



SPRING 1 – WEEK 2

Looking ahead

Learners on Outdoor Ed have been enjoying these beautiful big open blue skies up on Dartmoor, moments that feel full of possibilities - and back at school we've been thinking about the open spaces ahead of our older learners as they consider what might be next for their futures.

We've had some great input from Careers South West and others, as well as an interesting assembly with a Police visitor, this week.

We hope you enjoy hearing all our news, and here's hoping for more blue skies to enjoy this weekend!

Dates for the diary

Coffee morning: Alley House,
30th January

Y9-11 immunisations: 29th
January

Headteacher's Award



This week the Headteacher's Award
goes to

Camron-Jon

for being a great role model,
encouraging others to do the right
thing and increasing in independence

Mel's memo

The immunisation team are visiting to vaccinate learners in years 9-11 on Weds 29th January.

Please complete consent forms by 27th January. Contact the school office if you need help doing this.

There have been some recent changes that mean more families may be eligible for Child Benefit. If you'd like a resource pack, please request one from the school office or check out HMRC's information at <https://ow.ly/ma6350UFcty>

HIGHLIGHTING... BEHAVIOUR

We have recently updated our Behaviour Policy. This is available on our website at <https://www.magdalencourt.org/page/?title=Policies&pid=21>.

Please familiarise yourselves with the updated policy, which is centred around our school values and ensuring these are core to our expectations around behaviour.

Idiom & word of the week for Week 3:

Idiom of the week

Put it on the back burner

To postpone or delay dealing with something, especially if it's less urgent or important than other matters.

Origin

This phrase comes from cooking on a stove, with multiple burners. Dishes that are cooking on the back burners are those that need less attention!

How to use it?

I've had to put my holiday plans on the back burner because I've got so much work to do.



Word of the Week

Treacherous

Adjective

Someone who is treacherous is likely to betray you and can't be trusted! It can also be used to describe something that is dangerous.

Example

Lady Macbeth was a **treacherous** character.

Ice had made the road **treacherous**.

Synonyms

Traitorous
Disloyal
Dangerous
Hazardous

HIGHLIGHTING... CAREERS

This week, some of our older learners had the opportunity to meet with representatives of Careers South West to talk about their future options, helping them to choose between Further Education courses, Apprenticeships and employment pathways.

We also welcomed Nicola from Zen Recruitment, who supported students to develop their CVs and did some role-play interview practice with our learners. She gave them helpful feedback and overall this was an extremely rewarding experience for our young people - thank you, Nicola!

Here are a couple of other chances to think ahead: The National Apprenticeship Show at Sandy Park in Exeter (details below), and Bicton College's Open Day - 18th January 11am-12pm.

Don't forget that we're still looking for parents/carers to support our Careers Presentation event in March. If you'd be happy to talk about your job with our learners, please email Sophie on shaney@magdalencourt.org for further details.

THE NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP SHOW SOUTH WEST
SANDY PARK, EXETER

Tuesday 28 January 2025 - 10:00 - 14:30 & 15:30 - 18:00
Wednesday 29 January 2025 - 10:00 - 14:00

POLICE VISIT

This week we had an assembly visit from PC Dell, who was talking to our older learners about knife crime. I'm sure we've all heard news stories about the tragic results of young people encountering or being involved in knife crime.

PC Dell told us about the laws around carrying knives, and her talk was a great reminder that our choices matter!





Our Values
Stars of the Week

Respect
&
Resilience

Health
&
Happiness

Kindness
&
Independence

The value this term is **health** and we've seen some great examples of this quality in school this week.

Larch

James for making great snack and lunch choices

Olive

Daylun & Cameron for designing healthy muffins

Elm

Billy for engaging well with his Sports Leaders course and thinking of others during those sessions

Lime

Oliver F for mentally preparing well for careers interviews

Maple

Seth for mature and reflective conversations about emotions

Beech

Isaac for always eating healthy snacks in school and understanding why a variety of foods is important in our diet

Holly

George for astute reflections about the effect of social media on mental health

Ash

Louis Lee for giving their best efforts in Fun Fit this week

Birch

Louie B for always being active and a football superstar!

Aspen

Amiee for joining in well with PE

Oak

Oscar M for using calming strategies to support mental health

Hazel

Arthur for his commitment to learning about mental health and efforts to support peers through compassionate actions & understanding

We've had a busy and productive week in Food Tech. Learners in Larch class recapped the rubbing in method whilst making orange shortbread biscuits. Birch class produced some wonderful zucchini pudding muffins. Learners in Ash and Oak class continued to practice baking skills: zesting lemons, rubbing in and dividing dough equally to make some mouth-watering lemon polenta biscuits. Aspen, Beech and Elm classes prepared a chocolate swiss roll recipe with a whipped cream filling, learners did really well, preparing trays carefully and working in a timely manner. Juniper and Alley House prepared a home-made pesto, which they could adapt to suit their preferences. Learners did well, preparing a finished dish and cooking the pasta perfectly. Learners in Maple and Hazel prepared a beef lasagne with a home-made béchamel sauce, the results were fantastic. It was great to see learners using their knife and hob cooking skills with independence when preparing the Ragu sauce element. Learners in Olive class have recapped and practiced their assessment recipes. Level 2 learners in Lime and Holly practiced preparing their selected main courses.

