



Weekly NEWSLETTER

Summer Term 1 – Week 3

It has been wonderful to see our students taking part in so many trips and activities this week, including outdoor education, cooking sessions, and enrichment opportunities.

Congratulations to our amazing students who completed the Jubilee Challenge at Ten Tors last weekend, a fantastic achievement. We also wish all students the very best of luck as they begin their GCSE examinations. There are so many positive things happening across the school, and we are pleased to share them in this week's newsletter.



Headteacher's Awards



This week the Headteacher's Award goes to

Jake



&

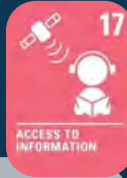
Isabel B
Macie H



Information



School Project



We had a fantastic response from across the whole school for the "100 Facts for 100 Years" project celebrating Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday. Learners and staff from every class contributed their facts, and it has been wonderful to see each leaf on the tree filled with information and creativity. Thank you to everyone who got involved and helped make the project such a success.



Exams next week

- 18th May GCSE Chemistry
- 19th May Functional Skills level 1 Reading
- GCSE Computer Science
- 20th May GCSE Art (5hrs)
- 21st May GCSE English
- 22nd GCSE Art (2.5hrs)

Support/Therapies

Family Information Service

We also provide a service to help families who are struggling to find suitable childcare

School Transport Service

Phone number 0345 155 1019

Link to Widget software

Symbol Resources = Navigating Puberty, Wellbeing pack, Phonics pack, Feelings and emotions scales/charts, Ainsley Harriott and Tom Kerridge Recipes.

Link to the ACE Centre

Resources = Symbol Charts = Reading, bath, art, chat about TV, bubbles, turn taking, core (Widgit symbol system recommended)

Coffee Mornings

21st May - Holly



Pictures of the Week



Staff Flowers of the week

Kisa



Therapies

In our just right state groups we have been meeting Barry the brain, Dave dopamine and Sally serotonin. We have been considering and mapping how these brain chemicals make our bodies feel and what activities bring these feelings to us.'



P.E at Magdalen Court school

MAGDALEN
COURT SCHOOL




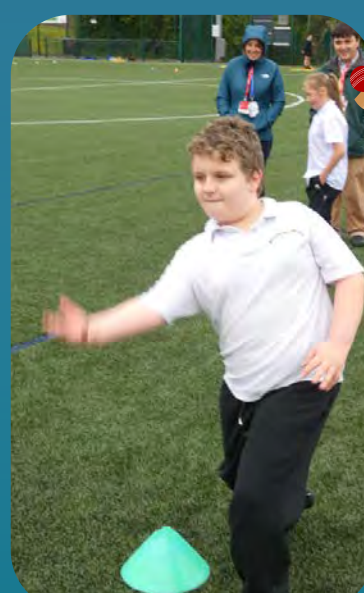
All our students enjoy lots of varied sporting

Within PE this week, students have enjoyed further developing their cricket skills, taking part in dodgeball, and preparing for the football tournament taking place this Friday. We have also welcomed Exeter City, who continue to deliver training sessions with our students.

It is fantastic to see so many students participating in a variety of sports with such enthusiasm and smiles on their faces.



 **Swimming:- Thursday: Sycamore, Laurel, and Oak classes Location: St Luke's Swimming Pool**



Outdoor Education at Magdalen Court school



MAGDALEN
COURT SCHOOL



All our students enjoy lots of varied Outdoor Education this week.



Outdoor Education



Last weekend, four of our students took on the Jubilee Challenge on Dartmoor as part of the Ten Tors event. Students arrived at Okehampton Base Camp on Friday lunchtime, enjoyed the army activities on camp, and then woke early to the sounds of Chariots of Fire to begin their challenge.

They worked brilliantly together to complete the set distance, finishing to great applause and receiving well-deserved medals from the army to celebrate their achievement, along with a well-earned pasty!

Huge congratulations to all four students, and a big thank you to the staff members who helped make this possible and travelled to support and cheer them on.

A fantastic effort by everyone involved.

Food Tech at Magdalen Court school

MAGDALEN COURT SCHOOL



All our students enjoy learn all the skills needed for Food Tech at the school.

★ Food Tech Weekly Roundup

★ Food Tech Department Weekly Round-Up

Another fantastic week in the Food Tech department, with learners across all groups producing impressive dishes and developing valuable life skills.

