



SUMMER TERM 1 – WEEK 4

PAFOM PTA Updates - Reminder

Just a reminder from last week: PAFOM are looking for new committee members! From the team of five, three members will be leaving at the end of the year. This means that in September, the PTA will cease if we don't have more committee members. If you're keen to join, please reach out.

The AGM will take place on the 23rd of May at 2pm. If you would like to join us, please email: pafomgroup@gmail.com

PAFOM are also holding a Summer Fayre on the 5th July 4pm – 6pm, more details to follow!

Weather

We've had some lovely sunny weather this week and hopefully it will continue! Please ensure that your learner has applied sun cream and that they are bringing in a water bottle and a hat, especially if they are going on Outdoor Ed.

Jokes of the Week!

George's joke

My friend David lost his ID.
Now he's just Dav.

Benji's joke

What does a T-Rex eat?
Anything it wants!

Headteacher's Award



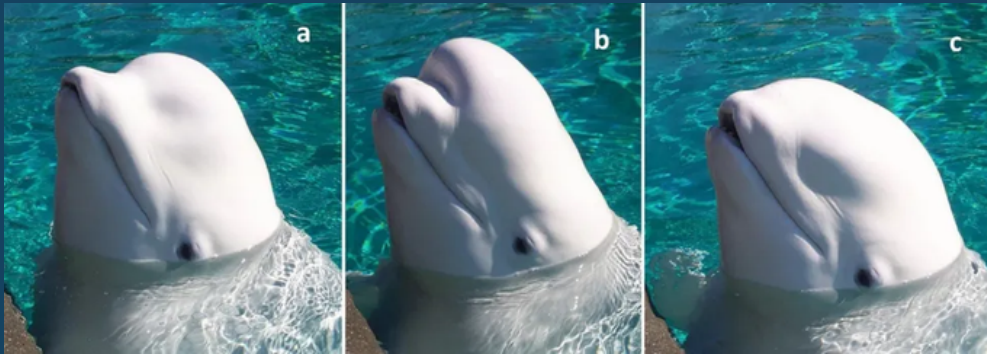
This week, we are delighted to award two Headteacher's Awards!

Firstly, we would like to award Samuel a Headteacher's Award for a brilliant achievement - going out into the community as part of his Outdoor Education work.

Secondly, we would like to award Kai a Headteacher's Award for demonstrating great maturity, respect and listening skills.

BREAKING NEWS

Here is a round up of the news this week!



Beluga whales have been found to change the shape of their heads to communicate. Scientists have discovered the Beluga whales change the shape of the squishy part of their head (known as their melon!) to communicate with other whales. The photo above shows the different shapes they can make!



Deaf Awareness Week!

This week is dedicated to encouraging children and young people to celebrate deaf identity and feel confident with their deafness. It is also to spread information about supporting people with hearing loss, with helpful tips like these below.

For example:

- Do not cover your mouth and face someone directly without moving your head too much
- Do not tell them that you will "explain it later" or that "it doesn't matter" if they miss a part of the conversation - repeat it for them if you can
- In a group, try not to speak all at once as this can be confusing
- **If you're not sure what to do - ask**

Space flight to International Space Station cancelled due to safety fears.

The astronauts were strapped in and ready to go when the flight was cancelled due to a problem with a valve. It is hoped that the flight might take place later this week!





Our Values
Stars of the Week

Respect
&
Resilience

Health
&
Happiness

Kindness
&
Independence

The value this term is **kindness** and our learners have excelled themselves this week, demonstrating acts of kindness towards both staff and their peers.

