



# Parent Newsletter

St Mary Magdalene  
Secondary

Issue No 02 | September | Monday 27<sup>th</sup>

Dear Parent/Carers,

Thank you to all parents who attended 'Meet the Tutor' evening last week. We enjoyed having parents back in the school building and your continued support. I would like to thank the four year 11 students who showed parents to the various rooms last week: Mirable Ashong 11CHS, Lael Barrett 11EBA, Joshua Kekula 11LAY and Reuben Gibbs 11EBA. All students will receive R3s.

As a reminder, please note that next week **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October** is INSET day and students will not be expected to attend school.

## Hegarty Maths

Your child has access to a platform called Hegarty Maths that the school subscribes to. We use this for mathematics homework each week, and students have a booklet that they use for this. However, students are not limited to doing homework on Hegarty Maths! Here are some ways you can help support your child in their mathematics using this:

- Ask them to show you how they log in (they just need the school name, their name, and their date of birth – they set their own password)
- Check on the home screen for how many tasks they have completed, how many questions they have done, and how long they have spent on Hegarty Maths. You can then check this the following week to see how much more they've done!
- Ask them to click on 'My tasks' so you can see the work they have been set by their teacher. Ask them to show you the work they have done on this in their booklets.
- Ask them what they did in their Maths lessons two or three weeks ago. Ask them to search for this in the search bar and try the quiz to check they still understand it. If they are struggling, they can watch the video to help them remember, so even if you don't know the topic, you can still help them to.

## Equality And Diversity At St Mary Magdalene

Just a reminder to complete the equality and diversity survey in which we are asking for your views on what we have done at SMM and your ideas for improvement.

<https://www.koinoniafederation.com/form/?pid=5&form=81>

## Y9 Football fixture

The Y9 Football Team had their first game of the season. They played Away at Thomas Tallis. It was excellent to see them playing again against another school!

Player of The Match: Louis Gayle- 9EWY

Goalscorer: Ayomide Alejo- 9GBR

Well done to all the boys who were involved in the fixture!

## Police information sharing

Please see attached a letter with information from the metropolitan police.

## Careers information

We have recently updated the careers information on our website (under 'Our Curriculum', 'Careers and Work Experience'). Here you can find information for parents regarding our Careers, Education, Information and Guidance (CEIAG) and work-related learning (WRL). There is also information for students, with links to quizzes to review their skills and get some more ideas about careers and up to date labour market information.

At this point in the year I would also advise parents/carers of Year 11 students to begin looking at options for their post-16 education. Please use the following link to explore options in

Greenwich: <https://london.startprofile.com/page/providers-greenwich>

### **Work Experience (WEX)**

This half term (25-29<sup>th</sup> October) Year 11s will be completing 1 week of work experience. This is a compulsory part of the students work-related learning, and will ensure that they develop employable skills. This will also give them a potential advantage over students at other schools who have not been able to complete WEX as a result of covid-19 restrictions.

Consent forms for this must be handed in to students FG tutor, Miss Botha or Miss Machin as soon as possible. Own find forms with the details of your child's placement are due on 15<sup>th</sup> October. It is imperative that students find these placements themselves, so if they have any questions about this they must come and speak to Miss Botha or Miss Machin sooner rather than later.

Please send any queries to [info.secondary@koinoniafederation.com](mailto:info.secondary@koinoniafederation.com)

### **Attendance**

At regular intervals throughout the year your child will be spoken to about their attendance by their family group tutors and HOY. Letters/emails for those pupils who are under 90% attendance will be sent home. Those pupils who are a cause for concern will be closely monitored and discussed weekly.

Pupils will fall into one of **five categories** based on their attendance to school, these are:

**1: 97%+** - Excellent!

**2: 95-96.9%** - Very Good! Must be maintained.

**3: 93- 94.9%** - Needs Improving! May lead to pre-referral intervention.

**4: 90.1-92.9%** - Cause for Concern! If no medical evidence\* is provided this urgently needs addressing by parents/carers, school and the Local Authority.

**5: 90% and below** - Serious Cause for Concern! If no medical evidence\* is provided this may lead to penalty notice and/or prosecution.

\*Medical evidence: a doctor's letter, a copy of a prescription for medicine or the prescribed medicine packaging, or an appointment card which must be supplied to the school.

**For your information: when medical evidence is provided this will still reduce your child's attendance but their absence will be authorised.**

All pupils should strive to be in **category 1** throughout the year. This would be outstanding. To achieve **category 1** status (97+% in a year) is highly regarded by teachers, colleges, universities and employers.

Please note that even if attendance is sitting at 95% pupils would have missed 2 weeks of school. This equates to 50 hours of lessons. We all know that one lesson is missing one day, 5 hours of lessons is hard to catch up on so please do bear this in mind.

Yours sincerely,

Mr R. Hussain  
**Principal**

### **Prayer from the Chaplain**

*Tender God,  
gentle protector in time of trouble,  
pierce the gloom of despair  
and give us, with all your people,  
the song of freedom and the shout of praise;  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Amen.