St Mary Magdalene C of E Through School

Penninsula Primary Campus
Autumn Term 1 - 2026

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils and Staff,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you all to the start of a new academic year. I hope that you have enjoyed a restful and enjoyable summer break and are returning refreshed and ready for the exciting opportunities that lie ahead. A new school year brings with it a renewed sense of purpose, fresh challenges, and endless possibilities. It is a time for new beginnings, new friendships, and new achievements. Whether you are joining our school for the first time or returning as part of our established federation family, I am delighted to welcome you.

At the heart of our school is a commitment to ensuring that every child feels safe, valued, and inspired to achieve their very best. We believe that learning should be engaging, ambitious, and enjoyable, and we are dedicated to providing rich opportunities that support both academic success and personal development. This year, we look forward to working in partnership with our families to help every child flourish. Together, we can continue to grow an environment where children develop confidence, resilience, curiosity, and a love of learning that will stay with them throughout their lives.

We would like to say a huge thank you for supporting our fundraising events last year. As school budgets become increasingly tight, your generosity makes a real difference to our children. This year, every child in Years 2 to 6 will be given a school pencil case filled with the resources they need for everyday learning. Having their own equipment will help children develop a sense of responsibility and take pride in looking after their resources.

I would like to thank our staff team for their continued dedication and enthusiasm, and our parents and carers for their ongoing support. The strength of our school lies in our shared commitment to our children and our collective ambition for their success. **Some areas that we will be focusing on this year:**

- Ensuring staff receive high quality, targeted **professional development** enabling them to be effective in their roles and support children to flourish.
- Ensuring **foundational skills and knowledge** are being **developed and built on** and **all children** make progress.
- Ensure that **assessment** is used consistently and effectively to identify and reduce pupil gaps by building on prior knowledge and skills.

I encourage everyone to embrace new opportunities, celebrate achievements, and approach challenges with determination and positivity this year. I am excited about what we can accomplish together and look forward to another successful year filled with learning, growth, and memorable experiences and thank you once again for your support and dedication.

Please keep an eye on your emails for upcoming events and information. I hope you will find the information below useful. Should you have any questions, comments or queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch. We encourage you to stay involved, as your participation makes a real difference to our children's education and their overall school experience.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Savva-Brown
St Mary Magdalene C of E Headteacher

A message from the School Chaplain, Rev Dom

'Behold I am making all things new'
The old things have happened and new opportunities lay ahead of us.

In the first few days and weeks we have so much ahead of us.
A chance to start afresh.
A chance to change our ways, our attitudes, our language, our outlook.
We have a chance to leave behind the things we did last year and take on new things.

Whenever Jesus met people, they always came away changed.
They became better people, they chose good ways to go, and they left behind the things that held them back.

Take a moment to think about what you will do differently this year.
Wonder about the things you want to try. Ask God to guide you in good ways that bring joy to you.

Heavenly Father,
Take away the fear of the new and the worry of what is to come.
Give us a bright hope and a future full of possibilities.
Guide us right ways that bind us to you and build up our community.
Remind us that you go with us wherever we go and in whatever we do.
Thank you Father for your gift of love that is Jesus.
Amen

Rev. Dominic Hubbuck
Federation Chaplain
Koinonia Federation Schools
Assistant Priest with East Greenwich Team Ministry

AUTUMN **Theme: Aspiration** **Value: Growth and Wisdom**	**Colossians 1:9-10** We pray that you will also have great wisdom and understanding in spiritual things so that you will live the kind of life that honours and pleases the Lord in every way.

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Useful Information and Expectations

Punctuality: Your child may go straight to class once their playground gates are opened at **8:40 am**; class **registers are taken at 8:55 am** when the playground gates are locked. Children arriving after the gates are locked should go directly to school office to be signed in. Arrivals after 8:55 am are marked as late. The first 15 minutes of the morning are used for revisiting foundational skills skills such as handwriting, spelling, reading, times tables and arithmetic, which children work on before the registers are taken.

Attendance: We believe every school day is a chance for children to grow their skills, build connections and pave the way for a flourishing future. Regular attendance is very important to our federation family. We will continue to have high expectations as we go through the year, and again thank you for working with us to support your children in looking smart, and being prepared for the school day. Please ensure that your children are wearing the correct uniform – there is more information on what this looks like in the pages below.

Class Information: This information will be shared with you at your meet and greet evenings (to be confirmed). Please be aware of an email which will have your child's meet and greet information.

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Communication: I ask that when we are communicating, especially at times when we are unhappy, we all remember our mission and consider 'DO UNTO OTHERS, AS YOU WOULD HAVE THEM DO UNTO YOU' Luke 6:13, and treat everyone with the respect, politeness, compassion and understanding.
Leaders are always on hand at the playground gates, should you need to speak to them. At times, it can be very busy and you are very welcome to arrange an appointment for a meeting or phone call with your child's class teacher or another member of staff through the office team.

