



Parent Newsletter

St Mary Magdalene Secondary



Wednesday 9th October 2024



MEMORY VERSE

UPCOMING DATES



Friday 11th October 2024 – Y7 Diwali Lantern Making

Friday 15th November 2024 – Y10 Art Gallery Visit

Wednesday 27th November 2024 – Y7 British Museum Trip (60 students attending)

Wednesday 4th December 2024 – Y10 & Y11 Berlin Trip

Tuesday 10th December 2024 – Y10 & Y11 Paris Trip

Students and staff have settled in well

We are delighted with how well the students and staff have settled back into school life during the first five weeks of the new academic year. The learning environment has been calm and purposeful which demonstrates the positive relationships between the staff and students. The students must be commended for their efforts and focus in lessons and we strongly encourage them to maintain this as we approach the final three weeks of term.

New Routines

The students have also adapted well to some of the changes to our routines such as the new school day, Breakfast Club, Year 7 and 8 line-ups and whole school Collective Worship. These changes are vital to the safe, efficient and effective running of the school on a daily basis and we will continue to help and support the students with embedding these routines. Whole school Collective Worship has been significant as it enables staff and students to come together at the start of the week as a family which is one of our fundamental values. This provides us with a sense of community and fellowship and it reinforces the importance coming together and sharing a common responsibility.

Attendance and Punctuality

There has been a strong emphasis on securing high levels of attendance and the school has been working with the Local Authority and our families to promote the importance of excellent attendance and the impact this will have on students' academic outcomes and personal develop. We encourage parents to continue to work with us to ensure your children are striving to attend school every day and to arrive to school on time.

The Co-Curriculum

The co-curriculum and the wider life of the school has been extremely busy which has created a number of exciting opportunities for the students to participate in. We are extremely pleased and grateful to staff for organising and running co-curricular clubs. These clubs are central to students' personal development and they provide an opportunity for students to give back and contribute positively towards the school's culture.

GCSE Results and A Levels

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our year 11 and year 13 students on their most recent a level results! We are so proud for their success and what they have achieved. For combined GCSE English and Maths we achieved 65% of grade 4's and 52% grade five, in line with the Royal Borough of Greenwich averages. Also, over 95% of our year 13's have been successful in securing university or apprenticeship places for this September.

We had some standout performances from pupils with Matilda Pham achieving 8 grade 9's, Maximilian achieving 8 grade 8's and attending Eton.

We continue to be proud of the daily successes of our pupils and our pupil's results are a testament to the hard work they have put in during their time with us.

Punctuality and Attendance- Co-Headteachers of School

We would like to take this opportunity to strongly and respectfully encourage you to remind your child of the importance of maintaining high standards in terms of punctuality and attendance. Students are expected to be in school by **8:30am** each day so that they are ready for their first lesson to start promptly at **8:40am**. Arriving to school on time will enable your child to maximise their learning in lessons and take full advantage of what life has to offer at St Mary Magdalene C of E School. Similarly, it is crucial that students strive to get to every lesson on time throughout the school day. We ask for a commitment from you, as parents/carers, to support this priority and ensure that your child makes every effort to attend school, every day, and on time. We will continue to monitor students' attendance and punctuality in order to secure the highest possible standards.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club will open from 8:15am to 8:30am. Pupils will not be allowed to enter the canteen after 8:30am. If your child wishes to have breakfast, please ensure they arrive during these times.

Lower School – Years 7 & 8

Transition	8:30 – 8.40
P1	8:40 – 9:40
Break	9:40 – 10:00
P2	10:00 – 11:00
P3	11:00 – 12:00
Lunch	12:00 – 12:45
P4	12:45 – 13:45
P5	13:45 – 14:45
FG	14:45 – 15:10

Upper School – Years 9,10 & 11

Transition	8.00- 8.40 Post 16 8:30 – 8:40
P1	8:40 – 9:40
P2	9:40 – 10:40
Break	10:40 – 11:00
P3	11:00 – 12:00
P4	12:00 – 13:00
Lunch	13:00 – 13:45
P5	13:45 – 14:45
FG	14:45 – 15:15

Uniform

Uniform plays a crucial role in providing the students with a strong sense of identity, belonging and respect for our school community. It reinforces who we are as a community and allows students to feel pride in their school. It also helps prepare students for life after school where many will have to dress smartly for the workplace. We expect all students to be in full and correct school uniform in line with our policy.

