



SPRING TERM 2 – WEEK 1

Reminder - Changes to term dates

A reminder that the date of the end of the Summer term has changed. **Pupils will now finish at 1.00pm on 9th July.**

Appropriate clothing

Next week is forecast to be very rainy! Please ensure learners are sent to school with appropriate footwear and coats. If changes are made to the Outdoor Ed schedule, Moss and Katie will communicate via class dojo.

Headteacher's Award



This week, we are delighted to award our Headteacher's Award to Adam. Adam has worked really hard to this week to be polite - which has especially been noticed by Grace and Jason at the end of the day. Adam has also been working to make sure he is in the right place at the right time.

Jokes of the Week!

George's joke

A man went to the doctor and said, Doctor! I've broken my arm in seven places! The doctor said, don't go back to those places!

Benji's joke

What time is it when there's bread being thrown at your head?
Time to duck!

Arran's joke

Why did the chicken cross the road?
To get to the other side!

Daylun's joke

What do elves learn at school
The elf-a-bet!



Our Values Stars of the Week

MAGDALEN
COURT SCHOOL



Respect
&
Resilience

Health
&
Happiness

Kindness
&
Independence

The value this term is **happiness** and today we thought about those learners who bring happiness into their classrooms. This can be really tricky in the first week back, but the learners here have done a great job!

Aspen

Charlotte for using her words to explain what makes her happy

Oak

Henry for always raising a laugh in class, one way or another

Larch

Isaac for her infectious happiness and good humour that she brings to our classroom

Beech

Billy for staying so positive and spreading the joy

Holly

Toby for being increasingly upbeat and good natured in class

Elm

Kai for being very positive and bringing happiness to the classroom

Chestnut

Daylun for bringing a smile to every lesson

Hazel

Beth for being friendly towards new learners

Ash

Jade for always presenting with a happy disposition

Lime

Isaac for his positive outlook and demeanour

Maple

Tia for working with her peers and supporting them to create a happier and calmer environment

Food Tech

We've had a busy first week back in the Food Tech department. Learners in Aspen made some moreish cheese straws and Larch class made cheese scones. Learners in Beech made a classic crepe pancake served with freshly squeezed lemon juice and sugar. Level 1 learners in Ash, Hazel, Holly, Elm & Chestnut have been developing knowledge and confidence around cooking chicken, whilst developing knife skills preparing salsa and vegetables for some delicious chicken fajitas. Learners in year 10 classes Ash and Hazel have been finishing their portfolio assessment packs. Learners in year 11 have continued with gathering evidence towards their assessment in the form of making recipe cards with photos and presentations. Level 2 learners made a wild rice salad this week balanced with fresh herbs, fresh vegetables and home-made dressing.

Next week, Aspen and Larch class will continue practicing their 'rubbing in' technique when making a raspberry bun recipe. Beech class will be making shortcrust jammy dodger biscuits with a homemade jam. Level 1 learners in Holly, Elm, Chestnut & Ash will make a simple and delicious tray bake with chicken, sweet potato wedges, tomatoes and herbs. Year 11 learners will continue gathering evidence and practicing their BTEC assessment recipes. Post 16 and Level 2 learners will make a stir-fried rice dish. Some learners in Hazel will complete their final practical assessments whilst the other learners move onto the Level 2 curriculum who are doing stir fry rice next week. Oak class will be reflecting on their practical cooking skills learned over previous weeks and taste testing different apple products.



Careers Fair!

Before half term, we announced our first Careers Fair, which will be taking place later this term. The event is open to all learners and their families, with local colleges and apprenticeship providers already booked to attend. We are really excited about this event and the opportunity it will provide for our learners! If you have any questions, or even suggestions about who we should be inviting, please contact Grace P (gplant@magdalencourt.org).

The event will take place on **19th March at 4:15pm**. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to the office.

CAREERS FAIR 2024

Join us to meet with colleges,
apprenticeship providers and
employers!



4:15 PM



19th March



Sports Hall,
Magdalen Court

Please email the office
to RVSP



Artistic success!

A big well done to Lexie, who recently took part in a national Art competition, ran by Boomerang Media Company. The challenge was to design a poster persuading people of the benefits of dancing, which could be displayed on a digital marketing screen. Lexie designed a fantastic digital poster, which can be seen here and the competition was judged by experts in education, advertising and media and even professional dancers!

We are really excited to announce that Lexie's entry was picked as one of the top 10 for her age group across the country and she has been awarded some fantastic stabilo stationery. Well done Lexie!



Lunchtime clubs

This week, we've had some new and exciting lunch clubs start! Art club now takes place on a Wednesday lunch in Juniper room and Pokemon club has moved to Fridays. Today, we also had card games in Rowena's office! As well as being a great way to spend lunchtime, it's also lovely to see learners from different year groups mixing and building friendships.



