by Isabel P

Velociraptor

What's your favourite movie?

asked by Izak

O Brother Where Art Thou

What made you want to work here?

asked by Arthur

I like working in schools because they are busy places and I always have interesting work to do

What's your favourite state of America?

asked by Joseph

Vermont? I've never visited the US,

Where is your dream holiday spot?

asked by Theo

Greece

What's your middle name?

asked by Hannah

Arminel

When you were small, did you like watching Disney films?

asked by Rosie

No

Do you like Mozart?

asked by Lexie

Not really, although I might try listening to some!



A busy week for James!



We wrote last week that James has been having an incredibly busy time recently and yesterday, James sat down with Grace in Willow to explain what he's been up to!

Last week, James was invited to meet HRH Duchess of Edinburgh as she visited Tiverton and met with local charities and groups. James was able to tell The Duchess all about what he has experienced in his life, how he has been affected and how other young people might be affected by similar circumstances. James said:

'We talked about the Total Respect training that we're giving social workers, Personal Advisors and management, to help them be more empathetic in how they help people in care. And I also told her about work I do with another group, called Champions for Change. She said that she thinks it's a really good idea that I'm trying to influence change, rather than adults trying to change things on their own.'

The next day, James went on to meet with representatives of Devon County Council for to discuss their 'Co-Production Training'. James told Grace how this event was about being professionals and young people with SEND in Devon together 'on the same level and with no one taking charge'. The aim of the event was to find a balance in working together, in order to support young people with SEND.

What an exciting week for James! When asked whether he enjoyed himself at these amazing events, James said:

'I enjoyed it very much because I know that I was slowly helping to make changes to system and to how it works'

We are so proud of James for representing himself so well, as well as representing the whole Magdalen Court community!

If your learner has done something exciting, then we would love to hear about it and feature it in the newsletter! Please let your class teacher know or email Grace gplant@magdalencourt.org.

Food Tech

In Food Tech this week, Larch and Oak were introduced to safe knife handling and cutting techniques whilst preparing a selection of fresh fruit. These were served up with some homemade granola and yogurt. In Beech class, learners practiced their skills using the grill and hob to cook a vegetarian breakfast. Learners in classes Elm, Holly and Post 16 made cooked breakfast and we used the probe to test the internal temperature of the sausages! Learners loved making this classic breakfast and some were brave enough to try some new flavours and textures.

Learners in Ash and Hazel made two way porridge with either apple and cinnamon or pineapple and coconut milk (Pina Colada) and learners in year 11 made sweet breakfast pinwheels.

Next week groups Hazel & Ash will make cooked breakfast. Larch and Oak will be making sausage baps. Year 11 will make cooked breakfast & Post 16 learners will make blueberry cobbler. Year 9 classes Elm & Holly will make poached pears and plums. Beech class will make cinnamon and apple pancakes.



Safeguarding

This week, our safeguarding focus is the app Wizz. This app enables users to connect and speak with people all over the world and works in a similar way popular online dating apps. We would advise Parents/Carers speak with their young people to ensure they are aware of how to use the app safely and what to do if they have any concerns. If you would like to discuss this topic further then please feel free to contact our Safeguarding Officer Jane, or Pastoral Practitioner Grace.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

WIZZ

AGE RESTRICTION
12+

12+ App Store
Teen Google Playstore

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Wizz is a networking app which allows users to connect and chat with other people around the world. Its principle is similar to a dating platform: users have a profile with up to three photos, along with optional interests and hobbies tags. This allows other like-minded people to be recommended in searches. If a user likes what they see on someone's profile, they can initiate conversation through the instant message feature; otherwise they swipe on. The app does use age verification technology when an account is created and groups users by age.

OVER-SHARING

Immediately after setting up an account, users start receiving friend requests (mainly from the opposite gender). For many young people, this will be exciting and a boost to their confidence. As young people tend to be more trusting online and may believe what others tell them, however, this can lull them into dropping their guard and revealing personal information to strangers.

CATFISHING AND PREDATORS

Wizz uses Yoti, a digital ID system, to verify users' age. The AI only detects approximate age, though – so an older person who looks younger could be grouped with teens (or vice versa). Also, profile pics on Wizz don't have to match the face of the person who did the initial age verification: it would be fairly easy to create a fake account using another person's photos with a made-up name and age.

EXPLICIT CONTENT

During our research, conversations on Wizz very quickly turned sexual. Users frequently suggested 'taking it to Snap' (Snapchat's disappearing image feature can make it conducive to sharing explicit selfies), connecting on other social media, swapping nude or semi-nude pictures, or holding sexual chats. These users created an impression of the platform being sleazy and unsafe for young people.

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MEET STRANG

INTIMATE IMAGES

It's not unheard of for young people to be coaxed into sending suggestive images of themselves over apps of this kind. Given that Wizz connects users with strangers, who may not be honest about their real intentions, a teenager might conceivably be persuaded to share sexually suggestive selfies by someone who they believed they had a trusting relationship with.

NO PARENTAL CONTROLS

The app claims to provide a secure and inclusive environment, but our researcher couldn't find any parental controls or safety features in evidence. If you report another user for inappropriate behaviour, you are offered the option to block them – but there's no indication as to whether the block has actually been successful, and there was no follow-up contact from the developers.

SECRETS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Wizz sent our researcher occasional 'mystery' friend requests from a blurred-out profile. To discover the sender's identity, users can either watch a video (usually an ad for a game or app) or take out a monthly subscription. Cynics might suggest this could be a way to exploit young people's curiosity into making them pay for the app, and that the 'secret admirers' are bots rather than real people.

Advice for Parents & Carers

TALK IT OUT

If your child has downloaded Wizz, talk to them about why they like it and who've chatted with. Have they shared any personal details with this person or connected with them on other social media platforms? Refresh your child's memory of the various risks that can arise from engaging with strangers online and get them to consider using a similar app with more robust safety features.

”

BE SUPPORTIVE

When connecting with strangers on apps like Wizz, seemingly innocent chats can quickly progress to become sexually explicit and lead to nudes being sent. Make sure your child knows to come to you if they're uncomfortable about anything they've been sent or been asked to send. If they've already shared something that they now regret, reassure them that you'll support them no matter what.

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Young people are far more inclined to see the good in others; they often overlook the fact that scammers set up fake accounts on apps like this with the intention of getting money or personal data. Remind them that not everyone online is who they claim to be, how easy it is for someone to create a bogus profile, and why it's vital to think twice about sharing anything on networking apps.

CAUTION

KEEP THINGS TRANSPARENT

It might feel awkward, but regular chats about your child's online life can be beneficial. If they seem suddenly anxious or secretive around their phone or tablet, they may have something they need to get off their chest. You could also consider not allowing digital devices in their bedroom, especially overnight – that's when a lot of the riskier conversations on apps like Wizz tend to take place.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



CHAT WIZZ ME



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Source: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=info.wizzapp&hl=en_GB&gl=US | <https://www.met.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/sexual-offences/sextoxy/>



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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 26.04.2023

Next Week

Please find the schedule for Week 5, including some exciting Outdoor Education trips! This schedule is also available on the website and on the school social media. Please note, the Outdoor Education plans are subject to change due to the weather - we will endeavour to inform Parents/Carers as soon as possible, but this decision may need to be made on the day.

AUTUMN 1 - WEEK 5



MONDAY

Outdoor Ed

Oak & Larch
(Swimming & SUP skills)

Food

Hazel
(Cooked Breakfast)

TUESDAY

Outdoor Ed

Holly & Elm
(Swimming & SUP skills)

Food

Year 11/Post 16
(Cooked Breakfast)
Larch
(Sausage Baps)

WEDNESDAY

Outdoor Ed

Beech
(Swimming & SUP skills)

Food:

Elm
(Poached Pears & Plums)
Ash
(Cooked Breakfast)
Oak
(Sausage Baps)

THURSDAY

Outdoor Ed

Ash & Hazel
(Swimming & SUP skills)

Food

Holly (Poached Pears &
Plums)
Post 16 (Blueberry Cobbler)

FRIDAY

Outdoor Ed

Year 11 & Post 16
(Swimming & SUP skills)

Food

Beech
(Cinnamon & Apple
Pancakes)