For any new parents or a reminder to existing parents:

- The deadline for giving permission for school trips is **48 hours in advance via Arbor**. This ensures we have the right number of staff, plenty of food and water for everyone, and the medication needed to to ensure the trip is **safe** for all.
- We ask that you drop your children off at the gates on a morning to support us in developing the children's independence and confidence.
- Before and after school care must be booked the week prior. This ensures we have the right number of staff, food, and equipment in place.

- All dietary requirements, allergies and religious sensitives will be respectfully observed and catered for by our kitchen staff. Please tell a member of the office team if your child has any dietry requirements, and we ask that you keep us updated of any changes.
- Medical Appointment Reminder: To ensure the safety of all children, evidence of medical appointments must be shown to the office team prior to the appointment. Without this, we will not be able to authorise your child's absence.
- Please continue to notify the school **each** consecutive day your child is absent due to illness. Your cooperation helps us keep accurate attendance registers and support your child's health wellbeing.
- Please do not park on the double lines near the school. We don't want you getting a parking ticket and want to keep the road clear to ensure that the zebra crossings can be used safely.

Wet Play Dismissal Arrangements

Wet dismissal can be a very hectic time. please be patient with the staff, and do not come into the building and wait for your child to be called to you at the door.

- Reception class –Bellamy classes will be dismissed as normal.
- Year 1 – Stephens and Siderman classes will be dismissed from the double doors by the main staircase. This is further along from the Reception Classes, Studio and toilets.
- Year 2 – Ipgrave class will be dismissed from the outdoor Nursery area.
- Year 3 – Sanders class, will be dismissed from the door (closest to the Nursery) leading to the staircase. *1st door along the side of the building.*
- Year 4 – Elliott and Palmer classes will be dismissed from the first door (closest to the nursery) in the main hall. *2nd door along the side of the building.*
- Year 5 – Talbot and Powell will be dismissed from the second door (furthest from the nursery) in the main hall. *3rd door along the side of the building.*
- Year 6 – Eastaugh and Gregory classes will be dismissed from the second door (furthest from the nursery) in the main hall. *3rd door along the side of the building.*

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Organised and Prepared
Please make make sure that your child has everything that they need when they arrive at school. If you are dropping forgotten items off in the office, they will be delivered to you child's class at break or lunch time as we do not want to disturb the learning time.

The start and end of the school Day
Pupils should be collected promptly at the end of the day at **3.10 pm**. Please ensure your child's pick-up arrangements are communicated with the school.
Reception pupils are dismissed from the classroom and all other years are dismissed from the MUGA pitch.

Uniform
We are continuing to look smart around the school.

PLEASE ENSURE ALL CLOTHES ARE CLEARLY LABELLED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME.
Lost property will be given to charity at the end of each term!

If your child feels cold, please do not send them to school wearing a skin (tight clothing under a shirt) but ensure they are wearing the school jumper or cardigan. **All shirts are expected to be tucked into bottoms (skirts, shorts, trousers).** Whilst we are wearing dark-coloured bottoms and jumpers for PE, they must be regular jumpers and bottoms, not sports wear. If children are not wearing the correct PE uniform, they may be asked to wear school PE uniforms. Parents will be called to discuss this.

Children will continue to come to school on their PE lesson day in their PE kit;
- Plain white t- shirt
- dark-coloured shorts / bottoms
- dark-coloured jumper or cardigan
- black trainers/plimsolls for PE.

Children should NOT be wearing as PE uniform;
- **a hoodie**
- **skins/base layers under the white T-shirt**
- **football shirts**
- **sporty track suit with labels**





If children are not wearing the correct uniform, they will be **given the correct item** from the home school link worker on campus. When the children **arrive** and are on the campus,hoods should be down unless it is raining. This looks smarter, and we thank you again for supporting us with this.

To keep the children safe, only small studs (**no hooped earrings**) and a wrist watch is permitted. Other jewellery will be removed. No artificial nails or nail varnish to be worn.

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School Lunch

School dinners are FREE to all children in school. Please take up this opportunity. Dinners are prepared and cooked fresh each day in our own kitchen. If your child brings a packed lunch to school, please ensure it is healthy and **does not include nuts**, sweets, chocolate or fizzy drinks. All packed lunch bags should be well labelled. **If your child wishes to change from packed lunch to school dinners, please ensure you let the school office know. This is to ensure all children receive a meal, and we reduce the amount of wasted food.**

Snacks

Children in year groups Reception, 1 and 2 are provided with a piece of fruit each day. Pupils in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 are permitted to bring in fruit for a snack at break time – no other food is allowed, **especially nuts**, we are a **NO NUT school**.

Allergies

We have multiple children and staff members with nut allergies, of which some are airborne and extremely dangerous.