- Full school uniform must be worn **at all times**, including a blazer, tie and black shoes.
- Students without the correct uniform including; black shoes or blazers, will be required to borrow school uniform from student welfare or will be sent home to collect the correct uniform.
- No hoodies, track suit tops, trainers, or footwear such as; **Uggs** or **Crocs** are allowed to be worn in the building
- One pair of stud earrings may be worn, no more than one per ear.
- No other facial piercings should be visible.
- No false eye lashes or acrylic nails to be worn.
- Kilts should be knee length.
- No lip-gloss or other form of makeup should be worn. These will be confiscated if seen.

Issue	Consequence 1	Consequence 2
No blazer and/or shoes	Y9-11: Sent home to change	C3 (with HoY following day)
No tie	Y7-12: Get spare tie	C2 (with HoY at end of day)
Wearing banned clothing items in school	Y7-12: Given to HoY	Item will be confiscated and returned at the end of the week.

The uniform policy is on the school's website for further reference.

Searching Students

We will be carrying out regular bag searches throughout the term for all year groups. Whilst we do not wish to carry out searches of students unless otherwise necessary, we acknowledge that sometimes it is in the best interest of the child, and other students and staff members to do so. As such, we follow the DfE guidance 'Searching, Screening and Confiscation (2022)' in this matter. Click here for [behaviour policy](#)

Finally, it is also important to restore daily routines to help your child to be organised and ready for the start of another important term. This will enable them to have full access to all the learning opportunities available to them and to work with their teachers to ensure that they make consistent progress as the year progresses.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions or require any information. Schools are most effective when there is a strong professional relationship based on mutual respect and cooperation between parents, the student and the school. Thank you in advance for your support as we continue to work together in the best interest of your child.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Benn & Mr M Riley
Co-Headteachers of School



Careers



The careers program is off to a great start, helping students focus on their future goals. Year 11 attended A careers fair at Woolwich Works, where they spoke with apprenticeship providers and explored sixth form options. Year 12 enjoyed an inspiring career's talk from a CEO in marketing, while Year 10 had an engaging assembly led by engineer George Imafidon and a selection of year 10 took part in STEM workshops where they met with mentors working in the STEM industry t. Year 13 students continue to receive support with their university applications, with a group visiting Oxford University in September for additional guidance.



Sixth Form



Greenwich Progression Fair

The sixth form team exhibited at the annual Greenwich year 11 progression fair, where we had the chance to meet every year 11 in the borough. Here we were able to market our institution, advise prospective students and network with other local schools and institutions.

Oxford Trip

Four of our Year 13 students visited Oxford University for a campus tour, eager to experience the prestigious institution firsthand. Jummy, Maya, Charlie, and Muqtadir, each with different academic interests, were excited to explore the historic university. As they arrived, the impressive architecture and lively atmosphere immediately captured their attention. The four were lucky enough to attend sample lecture, interview prep sessions and tours of various landmarks around the colleges.

Throughout the day, they asked questions about student life, admissions, and the academic challenges. By the end of the tour, the group left inspired, motivated to work towards joining the vibrant and intellectually stimulating community Oxford offered. We look forward to supporting these students with their Oxford application.



The Co-Curriculum of SMM

The Co-curriculum at SMM

The co-curricular programme at SMM is in full swing, and a huge thank you goes out to all staff members for their time and effort in running such a diverse range of clubs this year. From art and sports to music, the ever-popular K-Pop and Pokémon Clubs, there's something for everyone. New additions like Ms. Johnson's *Animal Welfare Society* and Ms. Choudry's *Anime Club* are quickly becoming student favourites, while Ms. Townsend's *Science Club* promises to make learning anything but "Bohr"-ing!

It is also been fantastic to see our KS4 students embracing Ms. Da Costa's *Roller Skating Club*, and Year 7 boys and girls showing great enthusiasm for the Rugby Club, led by Mr. Kelly and Mr. Freeburn, with expert coaching from Wilko of Blackheath Rugby.

Students will soon start gathering food for the Harvest Festival, with each item donated earning house points. Contributions should be placed in the Chapel.

Looking ahead, all Year 7s will soon embark on their book reading challenge and memorise a poem. Please check in on their progress! The poster shared at the Year 7 *Meet the Tutor* event encouraged students to take up at least two co-curricular activities—let us continue to motivate them to get involved!