🍅 Spicy Soups & Fresh Tortilla Chips

Hawthorn and Sycamore created a spicy tomato and bean soup, paired with homemade tortilla chips, fresh lime juice, and sour cream. A delicious combination and brilliant teamwork.

🍲 Korma Creations

Laurel and Oak prepared a fragrant korma. Some learners opted for tofu, while others practised the skill of cutting lamb steaks into cubes. Excellent effort from everyone.

📖 Recipe Planning for Next Week

Aspen and Larch have been busy planning a meal for a friend, writing and adapting their own recipes ready to cook in next week's lesson.

🍗 Rogan Josh Success

Year 8 groups Hazel and Juniper produced a delicious chicken Rogan Josh, packed with extra tomatoes and peppers for added richness.

🎯 Assessment Dishes That WOW

Ash, Beech, Elm and Palm continue to impress teachers and TAs as they refine and perfect their chosen assessment dishes.

🍷 Homemade BBQ Sauce & Spareribs

Maple and Birch practised making BBQ sauce from scratch, using it to glaze their homemade spareribs absolutely amazing work.

🍪 KS4 Highlights

Learners in KS4 staying on next year baked wonderfully light Italian-inspired pinwheel biscuits. Others have been completing their final assessment coursework, while some enjoyed a fun cooking session making Chilli Con Carne.



Careers



Maple Class visited the Northcott Theatre as part of their careers project. Learners were given full behind-the-scenes access and even had the opportunity to step onto the main stage. Students explored a variety of job roles and discussed the skills needed to work within the creative industry. It was a fantastic opportunity and a really enjoyable experience for our students.



This week, learners in Holly and Lime Class have been developing their independence skills through travel training. It has been great to see our students out and about in the community.



Science

Magdalen Court School: The Green Initiative



Larch Class have had an exciting week in Science, investigating speed through hands-on experiments and practical activities.

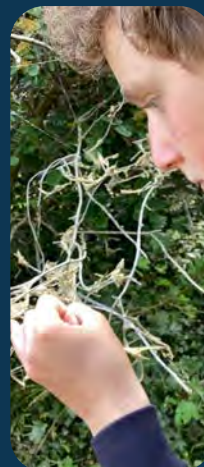
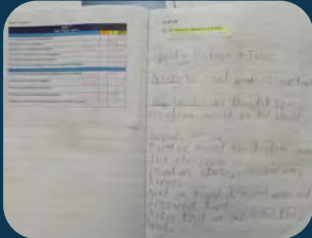
Hawthorn Class have been hard at work growing cress this week, carefully tending to their trays and celebrating some brilliant growth.

As part of our science learning about living things and their habitats, Sycamore class walked down to the riverside path to take a look at the caterpillar webs on the trees. Whilst there, we looked explored the wider habitats around the riverside and parks. We even saw newly hatched cygnets!



Creative Corner

As part of their personal development project, Holly and Lime learners have also been exploring the art installations across Exeter. Students will continue researching the artists and have already begun creating their own versions inspired by the artwork.



Stars of the week



Stars of the week for each class

Rosewood Class:- Macie

Ash Class:- Kellan D for sharing your humour and excitement when playing game with others.

Aspen Class:- Lewis S for 'supporting classmates in computing.

Beech Class:- Noah O - for looking after a classmate.

Birch Class:- Bonnie. T for helping hand out books and for being kind.

Elm Class:- Sophia. D

Hawthorn Class:- Caleb

Hazel Class:- Harvey

Holly Class:-

Juniper Class:- Kaleb for Juniper for kindness

Oak Class:- Dudley - for being an exceptionally good friend.

Larch Class:- Connor for kind to Class mates

Laurel Class:- James

Lime Class:- Isabel Bevan for being a positive and kind person to her peers.

Maple Class:- Rowan. C

Sycamore Class:- Ronel For being kind to himself and others and showing greater resilience in learning. Riana B- For being kind and helpful to all.

