

W E E K L Y

NEWSLETTER

MAGDALEN
COURT SCHOOL



SPRING TERM 2 – WEEK 4

Careers & Curriculum Evening - Final Reminder

A final reminder that our Careers and Curriculum evening will be taking place this Tuesday - 19th March at 4:15pm. More information can be found on the next page!

Period Products

Please note, we have a supply of period products available in the school office, Willow and Rowena and Adele's office, should any learners require them. Please share this information with your learner. They are very welcome to come and collect these at any time.

Headteacher's Award



This week, we are delighted to award our Headteacher's Award to Jaylee. Jaylee has made a fantastic start in settling in to the school and we are really proud of the progress she is making. Well done Jaylee!

Red Nose Day!

We had a fantastic Red Nose Day today! Oak class organised a brilliant cake sale at breaktime and it was great to see staff and learners dressed with a splash of red! Thank you very much to everyone who donated to the cake sale - we've raised £109!

Jokes of the Week!

George's joke

What do you call a pig that does martial arts?
A pork chop!

Benji's joke

Why did the dinosaur cross the road?
Chickens hadn't evolved yet!

Arran's joke

How does the ocean say hello?
It waves!

Cameron's joke

Knock knock!
Who's there?
Sid
Sid who?
Sid down and let us play!

Careers Fair & Curriculum Evening - Don't miss out!

Our Careers and Curriculum evening is taking place this Tuesday - the 19th March at 4:15pm! As with our Christmas event, we would ask all parents and carers to collect their learners from the gate as usual before re-entering through the main gate and signing in with Mel or Lily.

We are so pleased at the response we have had from colleges and apprenticeship providers, including a leading national Estate Agent who will be attending to discuss apprenticeships. This is an incredible opportunity for young people to start thinking about their next steps after Magdalen Court and all year groups are invited. We will also have the Preparing for Adulthood and Reaching for Independence teams from Devon County Council attending, so don't miss out!

Alongside the Careers Fair, we will also be showcasing the curriculum and the resources we use to deliver it. Teachers will be present so this is a great opportunity to see what your learner is covering in class and ask any questions!

Please RSVP to Mel or your class teacher on Class Dojo.

Careers, Coffee and Curriculum



19th March



Our Values Stars of the Week

Respect
&
Resilience

Health
&
Happiness

Kindness
&
Independence

The value this term is **happiness!** We've loved hearing from our teachers about all the happiness our learners have experienced this week!

Aspen

Theo for making staff happy by being in the right place at the right time and doing the right thing during our reading lessons

Oak

All of Oak class for setting up the Red Nose Day Bake sale and bringing in or baking lots of delicious things to sell

Larch

Isaac for enjoying our class and doing the right thing

Beech

Sophie Bates for making a new learner feel so welcome

Holly

Neve for constant engagement with her learning

Elm

Lola for being positive towards her studies and great work in her book

Chestnut

Daylun for always working with a smile, in the right place at the right time

Hazel

George for cheerfulness and witty observations

Ash

Camron Jon for making Alan smile when he needs a little happiness!

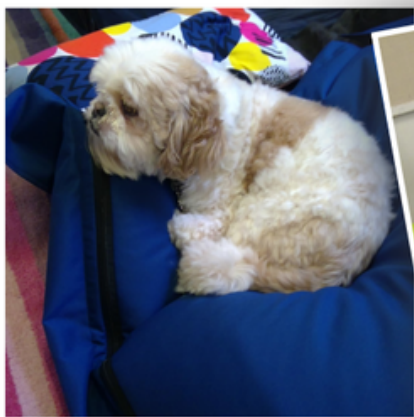
Maple

Tia for supporting other learners during challenging moments

Lime

Ruben for showing an overall improvement in his attitude to work and showing kindness to peers and members of the community during his Geography field study trip.

THANK YOU



£109 RAISED

Food Tech

We've had a super productive penultimate week of this spring term in the Food Tech department. Learners in Aspen and Larch made some fabulous mini-muffins. Oak class practiced using the food processor to make bread crumbs and developing food safety knowledge when preparing raw meat for their delightful chicken nuggets. Beech class continued with bread work and made some awesome hot cross buns. Learners in Chestnut, Holly and Elm practiced making bacon, lettuce and tomato sandwiches using the grill and completing skills records for last weeks chicken curry. Level 2 learners in Ash, Hazel and Post 16 made French baked potatoes. We also had 4 learners in year 11 complete their BTEC practical assessments this week, it was a real joy to see them passing on home cooking skills to peers and their teachers.

Next week, Aspen and Larch classes will be updating their work books. Post 16 & Year 11 will be making chocolate brownies and Simnel cake for the end of term celebration brunch. Learners in Ash, Chestnut & Hazel class will be making beef burgers. Oak class will be making Easter nests for our Easter celebration brunch.



Getting

to

know

you!

What's your favourite dinosaur? *asked by Isabel P*

Brontosaurus is my favourite dinosaur as I remember being so enchanted by the sheer size of its huge structure as a child when visiting the Natural History museum as a child.

What's your favourite TV show? *asked by George*

Fargo

What's your middle name? *asked by Hannah*

I afraid I can't disclose that.

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

Has to be a cockerpoo as that's my dog.

What is your favourite colour? *asked by Charlotte*

Lilac or red depending on my mood at the time.

What's your favourite movie? *asked by Izak*

My favourite movie is an old film called Trading Places featuring Dan Ackroyd and Eddie Murphy it's hilarious yet also tells the story of injustice and racism.

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

asked by Rosie

Yes and I still love them now.