ST. MARY MAGDALENE
C OF E ALL THROUGH SCHOOL
SECONDARY PHASE - PENINSULA CAMPUS
*Excellence through innovation.
Founded in faith since 1840.*



SCHOOL CO-CURRICULAR CLUBS THAT WE OFFER!!

 <p>Dance club. Every Wednesday. 3:30pm-4:30pm</p>	 <p>Arts and Crafts Club. Every Friday @ Lunchtime. 12:00pm- 12:25pm</p>	 <p>Boys Football Club. Every Monday. 3:15pm-4:30pm</p>
 <p>Girls Football Club. Every Thursday. 3:20pm-4:45pm</p>	 <p>Rugby Club. Every Thursday. 3:30pm-4:30pm</p>	 <p>KPOP Club. Every Tuesday. 3:20pm-4:30pm</p>
 <p>Animal Welfare. Every Monday. 3:20pm-4:00pm</p>	 <p>Girls Volleyball. Every Monday. 3:30pm-4:30pm</p>	 <p>Science Club. Every Tuesday. 3:20pm-4:20pm</p>
 <p>American Football Club. Every Wednesday. 3:20pm-4:45pm</p>	 <p>Pokémon Club. Every Wednesday. 3:30pm-5:00pm</p>	 <p>Anime Club. Every Tuesday Lunchtime. 12:00pm-12:45pm</p>

Co-Curricular Activities

This month we are going to announce the introduction of two of co-curricular activities.

Rugby Club for Year 7 & Year 8

Our new Rugby Club for Year 7 and Year 8 students is open to all skill levels. This club will teach the fundamentals of rugby, focusing on both skill development and sportsmanship. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in friendly matches, build camaraderie, and improve their fitness levels. Training will be held every Thursday after school, led by an external company.

Rowing Club for KS4 & KS5

For our older students in Key Stages 4 and 5, we are launching a Rowing Club. Rowing is a highly rewarding sport that develops strength, endurance, and teamwork. Whether students are complete beginners or have some experience on the water, the club will offer training sessions at a nearby rowing facility, guided by professional coaches. Training will take place every Thursday 3:30p.m.-4:30 p.m.

Please see co-curricular Clubs timetable:

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School					
Lunchtime		Anime Club Year 7 & Year 8 Lunchtime C&S11 Ms Choudry	MFL-Filmmaking Club KS4 13:00-13:45 CS13 Mr.Tarjot	Board Games Club KS4 13:00-13:45 CS4 Mr Beneteau	Clay Club Year 9 & 10 1:00-1:45 CH6 Mr Ashwell (Only for 12 students)
			English for young learners 13:00-13:40 Y9 EAL CS12		Year 7 & 8 Art & Craft 12-12:25 CH5 Mrs Thomas
After school	Year 11 Art Intervention. 3:15-4:15 CH5 Ms Anderson	Science Club 3:20-4:20 KS3 R&D 1 Ms Townsend	Pokemon club, Hub 3:30-5:00 Mr Conley	Year 8 Boys Football. 3:15-4:30 4G Mr Walsh	Year 9 Boys Football 3:20-4:45 4G Pitch, Mr Ashong
	Year 7 Boys Football 3:13-4:30, 4G Mr Walsh	Year. 10 & 11 Basketball 3:30-4:30 Sports Hall, Mr Lawrence	Street Dance, KS3 & KS4 3:30-4:30 Dance studio	Girls Football, 3:20-4:45 4G, Ms Hinds	
	Year 11 Boys Football, 3:15-4:30 4G Mr Ashong	K Pop Club, KS3 3:20-4:30 C&S11 Ms Choudry	6th Form Basketball Sports Hall External Company	Year 7 Rugby Club 3:30-4:30 Blackheath Rugby	
	Animal Welfare Society KS3 3:20-4:00 RD10 Ms Johnson	Year 13 Art Studio Sessions 3:15-4:15 CH7 Mr O'Brien	American Football,4G 3:20-4:45 Big Kid Football Coach	Year 11 Roller Skating 3:30-4:30 Ms Da Costa Sports Hall	
	Girls Volleyball 3:20-4:20, Sports Hall MsMadzinova & Ms Liagki			Rowing Club 3:30-4:30 KS4-KS5 Sports Hall (16 Spaces) Ms Brady	

Physical Education

Y10 Basketball

Our Y10 Basketball Team played their first fixture of the season vs The John Roan and narrowly lost out 32-26. In what was a great game! Well, done to all the boys who represented the school brilliantly.