Palm class:- Sebastian Makewell for showing real kindness on Outdoor Ed this week with helping others engage in the activity



Outdoor Education

WEEK STARTING MONDAY

18th May 2026



Monday

OUTDOOR ED

**BEECH,
LAUREL, JUNIPER
& HAWTHORN**

**B - Beach Swimming
L - Canoe trip Exeter Canal
J - Forest School – Cooking
H - Sensory Walk**



Tuesday

OUTDOOR ED

**ASH, HAZEL, ASPEN
& OAK**

**A - Canoe trip Exeter Canal
H - Forest School – Cooking
A - Canoe trip Exeter Canal
O - Sensory Walk**



Wednesday

OUTDOOR ED

**ELM, LARCH
& SYCAMORE**

**E - Canoe trip Exeter Canal
L - Forest School – Cooking
S - Wild River Swimming**



Thursday

OUTDOOR ED

**MAPLE, PALM
ROSEWOOD 1 & 2**

**M - SUP at the Beach
P - SUP at the Beach
R1 - Canoe trip Exeter Canal
R2 - Canoe trip Exeter
Canal**



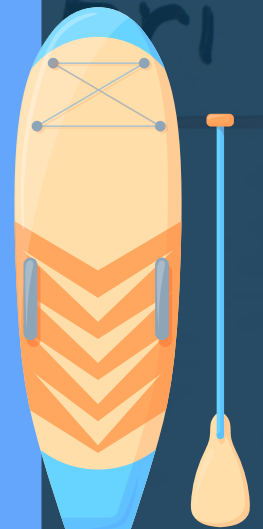
Friday

OUTDOOR ED

**LIME, HOLLY
& BIRCH**

**L - Beach Swimming
H - Beach Swimming
B - Canoe trip Exeter
Canal**

SUP BRO

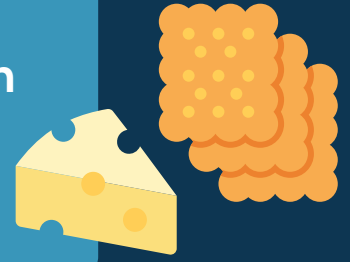


Please remember the appropriate clothing.

Food Technology



WEEK STARTING MONDAY 18th MAY 2026



Monday

Food Tech

Aspen
Ash
Holly

A - Plan main meal with a friend
A - L1 recipes
Tarragon Chicken and
Boulangere Potatoes
H - Cheese Biscuits

Tuesday

Food Tech

Beech
Sycamore
Rosewood
Elm

B - L1 recipes
Tarragon Chicken and
Boulangere Potatoes
S - Tomato & bean pasta
R - Cheese Biscuits
E - BTEC L1 assessment

Wednesday

Food Tech

Juniper
Lime
Hawthorn
Birch
Palm

J - Pizza Wheels
L - Cheese Biscuits
H - Tomato & bean pasta
B - BBQ Thighs
P - BTEC L1 assessment

Thursday

Food Tech

Laurel,
Oak
Larch
Hazel

L - Roast potato
wedges
O - Roasted Wedges
L - Plan main meal
with a friend
H - Pizza Wheels

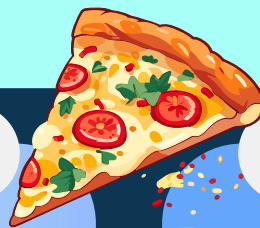
Friday

Food Tech

Maple

Online Lessons

M - Home made
burgers



Information

Idiom of the Week:

Bread and Butter

Word of the Week:

Insinuate

Number of the Week: **28**



TEN TORS

We are incredibly proud to have our students and staff representing us at the Jubilee Challenge and Ten Tors



MAGDALEN COURT SCHOOL



Student news Careers



When is the best time to begin talking about education pathways and careers? It can be tricky when broaching the subject of careers with your young person, but we have found having conversations about interests and skill development at an early age can help provide direction and motivation towards their studies. The National Careers service (see link) can help parents/carers to begin and encourage these conversations and also provides a link to a national careers advisor.

[Link](#)



[Help a young person make career choices | National Careers Service](#)

Full of Beans Cafe is back next week



Magdalen Court School	
Cheese scones	50p
Cheese and Tomato Pizza slice	60p
Sausage Rolls	40p
Banana Muffins	70p
Dairy Free banana Muffin	70p
bake (various)	60p

Menu
Birch and Palm class bring you a range of delightful home-cooked snacks today, together with coffee for the adults.



Radio us on Channel 8

Next wednesday afternoon in Olive. All money raised will go to the St Petros



Social Media



Please take a moment, if you're able, to check the school's Instagram and Facebook pages and share any new content.

