



SPRING TERM 1 – WEEK 3

Bicton College Trip

Year 10, 11 and Post 16 pupils visited Bicton College last week to explore the training courses they offer. Students were shown around the Engineering, Construction and Animal Care departments alongside the canteen and social areas. Pupils were fantastically well behaved and appeared to really enjoy their experience.

Well done all!

Lost Property

As we did last week, we have included our list of lost property in this edition of the newsletter. Please take a look and check if any of the items belong to your learner.

Craft Club

Craft Club is going from strength to strength and are looking for any donations of materials or wool that might be useful for our learner's craft projects! Please bring any donations to the gate in the morning, or send your learner in with them.

Jokes of the Week!

What do you call a nose with no body?
Nobody knows!

What gets wetter the more it dries?
A towel!

Thank you to Benji and George for the excellent joke and riddle!

Headteacher's Award



This week, we are delighted to award our Headteacher's Award to Jasmine! Jasmine has had an excellent week and is demonstrating a growing level of maturity and overcoming obstacles.



Our Values Stars of the Week

MAGDALEN
COURT SCHOOL



Respect
&
Resilience

Health
&
Happiness

Kindness
&
Independence

For this half of the spring term, **kindness** is our focus. This includes kindness to their peers and staff, as well as kindness to themselves. It's been fantastic to see some great examples of kindness this week and we look forward to more examples of this over the last two weeks of this term!

Aspen

Alfie for always being willing to join in with everyone on the playground

Benji for checking on friends when they are upset

Oak

All of Oak this week, for showing excellent kindness to each other!

Larch

Adam for helping without being asked

Maisie Bo. for always showing kindness to everyone

Maisie Br. for encouraging others

Isaac for encouraging and including others in games and conversations

Ashley for helping others feel welcome

Beech

Billy for helping out and caring for a friend in need

Holly

Neve for helping to give our books out this week

Joe for a great series of games in social time

Isabel for holding the door open for people every day

Ozzy for teaching Alex to play dodgeball

Izak for always being positive and inclusive

Elm

Jack for always playing games well and being a true sportsperson when he doesn't win



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Elm

Jack for always playing games well and being a true sportsperson when he doesn't win

Chestnut

Daylun for being kind and friendly every morning
Rosie for always being kind
Bonnie for her friendly morning greetings and always showing an interest in class
Arran for never being mean to anyone

Hazel

George for showing kindness towards peers and staff
Beth for friendliness and kindness towards peers and staff

Ash

Jade for always being kind and caring to others
Luke for always showing kindness
Phoenix for always being kind and caring to others

Lime

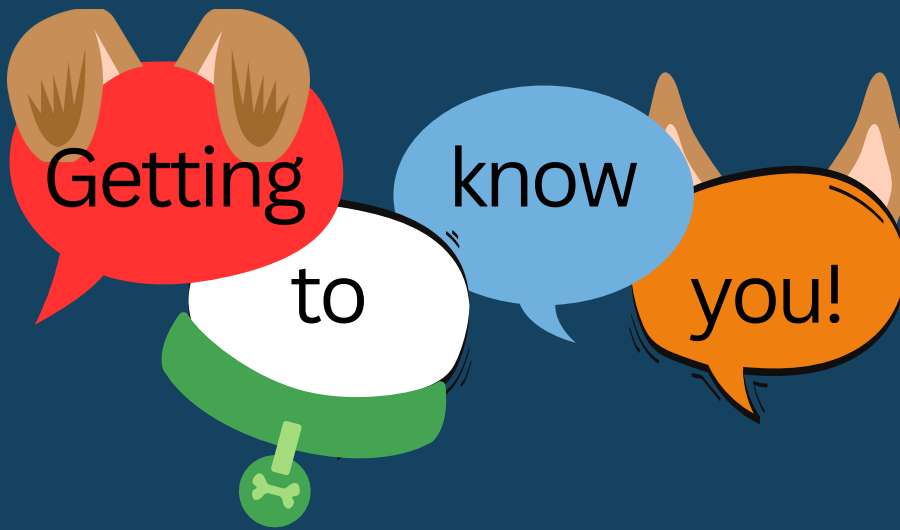
Ruben, Freddie, Isaac, Josh & Callan for showing kindness to their classmates

Maple

Tia, Finnian, Josh & Jasmine for being kind and inclusive with their peers

Outreach

Alastair for being great at involving other young people with games and challenges



This week, a much anticipated interview!
If you've ever wondered what our fluffiest staff member watches on TV - keep reading!