Please do not send your child into school with;

- Any nuts
- Pancakes that contain chocolate spread
- Nutella or other chocolate spread containing nuts
- Peanut butter
- Snacks/ cereal bars containing nuts

Always check the ingredients of any food you are sending into school – class party food, gifts for staff, packed lunches or anything else to be certain that they do NOT contain nuts. Sometimes they are not obvious! We thank you all for your cooperation and support with keeping out school family safe.



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Golden Rules

They are as follows:

1. Do be gentle – don't hurt anybody
2. Do be kind – don't hurt people's feelings
3. Do be honest – don't cover up the truth
4. Do work hard – don't waste time
5. Do look after property – don't waste or damage things
6. Do listen to people – don't interrupt



Pencil Cases and Other Items From Home

Children should not bring in pencil cases, pencils, pens or other items from home; only school equipment can be used. This is to ensure fairness to all children.

Water Bottles

Please ensure that your child brings a water bottle to school each day – no glass. It needs to be clearly labelled with your child's name.

Paid Breakfast Club

If your child requires a place at our breakfast club. Please telephone the office/Mr Maine and speak to them about reserving a place. Places need to be paid for in advance. **UNPAID** breakfast club needs to be booked in advance otherwise pupils will not be admitted into the breakfast club with Mr Main and Miss Burns.

After School Club is at the Christ Church campus

After school club is completely staffed and managed by Simply Play. Payments need to be made directly to the after-school staff – NOT the school office. Parents/carers will need to contact Simply Play directly for questions relating to spaces. Contact: Matthew Johnson Telephone: 020 3478 8567.

Photos

Please do not take photos of other children in school. Photos of your child taking part in collective worships, singining etc, should **not** be put on social media.

Party Bags

We will not be distributing party bags or birthday cake to celebrate birthdays. If your child has a birthday and you are looking to provide the class with a treat, why not buy a book for the class - inscribed with their name!

Safeguarding

Safeguarding and keeping our children safe are very important to us. If you have any suggestion on how we can improve on our safety measures, please do speak with Mrs Savva-Brown.
If you have any concerns about any child's safety or child protection, please see **the school's Designated Safeguarding Leads –** Miss Mittra, Mrs Williams or Mrs Amao **ASAP.** If they are not available, please see Mrs McCullough**,** Miss Hoon or Mrs Savva Brown.
There are photographs of the Safeguarding team placed in each classroom, please talk to your children and encourage them to talk to the adults in school if ever they need to.
For information on Safeguarding, please see the Greenwich's Safeguarding Children Partnership website https://greenwichsafeguardingchildren.org.uk/

Please talk to your children about how they can keep safe using their mobile phones and other electronic devices.

https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/tech-guide/mobile-phones-for-children/

Please do not approach other children in school if there are issues between children, speak with a member of staff who will be able to deal with this. Please do not enter the building unless you are with a member of school staff.

ST. MARY MAGDALENE
C OF E SCHOOL

SAFEGUARDING

Are you concerned about the safety or welfare of a student?
If so, make sure you speak with a member of the safeguarding team...



Mrs Amao
Federation
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Ajayi
Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Miss Williams
Designated Deputy
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Savva-Brown



Mrs Sheath
Safeguarding Governor

Keeping Children Safe

Greenwich MASH Line – 0208 921 3172

Greenwich LADO – Sadie Bates
0208 921 3939
Childrens-LADO@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

TERM DATES 2026-2027

Autumn Term 2026

INSET DAY	Tuesday 1st September 2026
INSET DAY	Wednesday 2nd September 2026
School opens	**Wednesday 3rd September 2026**
School finishes	**Thursday 22nd October 2026 at 3:10pm**
INSET DAY	Friday 23rd October 2026
Half term	Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October 2026
INSET DAY	Monday 2nd November 2026
School opens	**Tuesday 3rd November 2026**
School finishes	**Friday 18th December 2026 at 1:15pm**
Christmas Holidays	Monday 21st December 2026 to Friday 1st January 2027

Spring Term 2027

School re-opens	**Monday 4th January 2027**
School finishes	**Friday 12th February 2027 at 3:10pm**
Half term	Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February 2027
School re-opens	**Monday 22nd February 2027**
School finishes	**Thursday 25th March 2027 at 1:15pm**
Easter Holidays	Friday 26th March to Friday 9th April 2027

Summer Term 2027

School re-opens	**Monday 12th April 2027**
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 3rd May 2027
School finishes	**Friday 28th May 2027 at 3:10pm**
Half term	Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June 2027
School re-opens	**Monday 7th June 2027**
School finishes	**Tuesday 20th July 2027 at 1:15pm**
INSET DAY	Wednesday 21st July 2027
Summer Holidays	Thursday 22nd July 2027 to Friday 1st September 2027