QR Code



Help needed

Careers Week – We Need Your Help!



We are looking for parents, carers, and family members who would be willing to come in and talk to our learners about their careers. These sessions will take place between 8th–12th June, from 10:30am to 12:45pm.

If you are available on any of these dates and would like to share your experience, skills, or career journey with our students, we would love to hear from you. Your insight can make a real difference in helping young people understand the wide range of opportunities available to them. Please contact the school office or your child's tutor to express your interest.



Ikea Trip

Last week, on the 6th, learners from Juniper and Hazel visited IKEA as part of their careers lessons. During their visit, they explored the shop floor, searching for specific products and observing how items are displayed.

They also interviewed staff members using their own questionnaires, gaining valuable insight into careers at IKEA.



Safeguarding

At Magdalen Court School, safeguarding is our priority and underpins everything we do.

Our Safeguarding Team:
Designated Safeguarding Lead: Jane Kendall
Email: jkendall@MagdalenCourt.org
Tel: 01392 494919



ORAL HEALTH



SCAN ME

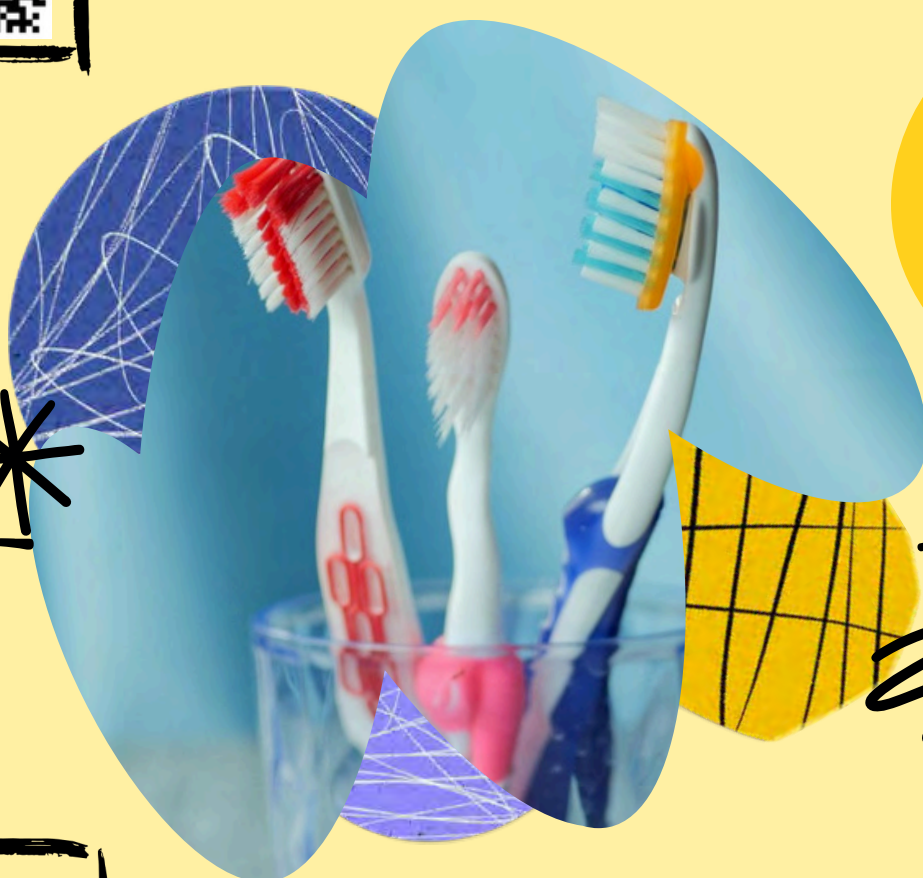
SUPPORTING CHILDREN

FREE ONLINE TRAINING FOR PARENTS, TEACHERS
AND ANYONE WHO SUPPORTS CHILDREN WITH
THEIR ORAL HEALTH

TUESDAY 24TH
MARCH 2026
AT 6:30PM -
8:00PM

&

TUESDAY 2ND
JUNE 2026
AT 6:30PM -
8:00PM



SCAN ME

SUPPORTING CHILDREN AND ADULTS WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS

FREE ONLINE ORAL HEALTH TRAINING FOR CARERS,
PARENTS, ENABLERS AND ANYONE WHO SUPPORTS
ADULTS AND CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS.