Aspen

Theo for giving a great compliment to peers in Aspen class

Oak

Finley for being smiley and happy all week

Larch

Kellan for developing new friendships

Beech

Poppy for developing new friendships

Holly

Neve for being helpful in class

Elm

Joe for being helpful while playing football with other learners and being kind on the astro

Chestnut

Bonnie for helping others with their learning

Ash

Jade for supporting and encouraging peers on Outdoor Ed

Maple

Jasmine for supporting students across the school and always spreading joy

Lime

Mae showing kindness to her peers in the community

Food Tech

We've had a very successful week in Food Tech. Learners in Larch class made spaghetti Bolognese and it was great to see learners managing the hobs effectively. Oak class developed skills using the food processor to make a vegan kofta recipe with grated courgette, chickpea, fresh ginger and toasted spices. Learners in Beech class practiced their breadmaking skills and made some fantastic pizza scrolls. Level 1 learners in Holly, Elm and Ash classes practiced their chosen assessment recipes. Learners have been making excellent use of their recipe cards, resulting in work being completed with greater independence, well done. Level 2 learners in Ash, year 11 and post 16 prepared wedges and a spicy dressing to marinade some sesame sweet potatoes. Level 2 learners who were completing assessments completed some written tasks which involved cross-referencing their recipes with the 'Eat well plate' and planning the timing of their two course meals.

Next week, Aspen will be making spaghetti Bolognese. Larch class will be making tomato bean and pasta soup. Oak class will plan a main meal to cook with a friend. Learners in Beech class will be making turkey burgers or spicy chickpea burgers. Level 1 learners in Holly, Elm and Ash will be working on power point presentations to gather evidence for their assessment. Chestnut class will be making vegetable samosa. Hazel class will be making BBQ Spare ribs. Level 2 learners in Ash, year 11 and post 16 will be making a burger relish which will be jarred ready for their final week 'burgers'. Level 2 'leavers' who are completing assessments will practice preparing both of their selected courses this week.



A message from Mr Bushrod - Examinations

We would like to wish all of our students taking their public examinations (which started with IGCSE Biology today) the best possible good fortune.

For all young people taking exams this is a stressful time of year but for our highly anxious students, overcoming their fears is particularly challenging.

Most of our Year 10 pupils are having a go at two GCSEs this year to introduce them to the rigours of the exam period, in order that they will be well prepared for 2025. A special 'Good Luck!' to them and congratulations for the extra efforts that they have made.

Football success & a trip to The Hair Academy!

Friday was an exciting day here at Magdalen Court! Firstly, we had a team off to a football tournament in Newton Abbot, who played well and represented the school fantastically! We can't wait to hear the results!

We then had a group of learners visit The Hair Academy in Exeter to experience what training at the academy would be like. The Hair Academy visited us earlier in the year for our Careers Event and kindly invited the school and any interested learners to visit the Academy and even have a go at some new skills such as nail work and blow drying.

What a brilliant end of the week for our learners - we look forward to hearing more about both trips next week!

SUMMER 1 - WEEK 5



MONDAY

Outdoor Education
Oak & Larch

Food

Hazel
(BBQ Spare Ribs)
Aspen
(Spaghetti bolognese)

TUESDAY

AS Chemistry
Outdoor Education
Holly, Elm & Y9 Chestnut

Food

Year 11/Post 16
(Burger relish/Assesment prep)
Larch
(Tomato, bean and pasta soup)

WEDNESDAY

History B & Computer Science

Outdoor Education
Beech & Aspen

Food

Chestnut
(Vegetable samosas)
Ash
(Presentations/Relish)
Oak
(Main meal planning)

THURSDAY

Maths
Outdoor Education
Ash, Hazel & Y10 Chestnut

Food

Holly
(Presentations)
Post 16
(Burger relish/Assessment prep)

FRIDAY

Chemistry & Geography B
Aspen, Larch & Oak - Crealy
Outdoor Education

Maple & Lime

Food

Beech
(Turkey/Spicy chickpea burgers)
Elm
(Presentations)

Safeguarding

This week, our safeguarding focus is sharing photos online. Nowadays, photos are shared online easily, through apps and websites such as snapchat and Instagram. However, once a photo is uploaded and shared to the internet, it's also impossible to remove completely. Using the attached guide, we would advise speaking to your learner about how they share images, as well as how you yourself might share images online too.

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 SHARING PHOTOS ONLINE

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.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

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.