What's your favourite dinosaur? *asked by Isabel P*
Baaaaaaark (The one with the best bones)

What's your favourite TV show? *asked by George*
Woof (The Dog Whisperer - so I know who the enemy is!)

What's your middle name? *asked by Hannah*
Milo was unable to answer this question, as he was distracted by a sandwich.

What is your favourite dog breed? *asked by Toby*
Myself!

What is your favourite colour? *asked by Charlotte*
Stick

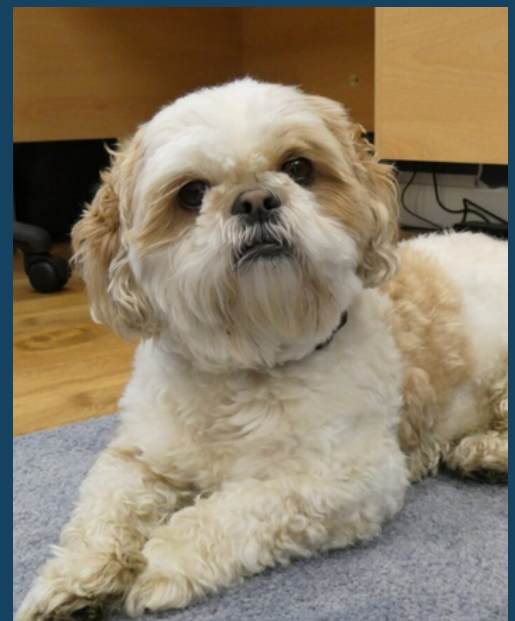
What's your favourite movie? *asked by Izak*
The Secrets of Squirrels - it's a documentary.

When you were small, did you like watching Disney films? *asked by Rosie*
Absolutely - 101 Dalmatians is a classic!

Where is your dream holiday spot? *asked by Theo*
The sausage factory!

What's your favourite state of America? *asked by Joseph*
BARRKanas!

What made you want to work at Magdalen Court? *asked by Arthur*
I thought it would add something valuable to my CV, that all other dogs would respect. I also get free sprats from the children.



A big thank you to Izak and Thomas for all their hard work imagining what Milo might respond!



MP3 Players

We are aware that many of our learners find music helpful and comforting during the day, and may struggle without their phones to play it on. Therefore, Jack (our wonderful HLTA and Technical Wizard) has put together a useful list of MP3 players available online, for a variety of budgets. Please note, these devices will not have access to school wifi. For safeguarding reasons, devices that have access to the internet are not allowed.

Hotechs MP3 Music Player (£16.99)

https://www.amazon.com/Player-Hotechs-Memory-Classic-Digital/dp/B0CK7ZZMCG/ref=sr_1_4?crid=2B41K0KOKZ8P9&keywords=mp3&qid=1706012123&sprefix=mp3%2Caps%2C158&sr=8-4&language=en_US&cy=GBP&th=1

AiMoonsa Music Player (£28.28)

https://www.amazon.com/Bluetooth-AiMoonsa-Recorder-Function-Earphones/dp/B09Q8QJXH5/ref=sr_1_1_sspa?crid=1RQJD56DWDY0N&keywords=mp3%2Bwith%2Bbluetooth&qid=1706012468&sprefix=mp3%2Bwith%2Bbluetooth%2Caps%2C204&sr=8-1-spons&sp_csd=d2lkZ2V0TmFtZT1zcF9hdGY&th=1

Mighty 3 Spotify Music Player (£114.99)

https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/B0C5FWM9XD/ref=sspa_dk_detail_1?pd_rd_i=B0C5FWM9XD&pd_rd_w=VqMme&content-id=amzn1.sym.84ea1bf1-65a8-4363-b8f5-f0df58cbb686&pf_rd_p=84ea1bf1-65a8-4363-b8f5-f0df58cbb686&pf_rd_r=WPYY0042QHTWW6AGHQ66&pd_rd_wg=MJe5U&pd_rd_r=b0e4f3eb-6040-47c2-b4e3-a9499b871e33&s=electronics&sp_csd=d2lkZ2V0TmFtZT1zcF9kZXRhYWw&th=1

There are many more models available online, but we hope these are a helpful starting point!