Where is your dream holiday spot? *asked by Theo*

I'd love to go to Cuba - I'd take a slow boat.

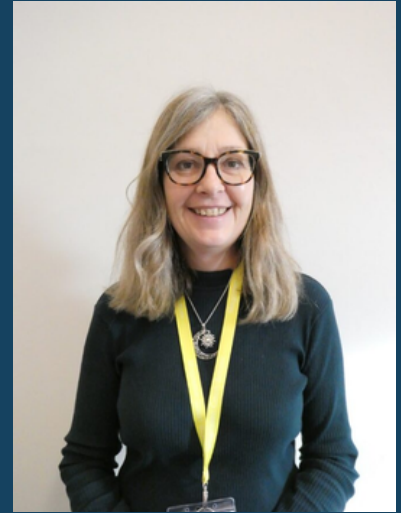
What's your favourite state of America? *asked by Joseph*

North Dakota as it is a wild prairie with extreme changes in its climate. It is said to be a sacred place.

What made you want to work at Magdalen Court? *asked by*

Arthur

When I visited the school and knew straight away that this was a place where children were valued and cared for, as such I knew that it was the right place for me to work.



This week, our new Chestnut teacher Paula is answering your questions!

SPRING 2 - WEEK 5



MONDAY

Air Ambulance Talk -
Aspen, Larch & Oak

Outdoor Education
Oak & Larch
(First Aid & Safety)

Food
Hazel
(Beef Burgers)
Aspen
(Work books)

TUESDAY

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

Food
Year 11/Post 16
(Chocolate
Brownies/Simnel Cake)
Larch
(Work books)
Careers & Curriculum Fair
- all welcome!

WEDNESDAY

Outdoor Education
Beech & Aspen
(First Aid & Safety)

Food
Chestnut
(Beef Burgers)
Ash
(Beef Burgers)
Oak
(Easter Nests)

THURSDAY

Food
Holly
(Brownies/Simnel Cake)
Post 16
(Brownies/Simnel Cake)
Easter Celebration Brunch
END OF TERM - 1PM

Safeguarding

This week, our safeguarding focus is all about group chats. These are increasingly popular amongst young people and our learners especially. Group chats are a fantastic way for groups of friends to connect, share pictures or videos or even plan activities. However, there can be negatives - with those not involved feeling excluded or inappropriate material being shared on the chat. We advise you to speak to your young people about group chats they might be involved in and ways that they can keep themselves and others safe.

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

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about GROUP CHATS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

BULLYING

Unkind comments or images which are purposely aimed at an individual can be shared freely in a group chat – allowing and often encouraging others to join in the bullying behaviour. If this content is shared in a group of their peers (especially a larger group), it serves to amplify the hurt, embarrassment, anxiety and isolation that the victim feels.

EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION

This common issue with group chats can happen in several ways: starting a new group, for instance, but deliberately excluding a certain child. Likewise, the chat may take place on an app which one child doesn't have access to, meaning they can't be involved. A child can also feel isolated when a group chat is used to discuss or share images from an event that everyone else but them attended.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some discussions in group chats may include inappropriate words, swearing and unsuitable images or videos. These could be viewed by your child if they are part of that group, whether they actively engage in it or not. Some chat apps have a disappearing message function, so your child may be unable to report something they've seen because it can only be viewed once or for a short time.

SHARING GROUP CONTENT

It's important to remember that – while the content of the chat is private between those in the group – individual users can easily share a message, photo or video with others outside of the group or screenshot what's been posted. The risk of something your child intended as private becoming public (and potentially going viral) is higher if there are people they don't know well in the group.

UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Within larger group chats, it's more likely your child will be communicating with people they don't really know. These strangers may be friends of the host, but not necessarily friendly toward your child. It's wise for young people not to share personal details and stay aware that they have no control over the messages and images they share after they've put them online.

NOTIFICATIONS AND FOMO

A drawback of large group chats is the sheer number of notifications. Every time someone in the group messages, your child's device will be 'pinged' with an alert: potentially, this could mean hundreds of notifications a day. Not only is this highly distracting, but young people's fear of missing out on the latest conversation results in increased screen time as they try to keep up with the chat.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats are often an arena for young people to gain social status. This could cause them to do or say things on impulse, which could upset others in the group. Encourage your child to consider how other people might feel if they engaged in this behaviour. If your child does upset a member of their group chat, support them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

In any online communication, it's vital for young people to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Discuss the importance of not revealing identifiable details like their address, their school or photos that they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they lose control of where it may end up and how it might be used.

GIVE SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Remind your child that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded in a group chat, instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their hurt feelings and help to put them back in control by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. On a related note, you could also empower your child to speak up if they're in a chat where others are being picked on.

AVOID INVITING STRANGERS

Sadly, many individuals online hide their true identity to gain a child's trust – for example, to gather information on them, to exchange inappropriate content or to coax them into doing things they aren't comfortable with. Ensure your child understands why they shouldn't add people they don't know to a group chat – and, especially, to never accept a group chat invitation from a stranger.

BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If your child is in a chat where inappropriate content is being shared, advise them to block the users sending the material, report them to the host app or platform and exit the group. If any of this content could be putting a minor at risk, contact the police. Emphasise to your child that it's OK for them to simply leave any group chat that they don't feel comfortable being a part of.

SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Having a phone or tablet bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be a massive irritation and distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to your child that they can still be part of the group chat, but that it would be healthier for them to turn off or mute the notifications and catch up with the conversation at a time which better suits them.

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.



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#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2018/may/03/online-safety-consultant-claire-sutherland>



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