WEDNESDAY
6TH MAY
2026 AT
2PM - 4PM

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

HELPING NEURODIVERGENT CHILDREN NAVIGATE THE ONLINE WORLD

Neurodivergent people tend to be early adopters of technology, and many influential innovators in this space are neurodivergent themselves. It's therefore likely that a neurodivergent child or young person may be drawn to the online world from an early age. This isn't a concern in itself, but understanding both the benefits and potential risks is essential. Here are ten key considerations to support safe and positive online experiences for neurodivergent children.

1 TREAT ONLINE LIKE THE REAL WORLD

You wouldn't allow a child to cross a road without guidance – you'd hold their hand, use a pedestrian crossing, and model safe behaviour. In the same way, a neurodivergent child's first experiences online should be supported by an adult who can guide and explain safe and responsible digital behaviour to them from the outset.

2 MODEL RESPONSIBLE USE

Children learn from what they see. Show all children, regardless of neurotype, what responsible internet use looks like. Reflect on your own use of social media and AI. Consider how often you use them and your own understanding of these platforms. Talk openly about when and why you use these tools, helping all children develop a balanced and informed approach.

3 KNOW YOUR LIMITS

Current government guidance suggests no solo screen use below the age of two, with a maximum of one hour per day for two- to five-year-olds. Screen time can support communication and connection when shared with an adult. However, passive watching can affect neurodivergent children's attention and language skills. Focus on the type of content they watch, encouraging slower-paced and meaningful material rather than fast-paced, overstimulating content.

4 CONSIDER AGES AND STAGES

For older children and teenagers, agreed limits are important. Screen time can be beneficial, but it should form part of a balanced lifestyle. Neurodivergent children may find online communication easier than real-world conversation, supporting their social interaction. However, it shouldn't be their only option. Encourage a range of activities, including creative play, physical exercise, and opportunities for real-world connections.

5 KEEP CONVERSATIONS OPEN

Discussions about online safety should begin early and continue as children grow. However, neurodivergent children may worry about getting things wrong or being misunderstood, meaning these kinds of conversations should feel open and fair, rather than like a lecture. If a child encounters a problem – such as a scam or inappropriate content – they need to feel able to speak to a trusted adult without fear of judgement or embarrassment.

6 BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE

You aren't expected to be an expert, but it's important to stay informed about the platforms, games, or apps neurodivergent children use in order to provide practical support. Social media platforms have age limits, and many apps and games offer parental settings that can control access. Schools and families should work together to understand these tools, helping neurodivergent children use them safely while keeping up to date with new features and changes.

7 SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES

Children and young people often know more about current technology than adults, meaning it's important to recognise that controls may be bypassed. Clear, predictable boundaries should be used, based on trust and consistency. Involving children in discussions that affect them helps them feel heard. This is particularly important for neurodivergent children, who may respond strongly to perceived unfairness.

8 UNDERSTAND AI CONTENT

The internet now includes large amounts of AI-generated content, including images, videos, and stories. These can be difficult to identify. Children should be encouraged to question what they see and check the information using trusted sources. Neurodivergent children may interpret content literally, meaning adult guidance is important in helping them recognise what's real and reliable – and what isn't.

9 EXPLAIN AI LIMITATIONS

AI isn't the same as a search engine. It generates responses based on prompts and patterns, and its accuracy depends on how it's used. Sometimes, it produces incorrect or unrealistic information, known as 'hallucinations'. Both adults and children need to understand this and learn how to check information carefully using reliable and trusted sources.

10 CLARIFY AI RELATIONSHIPS

AI can feel conversational and personal, but it's not capable of real relationships. It learns from patterns in user input rather than human understanding. Some neurodivergent children may experience a sense of connection with AI chatbots, particularly if they find social situations challenging. It's therefore important to explain that these are simulated conversations and aren't a substitute for real, human relationships.

Meet Our Expert

Catrina Lowri is a neurodivergent former SENCO and Advisory Teacher who works with nurseries, schools, colleges, and businesses to improve inclusion for neurodivergent people. She is the Founder and Director of Neuroteachers and the author of "The Other 29 – How Supporting Your Neurodivergent Learner Can Improve Teaching and Learning for the Whole Class".



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