MVP: Joshua Ehis Giamusoe

They have a busy schedule with more fixtures coming up. Training will continue to be every Tuesday with Mr Lawrence until 4:45pm.

INSERT TEAM PIC



Y10 Football

Our Y10 Boys Football Team started their season with a 5-3 victory over Leigh Academy Blackheath in the first round of the Blackheath Cup! They will now face The John Roan in the next round.

Goalscorers: Toks Olakazim x3, Kaylum Miller x1, Nasharne Orenuga x1. PoM: Toks Olakazim

Training will continue to be every Tuesday with Mr Mudge until 4:45pm.

INSERT TEAM PIC



Girls Flag Football

Our Y10 Girls Flag Football Team have been training hard and competed in their first tournament of the season. They were excellent and finished second overall. They were fortunate enough to meet the New York Jets NFL Team and watch them practice for their 'London Games' NFL match in the UK. The girls have impressed so much that they have now also been invited to help coach at two, primary school tournaments.

Training will continue to be every Wednesday with BigKid until 4:45pm.

INSERT TEAM PIC



Girls Football Trip – CAFC vs THFC

The Girls Football players were rewarded for their hard work and dedication with a trip to watch Charlton Athletic Women vs Tottenham Hotspur Women at The Valley Stadium. The score finished 1-2 to Tottenham and was an excellent experience for them to see the professional women in action.

Training will continue to be every Thursday with Miss Hinds until 4:45pm.

INSERT TRIP PIC



Upcoming Events in PE - Keep your eyes peeled for the following:

London Lions Basketball Trip

Y10 Boys Football vs John Roan

Y10 Boys Basketball vs St Pauls Academy

Y10 Boys Basketball vs Greenwich Free School

Y10 Boys Basketball vs Plumstead Manor

Y10/11 Girls Football vs Deptford Green

Y7 Boys Football vs Leigh Academy Blackheath

Y8 Boys Football vs Trinity Lewisham

Y9 Boys Football vs Forest Hill

Girls Flag Football Tournaments

London Youth Rowing



Message from the Chaplain

Rev. Dominic Hubbuck

Welcome is a funny word. A lot different from hello or hi.

It was first recorded as being used in the 1300's and is very similar to the way European countries greet their guests. A word made up of 'a pleasure or joy' or 'choose' and 'for my guest to arrive'.

At home we may have a welcome mat beside the door, we may offer our guests a seat, a drink and our attention. But how do we do it at school?

Staff welcome children, young people and families at the gates and welcome them inside.
Children welcome visitors to their school or classroom with a cheery Good Morning.
And classes will welcome new people by supporting them with a buddy or friend.
I wonder how parents welcome new parents, or children welcome new children.

Welcome is a powerful thing in the Bible – life-changing sometimes.
Not only do we hear of Abraham and Sarah welcoming God into their tent, or Jesus being welcomed at the house of Zacchaeus, but the disciples are told to go out into the neighbourhoods and bring good news
and be welcomed into people's homes.

As we start a new school year – what will you Welcome? Take pleasure, make a choice to invite into your home, your life, timetable?
How will you welcome the positive things that bring you joy and turn away those things that steal it?
How might you support and pray for our schools that they may continue to be welcoming and that our new starters will feel welcomed by everyone?



We will be collecting non-perishable food stuffs for Greenwich Foodbank from Monday 30th September to Thursday 10th October.
Please drop your donations at the school chapel.

URGENTLY NEEDED OFFD ITEMS:

- Tinned Potatoes
- Sponge Puddings
- Indomie instant Noodles
- Powdered Milk
- Hot Chocolate
- Instant Mash

Lord God,

We thank you for our schools, homes and communities.

**We pray that they may be welcoming to those who need to know they are loved, accepted and valued.
Help us to welcome into our lives the things that bring us joy.**

Help us to turn away those things that bring us sadness and doubt.

O God, as you welcomed all people, let us welcome you into lives that we make the world a better place.

Amen.

Rev. Dominic Hubbuck

School Chaplain

Assistant Priest with East Greenwich Team Ministry