

W E E K L Y

NEWSLETTER

MAGDALEN
COURT SCHOOL



Great teamwork skills
from Holly and Elm
class!



SPRING TERM 1 – WEEK 5

School Tours - 28th February

We are really looking forward to having our parents and guardians touring the school and meeting staff next term! Please note, the correct date for this is **4pm on the 28th February**. There will also be an opportunity to purchase items from Seth's Bake Sale, raising funds for a school gardening project.

Open for commissioning!

We are pleased to announce that, following a meeting with Devon County Council, the school is now open for commissioning of new students. This represents a huge amount of work by the whole Magdalen Court team and we are looking forward to continuing to build and develop the school.

Outdoor Ed

Learners have enjoyed a fantastic term of Outdoor Education, focusing on developing their first aid skills. In the first week back, learners will be visiting local woodlands and learning how to care for patients with burns and allergic reactions. Please ensure all learners have spare, waterproof clothing.

Phones

Please note, any phones that are brought into school **must** be handed to class teachers immediately upon arrival. This is to ensure the safety of all learners. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this then please contact your class teacher.

Headteacher's Award

This week's Headteacher's Award is awarded to Seth for going above and beyond, working independently on some Maths work at home!

Stars of the Week!



Oak - Daylun
Larch - Arthur
Beech - Thomas
Holly - Zac
Elm - George
Hazel & Ash - James

Music Lessons

As detailed last week, we have acquired the services of a music teacher, Mr Luke Stone, who will be offering private music lessons on a Tuesday to our learners. Mr Stone can teach piano, trombone, trumpet, guitar and drumming. Trombone and trumpet would require the learner to have their own instrument.

The cost of the lessons are

15 mins - £7.50

20 mins - £10

30 mins - £15

If you would like to book lessons for your learner please inform your class teacher. Spaces are limited so it will be on a first come first served basis.

Uniform

Please ensure your learner is wearing the correct school uniform. Learners are encouraged to wear the Magdalen Court School uniform (school trousers or skirt with white shirts). However, we recognise that for sensory reasons, this may not be possible for all our learners. Alternatively, learners may wear black, dark blue or dark grey leggings or tracksuit bottoms with a white collared or round neck t-shirt. Post 16 are not required to wear uniform, however we ask that all learners refrain from wearing hoodies.

Energy Drinks

We have seen an increasing amount of learners bringing energy drinks into school. Whilst we encourage learners to stay hydrated through the day, energy drinks are incredibly high in both caffeine and sugar. **Therefore, learners are not permitted to bring or consume energy drinks in school.**

You said - We did!

After reviewing the responses from the Parent Survey, it was clear that parents and guardians wanted more effective communication from school. Therefore, we have now implemented the following strategies:

- A weekly newsletter, sent to all parents/guardians and published on our website, providing important notices, as well as exciting snippets of what the learners have been doing!
- A newly designed website, providing regular and up to date information
- An informal tour and opportunity to meet staff on the 28th February!
- Progress reviews for each learner, published termly
- Regular communication with parents on Dojo
- Face to face meetings with SLT

Additionally, next term we will have our school social media up and running!

Do let us know if you have any further suggestions, or would like to see anything specific featured in the newsletter!

Highlights from Food Tech

We have had a very busy final week in Food Tech. Beech and Larch groups made some beautiful home made pasta Cortecce and Tagliatelle and Larch class made a super green rustic pesto with tender stem broccoli, anchovies and lemon juice. Oak class made some fantastic puff pastry parcels filled with mozzarella, sundried tomatoes and ham. Holly class & Post 16 learners made the classic risotto bianco and it was wonderful to see the group using team working skills during this recipe - they definitely enjoyed the final result! Elm tried their hands at biscotti and they turned out beautifully crisp, perfect for dunking into a cup of coffee. We definitely made the mixture to the right consistency as last time we attempted this, we added too much egg and the mixture was too wet and not very easy to handle. Hazel & Ash made bolognaise with herbs and grated carrot and courgette - we found that grating veg into dishes like bolognaise is a great way to bulk up the meal with more of your 7 a day. This weeks chef of the week goes to Oak class for making such carefully folded and precise pastry work, well done.

Next term, our focus will be on breads, enriched doughs & bakes.



Beech Art work

Beech class have been creating some fantastic pieces of art this week! Below you can see a Nuclear missile and a silo by Seth and a Pokemon inspired piece by Harrison. Great work Beech class!

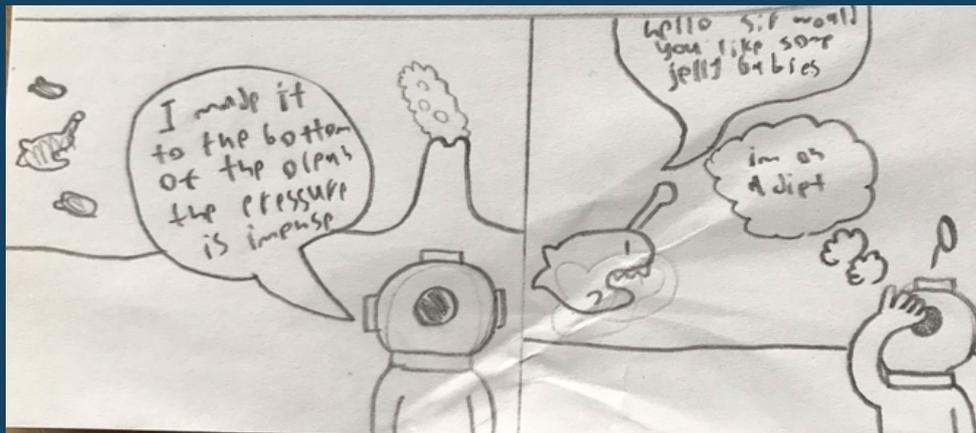




Creative Corner!

It's time for another cartoon from George!

This week, it features a deep sea diver who is feeling the pressure!



A zookeeper in Hazel class

James in Hazel Class has had a very exciting time recently, when he became a zookeeper for a day at a local zoo! James had such a good day, that he wanted to share some photos of the animals he cared for in the newsletter!



Safeguarding

This week, our safeguarding focus is on Mental Health, as it's Children's Mental Health Week. The theme this year is 'Let's Connect', focusing on encouraging people to connect with others in healthy, rewarding and meaningful ways. Below are some top tips for Parents & Carers to connect with young people - check out childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk for more information.

- **Connect with your young person in everyday ways** - For example, when you pick them up from school, or come in from work, try to give them your full attention and see if this helps you feel better connected.
- **Try to resolve conflict and re-connect after argument** - It is important that young people learn how to disagree in appropriate ways, how to say sorry and how to make amends when they have done something wrong. They will learn a lot about how to do these things from you - so try to model the behaviour you want to see.
- **Connect by taking an interest in your young person's world** - As adults we can sometimes be unfamiliar with the things that our children and teenagers are interested in, e.g. their music or tv shows. By taking an interest in these things, however, you may feel better connected to your learner and the important things in their world. This can lead to other conversations about other things in their lives that matter to them.