SPRING 2 - WEEK 2				
MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY
Outdoor Education Oak & Larch (First Aid & Safety)		Outdoor Education Holly, Elm & Y9 Chestnut (First Aid & Safety)		Outdoor Education Beech & Aspen (First Aid & Safety)
Food Hazel (BTEC/Stir fried rice) Aspen (Raspberry buns)		Food Year 11/Post 16 (BTEC/Stir fried rice) Larch (Raspberry buns)		Food Chestnut (Chicken tray bake) Ash (Chicken tray bake) Oak (Taste testing)
THURSDAY			FRIDAY	
Outdoor Education Ash, Hazel & Y10 Chestnut (First Aid & Safety)			Outdoor Education Maple & Lime (First Aid & Safety)	
Food Holly (Chicken tray bake) Post 16 (BTEC/Stir fried rice)			Food Beech (Jammy Dodgers) Elm (Chicken tray bake)	

Safeguarding

This week, we have multiple items to share with our school community. Firstly, a useful guide to snapchat and the risks that the app may pose. Snapchat is hugely popular among our learners and it's really important that parents/carers are familiar with how it works.

Additionally, a helpful checklist has recently been published for Instagram, ensuring that users understand the security features available to them. The list can be downloaded here - www.swgfl.org.uk/magazine/new-instagram-privacy-checklist-updated-for-2024/

Finally, we would like to highlight the support that the NSPCC offers parents/carers, with extensive resources on their website and a helpline number to call on 0808 800 5000.

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

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

Even if your child only connects with people they know, they may still get friend requests from strangers. The Quick Add option lets users befriend people the app recommends – but these 'friends' are merely a username, which could have anyone behind it. Accepting such requests reveals children's personal information through the Story, SnapMap and Spotlight features, potentially putting them at risk from predators.

EXCESSIVE USE

Snapchat works hard on user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score). Spotlight Challenges tempt users into spending time producing content in search of cash prizes and online fame, while it's easy for children to pass hours watching Spotlight's endless scroll of videos.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some videos and posts on Snapchat aren't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people (teens in particular) to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

CAUTION

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beautify' effects on photos can set unrealistic body-image expectations – creating feelings of inadequacy if a young person compares themselves unfavourably with other users. Snapchat now also has 'priority' notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

VISIBLE LOCATION

Snap Map highlights a device's exact position on a virtual map which is visible to other users. There are options to restrict who can see this information: all friends, only you (Ghost Mode) or selected friends. Snapchat also has real-time location sharing, which is intended as a buddy system to ensure friends have reached home safely – but which could also be used to track a young person for more sinister reasons.

Advice for Parents & Carers

TURN OFF QUICK ADD

The Quick Add feature helps people find each other on the app. This function works based on mutual friends or whether someone's number is in your child's contacts list. Explain to your child that this could potentially make their profile visible to strangers. We recommend that your child turns off Quick Add, which can be done in the settings (accessed via the cog icon).

CHOOSE GOOD CONNECTIONS

In 2021, Snapchat rolled out a new safety feature: users can now receive notifications reminding them of the importance of maintaining connections with people they actually know well, as opposed to strangers. This 'Friend Check Up' encourages users to delete connections with users that they rarely communicate with, to maintain their online safety and privacy.

DISCUSS AI

Although My AI's responses can often give the impression that it's a real person, it's essential that young people remember this certainly isn't the case. Encourage your child to think critically about My AI's replies to their questions: are they accurate and reliable? Remind them that My AI shouldn't replace chatting with their real friends, and that it's always better to talk to an actual person in relation to medical matters.

CHAT ABOUT CONTENT

It may feel like an awkward conversation (and one that young people can be reluctant to have) but it's important to talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting. Remind your child that once something's online, the creator loses control over where it ends up – and who else sees it. Likewise, it's vital that children understand that some challenges which become popular on the platform may have potentially harmful consequences.

KEEP ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Profiles are private by default, but children may make them public to gain more followers. Snap Stories are visible to everyone your child adds, unless they change the settings. On SnapMaps, their location is visible unless Ghost Mode is enabled (again via settings). It's safest not to add people your child doesn't know in real life – especially since the addition of My Places, which allows other Snapchat users to see where your child regularly visits and checks in.

BE READY TO BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger does connect with your child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending sexual images to them, your child can select the three dots on that person's profile and report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user (annoying or malicious messages, spam, or masquerading as someone else, for example).

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.



Sources: <https://help.snapchat.com/en-gb/article/026576036602-What-is-My-AI-on-Snapchat-and-how-do-I-use-it> | <https://valueinsight.com/en-gb/news/early-warning-signs-from-my-ai-and-new-safety-enhancements> | <https://webmac.com/2022/04/16/snapchat-ai-location-sharing-challenge/> | <https://help.snapchat.com/en-gb/article/0020446844>



National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday