

Weekly **NEWSLETTER**

Summer Term 1 – Week 1

Welcome back to all our students and families. We hope you had a restful break and are ready for an exciting summer term. With school trips, special visitors, outdoor activities, and events like Ten Tors, there's plenty to look forward to. Take a moment to read this week's newsletter for updates and upcoming highlights. We're excited for the term ahead.



Headteacher's Awards



This week the Headteacher's Award goes to

Dudley

&

Olivia



Information

School Project

As a whole school we are Celebrating David Attenborough's 100th Birthday

To celebrate David Attenborough's 100th birthday, Aspen class will be leading a special whole-school project: 100 Facts for 100 Years.

All classes will be invited to contribute a fact about David Attenborough, wildlife, habitats, or our planet. These facts will be written on leaf-shaped templates and added to our beautiful 100-leaf tree display. We encourage learners to make their leaves as bright and colourful as possible.

David Attenborough's life's work has focused on educating people about the natural world.

This links directly to Article 17 – The Right to Information from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), which highlights every child's right to access information that supports their wellbeing and understanding of the world.



Coffee Mornings

7th May - Hazel

14th May - Lime

21st May - Holly

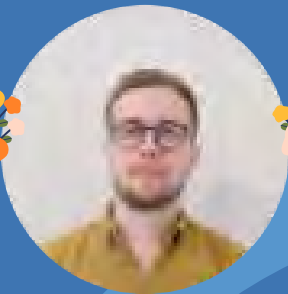


Pictures of the Week



Staff Flowers of the week

Jay



Exams

GCSE Exams Begin Next Week

Next week marks the start of our GCSE exam season, beginning with the Art exam. We wish all students involved the very best of luck your hard work and creativity have prepared you well, and we know you'll rise to the challenge.

If parents or guardians need any help, information, or guidance at any point, please contact your child's tutor.

Support

Family & Parent Support Groups

Best Start in Life Parent Hub

From pregnancy to childcare right through to starting school, get advice and support for your child's development.

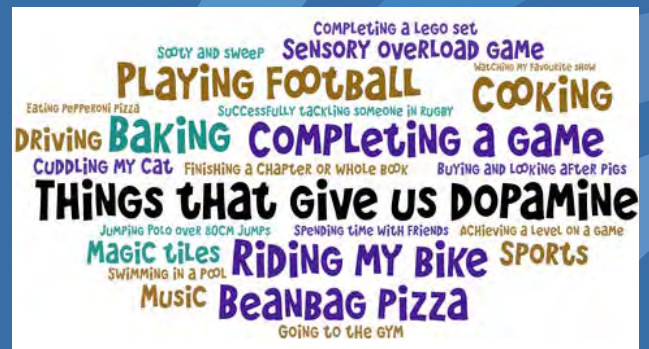


Gingerbread

Fighting to create a world where all single parents and their children thrive.



Therapies



'This week in our Just Right State groups we have met 'Barry the Brain' and have been exploring what things bring us dopamine. Here are some examples :

P.E at Magdalen Court school

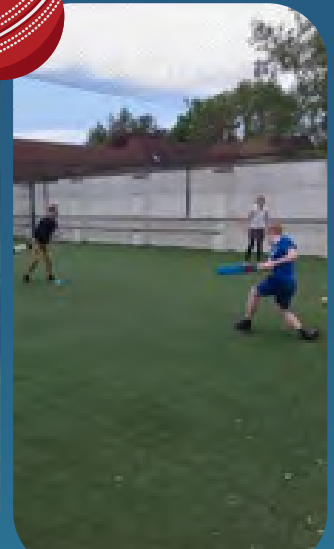
MAGDALEN
COURT SCHOOL



All our students enjoy lots of varied sporting

Summer Term in PE

The start of the summer term has brought a fantastic burst of energy and enthusiasm to our PE lessons. With the warmer weather finally here, students have been making the most of their outdoor sessions, especially during cricket. It has been wonderful to see so many pupils developing new skills, working collaboratively, and gaining confidence as they learn the rules of the game. We're looking forward to many more opportunities for learning, teamwork, and fun in the sunshine.



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

MCS Boccia Tournament 2026

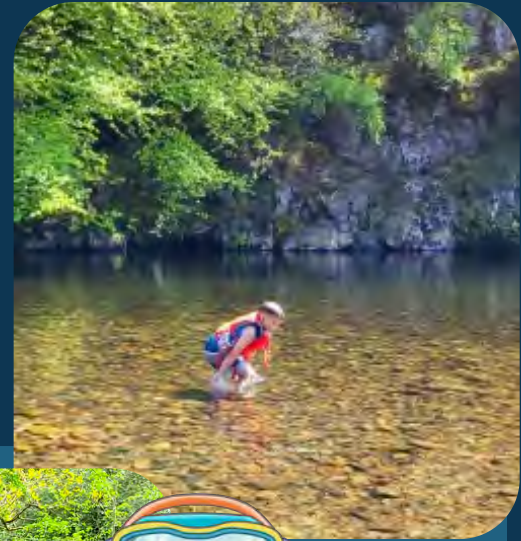
ROSEWOOD

Last term, our students took part in a brilliant Boccia tournament, with fantastic teamwork and sportsmanship on display throughout. We're delighted to share that Rosewood were crowned the 2026 champions a huge congratulations to them on their well-deserved win.

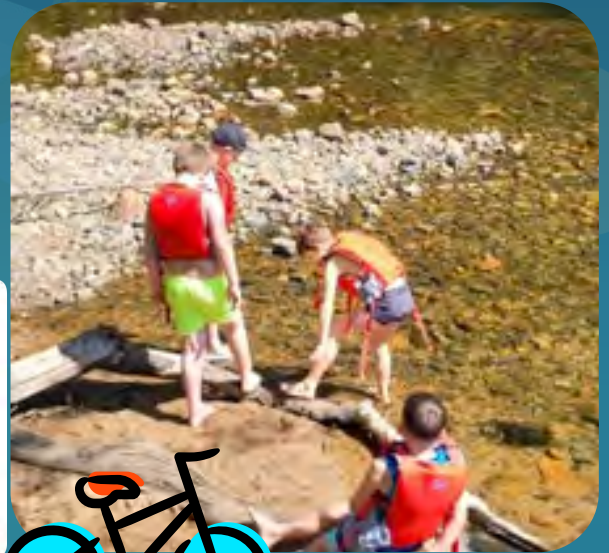


Outdoor Education at Magdalen Court school

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



Students also had the exciting opportunity to handle birds and learn about the different species cared for at the centre.



Outdoor Education



Outdoor Education – Summer Adventures
Our Outdoor Education groups have been making the most of the summer weather with wild swimming on Dartmoor, adventure walks to discover new swimming spots, and plenty of mountain biking. Learners have shown great enthusiasm and resilience as they explore the outdoors and build their confidence in a range of adventurous activities.



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 – A Fantastic First Week Back!

It's been a brilliant first week back from the holidays in the Food Tech department, with learners diving straight into practical work and producing some truly delicious dishes. What a strong start to the term.

Learners in Hawthorn and Sycamore began with a classic vegetable soup, an ideal recipe for practising safe knife skills and building confidence in food preparation.

Classes Oak and Laurel made chilli beef burritos as part of their fakeaway theme this term, exploring how to recreate popular takeaway dishes from scratch.

Groups Aspen and Larch prepared a vegetable curry inspired by Saag Aloo. This sparked wonderful discussions about Indian cuisine, cultural traditions, and how ingredients and cooking methods evolve over centuries.

Groups Juniper and Hazel focused on mastering a roux to create a white sauce, which they used in their adapted pasta bake recipes.

Learners in Ash, Elm, Beech and Palm continued practising their chosen assessment dishes, including chocolate brownies, chicken fajitas, and classic tomato spaghetti.

Classes Birch and Maple prepared hunter's chicken served with homemade wedges and steamed vegetables a lovely combination and very well executed. Meanwhile, learners in Lime and Holly are in the final stages of completing their evidence for the BTEC Level 2 Home Cooking Skills qualification. They have worked incredibly hard to finish off their remaining tasks, well done to everyone.

Some learners who have already completed their qualification have moved on to 'contrast' recipes, beginning with a beautifully challenging Battenberg cake this week.



Careers



Palm class is studying tourist information and holiday planning. They visited a tourist information centre in Bovey Tracey, where they collected leaflets. They are now planning to create their own tourist information leaflet. As part of their research, they have been exploring different regions of the UK and the types of holidays people can have there. They discovered that some holidays are focused on relaxation, while others are designed for adventure and activities.



Magdalen Court School: The Green Initiative



Hazel Class – Growing Success!
Hazel class have been continuing their work on growing spider plants, and they are seeing some fantastic results. Learners have shown great care and patience in looking after their plants, and it's wonderful to see how much progress they've made.



Celebrating Phoebe's Achievement



We are incredibly proud to share that Phoebe Kennedy has achieved a Silver Award in this year's UKMT Grey Kangaroo Challenge. The Grey Kangaroo is the follow-on round to the Intermediate Maths Challenge, in which Phoebe previously earned a Gold Award. These awards highlight the remarkable progress Phoebe has made in her mathematical thinking and problem-solving skills, and they recognise her performance at a national level. This is a fantastic accomplishment and a testament to her hard work and dedication. Parents and carers who would like to learn more about the Grey Kangaroo can visit the UKMT website for further information.



Creative Corner

Holly Class – Fantastic Robots!
Holly class have been busy designing and creating these fantastic robots this week. Learners showed great creativity and imagination in bringing their ideas to life, and the results are brilliant.



Stars of the week



Stars of the week for each class



Ash Class:- Charlotte B, for always ensuring the door is held open for others.



Aspen Class:- Jack L for being kind on his return of holiday



Beech Class:- Noah O for thinking of others



Birch Class:- Dainton for being kind to peers when playing games.



Elm Class:- Flo B for going to lunch time clubs and playing with others.



Hawthorn Class:- Aleks for showing kindness to all.



Hazel Class:- Emmerson-L F



Holly Class:- Anna for always being polite and helpful in Holly.



Juniper Class:- Oscar M for kindness to peers.



Oak Class:- Dudley for being kind to others.



Larch Class:- Riley C for being so kind and thoughtful to peers and staff.



Laurel Class:- Max for always choosing kindness in every interaction.



Lime Class:- Casey K



Maple Class:-



Sycamore Class:- The whole class as they have been working together, playing together and kind to each other all week.



Palm class:- Marcus C for always looking out for his peers.



Outdoor Education

WEEK STARTING TUESDAY

5th May 2026



Monday

OUTDOOR ED

**BEECH,
LAUREL, JUNIPER
& HAWTHORN**

**No Sessions Bank
Holiday Monday**

B -
L -
J -
H -



Tuesday

OUTDOOR ED

**ASH, HAZEL, ASPEN
& OAK**

**A - Beach Swimming
H - Wild River Swimming
A - Beach Swimming
O - Wild River Swimming**

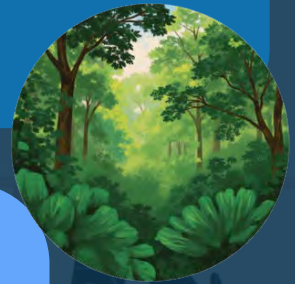


Wednesday

OUTDOOR ED

**ELM, LARCH
& SYCAMORE**

**E - Beach Swimming
L - Wild River
Swimming
S - Forest School -
Cooking**



Thursday

OUTDOOR ED

**MAPLE, PALM
ROSEWOOD 1 & 2**

**M - Mountain Biking
P - Mountain Biking
R1 - Wild River Swimming
R2 - Wild River Swimming**



Friday

OUTDOOR ED

**LIME, HOLLY
& BIRCH**

**L - Mountain Biking
H - Mountain Biking
B - Wild River
Swimming**

**TEN TORS - JUBILEE
CHALLENGE
WEEKEND**



Please remember the appropriate clothing.



Food Technology

WEEK STARTING TUESDAY 5th MAY 2026



Monday

Food Tech

Aspen
Ash
Holly

Bank holiday Monday



Tuesday

Food Tech

Beech
Sycamore
Rosewood
Elm

B - Level 1

S - Mulligatawny Soup
R - Pinwheel Biscuits
E - Skewered Chicken
Thighs & Rosti Potatoes



Wednesday

Food Tech

Juniper
Lime
Hawthorn
Birch
Palm

J - Chilli Rice

L - Pinwheel Biscuits
H - Mulligatawny Soup
B - Skerwered Chicken
Thighs & Rosti Potatoes
P - Level 1 Assessment

Thursday

Food Tech

Laurel,
Oak
Larch
Hazel

L - Easy Chow Mein
O - Easy Chow Mein
L - Lamb kofta
H - Chilli Rice



Friday

Food Tech

Maple

Online Lessons

M - Skewered Chicken
Thighs & Rosti
Potatoes



Information

School Closed for bank holiday
Monday

4th May 2026 back to school as normal on the 5th



Tuesday

Dates <https://www.magdalencourt.org/page/?title=Term+Dates&pid=26>

Idiom of the Week:

Barking up the wrong tree

Word of the Week:

Wary

Number of the Week: **16**

Devon County Council
Children's Social Care
Families First Plan 2025/ 2026



Link to the PDF

<https://democracy.devon.gov.uk/documents/s53685/Families%20First%20Plan%202025%20-%202026%20-.pdf> PDF

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.

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](#)



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



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



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ONLINE TRENDS ENCOURAGING VIOLENCE

7 out of 10 teens report seeing violent content on social media, with over half of that content featuring fights involving young people. Most don't 'seek' it but are shown it through social media feeds or messaging groups. 91% of young people involved in violence have seen violent social media content. Viral trends, challenges, or 'wars' that are spread online risk encouraging violence offline, while real-world incidents may also be recorded and promoted online.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ALGORITHMIC EXPOSURE

Social media platforms are designed to keep users engaged, meaning dramatic or extreme content can spread widely and quickly. Algorithms often recommend content that reflects users' past interactions. As a result, young people may see more violent material if they have viewed, commented on, or shared it before. Repeated exposure can make violent content appear frequently in their feeds without them fully understanding why.

WEAPONS AND CRIMINAL RISK

Teens exposed to high levels of real-world violence on social media sometimes report feeling an increased need to carry a weapon for 'self-protection'; however, carrying a weapon increases the risk of victimisation (harm and injury by others) for young people. In addition, carrying a weapon is a serious offence that can lead to police arrest and a criminal record.

SHARING VIOLENT CONTENT

Encouraging or assisting an offence is a crime in the UK, including via social media, and can lead to arrest. This means sharing, forwarding, or reposting violent content carries a risk for young people too. Showing examples of content to a trusted adult is appropriate, but young people should take care not to further spread violent material by posting it online or sharing it within large messaging groups.

FEAR, ANXIETY, AND MARGINALISATION

Research shows young people's emotional wellbeing can be negatively impacted by repeated exposure to violent online content, especially when it depicts 'real-world' violence (as opposed to fictional depictions in games or films). Posts featuring weapons, threats, attacks, and fights – or content that appears to glorify gang activity – can increase feelings of anxiety or fear among young people. Material that encourages violence targeting people because of their identity, such as their nationality or religion, can also create disproportionate harm for children belonging to those groups.

AVOIDANCE AND ISOLATION

Real-world violence on social media can increase young people's belief that their local communities – or the 'outside world' more generally – are unsafe places. This can result in avoidant and isolating behaviours, which may negatively affect their wellbeing. As well as feeling fearful of others, teens also report feeling judged for spending time together in large groups, which may affect their social interactions and leisure time.

Advice for Parents & Educators

STAY INFORMED

Stay alert for updates from police, schools, or local authorities, and follow the advice provided. Be cautious about unofficial accounts, fake content, and misinformation, which can spread quickly online or in chat groups. Ensure you get accurate information from trusted sources and encourage young people to do the same. Remind them never to share violent content online and to speak to a trusted adult instead.

DISCUSS SOCIAL MEDIA

Encourage young people to talk about the content they see online and the effect it can have. This can be an opportunity to discuss topics such as misinformation, AI-generated material, the attention economy, and algorithms, helping them understand how and why extreme content can spread online. Explore tools available to block, report, and remove harmful content, and signpost where to get support and advice, such as reportharmfulcontent.com.

TALK CRIME AND SAFETY

In most of the UK, the age of criminal responsibility is 10 (12 in Scotland). This means there can be serious criminal consequences for carrying a weapon, taking part in violence, or filming or sharing violent content. Discuss the law with young people alongside practical safety strategies. Ask questions such as: "What could you do if you feel unsafe?" Work together on action plans and remind them they can contact a trusted adult or the police if they witness or experience violence.

ENCOURAGE POSITIVE ACTION

Focus on strengthening young people's positive experiences both online and within their local communities. Discuss strategies to reduce negative social media effects, such as time limits, unfollowing certain accounts, or taking breaks from apps. Encourage offline activities such as spending time with friends, visiting local places, and taking part in hobbies that bring them joy, purpose, and connection. Remind them they can seek support with any concerns at any time via childline.org.uk.

Meet Our Expert

Dr. Holly Powell-Jones is the founder of Online Media Law UK and a leading UK expert in media law, online safety, and young people. Her PhD investigates youth understandings of criminal and legal risks in a digital context. She works in schools to provide award-winning education on the criminal, legal, and ethical considerations of rapidly advancing technologies.



See full reference list on our website