Next week, learners in Larch class will make herby parmesan biscuits. Birch class will prepare cherry muffins. Oak and Ash class will be making Empire biscuits. Classes Elm, Beech and Aspen will make a steamed pudding jam Roly Poly. Learners in Alley House and Juniper will prepare fresh pasta with a spinach and ricotta filling. Hazel & Maple class will prepare fresh pasta with a meat filling. Olive, Holly and Lime class will be completing assessment coursework, learners who are not completing assessments will prepare a spaghetti Bolognese.





SPRING 1 - WEEK 3



MONDAY

Outdoor Education
Birch & Larch

Food Tech
Elm & Aspen
Jam roly poly
Ash
Empire biscuits
Alley House
Fresh pasta

TUESDAY

Outdoor Education
Beech, Oak & Ash

Food Tech
Larch
Herb & parmesan
shortbread
Olive
Bolognese
Birch
Cherry muffins

WEDNESDAY

Outdoor Education
Elm, Aspen & Juniper

Food Tech
Oak
Empire biscuits
Holly
Bolognese
Hazel
Fresh pasta

THURSDAY

Outdoor Education
Hazel & Maple

Food Tech
Lime
Bolognese
Juniper
Fresh pasta

FRIDAY

Outdoor Ed
Lime, Holly & Olive

Food Tech
Beech
Jam roly poly
Maple
Fresh pasta

Safeguarding

This week's focus is on QR code scams. On the next page you'll find a guide with helpful information to support parents and carers with awareness of this issue.

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

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about QR CODE SCAMS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

QR code scams (also known as 'quishing'), involve the malicious use of Quick Response (QR) codes to deceive people into revealing personal information or downloading harmful software. These scams exploit QR codes' convenience and widespread use – for example, in adverts, restaurant menus and public notices, with criminals installing fake QR codes which direct users to bogus sites.

PAYMENT SYSTEMS

Cybercriminals may seek to change a QR code that's related to a legitimate payment service, such as in a restaurant. If a customer scans the QR code expecting to order and pay for goods or services (such as a meal in this case), they may be directed to a site controlled by the scammers. Entering their payment details would then allow the criminals to defraud them.

DISCOUNTED GOODS

A poster promises goods or services at a discounted cost, requiring people to scan a QR code to register and pay. The poster, however, is malicious, and there is no discount. Again, providing your payment details would allow the criminal to access your funds. This scam is reasonably common and is often found in car parks in major cities.

PRIZE DRAWS

A QR code is provided for a prize draw, advertised on a poster which is likely on display in a public space. Scanning the QR code will result in being asked to provide further information (such as your email address, name, address or phone number), which is then used by criminals for further social engineering attacks or even identity fraud.

WIFI CONNECTION

Scanning a QR code may be the means of connecting to the Wi-Fi network in a hotel or other public area. This is usually legitimate, but if the QR code is a fake, it could result in criminals viewing your browsing history and even your login details. These can subsequently be used for phishing attacks and identity fraud – and even financial fraud, if they're able to access your banking credentials.

FAKE EVENTS AND TICKETS

A poster highlights news regarding an upcoming event, or regarding an additional allocation of tickets for a sold-out concert or other performance. It directs the user to scan a QR code for more information, to register or possibly to pay. The QR code then leads to a fake site hosted by scammers, aiming to gather data on the user for future attacks or to exploit or defraud them immediately.

Advice for Parents & Educators

BE VIGILANT

QR codes are becoming more prevalent, and cyber criminals are increasingly seeking to use them to steal information and commit fraud. As such, it is important to remain aware of the risks. Always consider these safety concerns before scanning a QR code and avoid doing so unless you're certain it's legitimate. Be sure to keep your device's operating system updated as well, to keep you protected from known safety risks.

CHECK FOR SIGNS OF TAMPERING

Where QR codes are printed or displayed, check for any sign of tampering: as a sticker with a new QR code being placed over the top of the previous code, for instance. Where there are signs of tampering, you should consult a member of staff (if you're in a hotel or restaurant, for example) or simply avoid scanning the code altogether.

CHECK THE URL

Most phones now show the web address or URL which a QR code connects to, and they typically require users to accept being taken to this address before progressing. Check that the web address matches that of the site or service you're expecting to access via the QR code you've scanned. If it seems dubious in any way, don't click on it.

USE TRUSTWORTHY SOURCES

Consider the source of the QR code and its trustworthiness. A QR code for payment in a restaurant, for example, is likely to be legitimate if you can see it printed on every menu; a random poster pinned up in the street or in a building's corridor is more likely to be fraudulent. If you're unsure, err on the side of caution and don't scan the code.

USE THE DEFAULT QR CODE SCANNER

Most mobile devices come with the ability to scan QR codes built into the camera app. Where possible, you should seek to use this default functionality and avoid the use of third-party QR scanning apps which may have themselves been tampered with or compromised. Stick to reputable methods.

Meet Our Expert

Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at Millfield, a large independent boarding school in Somerset, as well as a member of the Digital Futures Group, Vice Chair of the ISC Digital Advisory Group and an Association of Network Managers in Education (ANME) Ambassador.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College