Food Tech

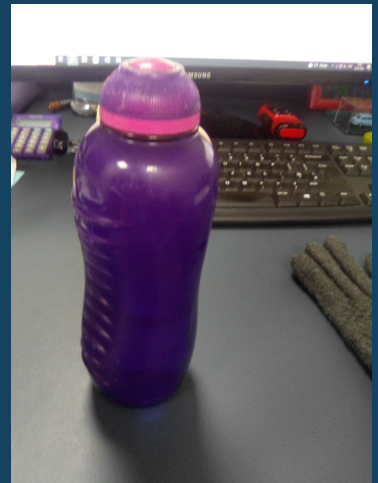
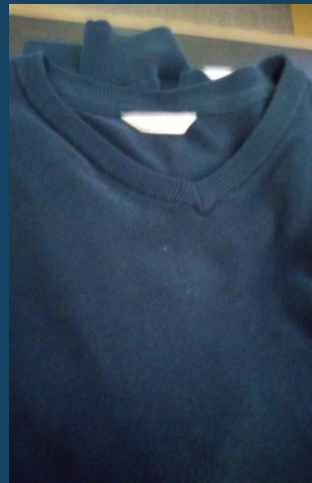
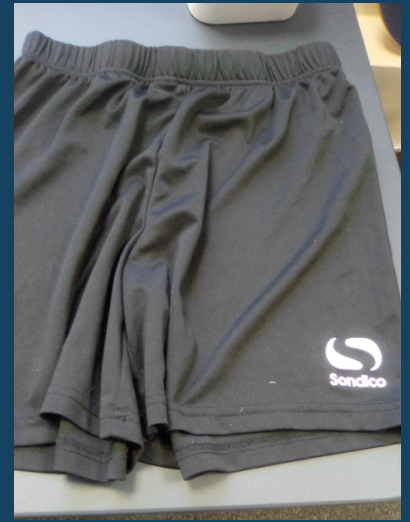
In Food Tech this week, Larch class made Italian biscuits called Cantucci which are very similar to Biscotti. This was a great lesson for learners to put several skills together such as weighing, bread work and cracking eggs. Aspen made some delightfully moreish pizza toast with various toppings. Oak class made a crunchy cereal by coating nuts and seeds with melted oil and syrup then mixed in some dried fruit. Beech class de-assembled pizzas and completed some product research, analysing nutritional and portion size information before re-assembling and tasting these shop bought pizza products. Level 1 Learners in Elm, Holly, Chestnut and Ash class made spaghetti Bolognese, using the hob to boil water, sauté vegetables and browning mince before simmering a tomato sauce kept us very busy and I was super impressed with the work achieved. Learners in year 10 and year 11 have continued gathering evidence for their BTEC assessment and level 2 learners have been making lasagne this week, making a home made béchamel sauce and again managing the hob to cook multiple pans at once - really amazing work this week!

Next week, Larch class will be conducting a snack survey. Aspen will make Italian biscuits and Beech class will make scone based pizzas with toppings of their choice. Year 9 Elm and Holly will be completing some evaluations of their skills learned so far this term and then complete a demonstration and a quick practice at making some fresh filled pasta. Several learners in year 11 will practice their recipes and start to take lots of photos of their practical work, whilst others are completing recipe cards and writing invitations as part of their assessment process. Level 2 learners will complete an evaluation of their lasagne from this week and will make some fresh pasta.



Lost Property

A reminder of all lost property we have in the office! Please note, anything unclaimed by half term will be disposed of.



Next Week

The term is flying past and we are on to week 4!

SPRING 1 - WEEK 4



MONDAY

Outdoor Education

Oak & Larch
(First Aid & Safety)

Food

Hazel
(Chosen recipes)
Aspen
(Italian Biscuits)

TUESDAY

Outdoor Education

Holly, Elm & Y9 Chestnut
(First Aid & Safety)

Food

Year 11/Post 16
(Evaluations/Fresh Pasta)
Larch
(Snack Survey)

WEDNESDAY

Outdoor Education

Beech & Aspen
(First Aid & Safety)

Food

Elm
(Evaluations/Fresh pasta)
Ash
(Write ups/fresh pasta)
Oak
(Quesadillas)

THURSDAY

Outdoor Education

Ash, Hazel & Y10 Chestnut
(First Aid & Safety)

Food

Holly
(Evaluations/Fresh filled pasta)
Post 16
(Fresh pasta)

FRIDAY

Outdoor Education

Maple & Lime
(First Aid & Safety)

Food

Beech
(Scone based pizza)
Chestnut
(Spaghetti bolognese & assess recipe)

Safeguarding

This week, our safeguarding focus is sharing photos online. Many of us share photos on different sites on a daily basis and it can be a lovely thing to do! However, it's important that our learners understand the risks involved when sharing photos and the impact that it might have on their life in the future.

If you would like any support with this, or with any of our safeguarding topics, please reach out to Jane or Grace.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SHARING PHOTOS ONLINE

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

School is often a time chock-full of milestones for your child, and you may well be eager to share their accomplishments with the world. In today's digital age, sharing images of such precious moments on social media is commonplace, and – while that's a lovely thing to do – it does come with some risks attached. Our guide can help parents and carers to consider the potential dangers and make informed choices about safely sharing photos of their children online.

INVASIONS OF PRIVACY

Even with the right settings in place, absolutely nothing online is 100% private. Anyone who can view your photos could take screenshots and potentially share them elsewhere. Privacy settings are still important, though, so it's always wise to ensure your social media accounts have them set up; just bear in mind that you can't completely control what happens to anything once it's gone online.

REVEALING PERSONAL DETAILS

Small details in photos can often reveal personal information. Backgrounds can give clues to where you live, for example, while school logos on uniforms, sports kits, or bags could help someone identify which school your child attends. With interactive maps and reverse image searches commonplace online, information like this could easily be misused by an individual with malicious intentions.

MISUSE OF IMAGES

Once something's been shared online, it's almost impossible to get it deleted. Photos can show up in search engine results and be downloaded, manipulated, and shared without consent. There's the potential for someone's images to be used for advertising purposes (which in many cases, isn't illegal) or even more inappropriate reasons, such as cyber-bullying or serious forms of exploitation.

ONLINE GROOMING

Pictures that convey details about your child's interests, activities, or daily routines could arm an online predator with the kind of information they can deploy to gain a child's trust. They might use this knowledge to pretend to be the same age as the child or to have a shared hobby. Essentially, the more a predator knows about a young person, the easier it is for them to invent some 'common ground'.

PRESSURE TO PLEASE

When their parents or carers share notable moments and accomplishments in a child's life on social media, some children may begin to feel an expectation to always meet certain standards, to achieve things, or to behave in ways that are "worth sharing". Knowing that other people (even friends and family) can see these posts on social media might also add to the pressure they're feeling internally.

IMPACT ON DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Every photo of a child posted online contributes to their digital footprint. Young people's lives have never been so closely and publicly documented as they are now, and this permanent online presence could affect a child's future opportunities or the choices they make as they grow up – in addition to influencing how they see themselves and, consequently, their emotional wellbeing.

Advice for Parents & Carers

REVIEW SETTINGS REGULARLY

Make sure your social media's secure in terms of who can view your content or see your location (only family and trusted friends, for example). Privacy settings aren't totally foolproof, but they do make it tougher for strangers to access your pics. Reviewing your settings regularly is also a good starting point for conversations with your child about managing their own social accounts when they're older.

CONSIDER OTHER CHILDREN

When taking a group photo, make sure you get parents' or carers' permission to share it on social media. There may be an important safeguarding reason for them not wanting their child's photo posted publicly online, or it might simply not tally with their personal beliefs or cultural background. A quick conversation in advance, just to make sure, is usually hugely appreciated.

CHECK YOUR PHOTOS

Photos of your child shouldn't provide any clues to where they live or go to school: even a house number, street name, or car number plate could be a giveaway. Cover up or blur out school logos, too. If you really want to share a particular pic, you could post a watermarked or low-res version, which can help to discourage misuse as those images are less appealing to download or reproduce.

THINK AHEAD

Try to consider the longer-term implications of what you post. Would you be happy with that photo being online in 10 years' time? Would your child still be OK with the image when they're older? Once your child is mature enough, you could ask for their consent before posting: it respects their privacy, fosters trust and understanding, and helps them to start thinking about their own online life.

Meet Our Expert

Gabriella Russo is a safeguarding consultant with more than 30 years' experience working with children, families, and adults in education, local authority, and mental health settings, both in the UK and internationally. She has developed online safety training for local authorities and foster care agencies across Britain and is the online safety expert for FosterWiki.



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