



Parent Newsletter

St Mary Magdalene Secondary

Issue No 6 Tuesday 21st February 2023

Key dates for your calendar:

Year 9 Options Event- Thursday 23rd February 4- 5.30pm

Planned NEU strike days (more details to follow on the impact on school opening)

– Thursday 2 March, Wednesday 15 March, Thursday 16 March

Year 11 and 13 mock exam dates – Wednesday 15 March - Thursday 23 March

Easter revision sessions- April 4th & 5th 9 am – 3 pm

INSET Days (school will be closed to students) – Monday 17 April, Tuesday 27

June, Friday 21 July

Year 6 induction day (school will be closed to students) – Wednesday 5 July

Message from the Chaplain

During the half term break some remembered Valentine's Day.

Recently when I visited America, I realised that they go wild for it.

Here in the UK we are a little more reserved but equally there are flowers, cards, sweets and offers in restaurants trying to draw us into spending money in the name of love and romance.

It is right that we celebrate LOVE.

In a world that asks what a life costs in pounds and pennies, we need to remember that we are people who are loved. In a country that struggles with the cost of living, getting timely healthcare and the recognition of worth for being a key worker or someone who serves others in their work, we need to remind ourselves that without a Love for our work or love in our homes, life becomes harder and harder.

This week – without spending money – consider how you can show people your love for them or what they do for you. Consider on how your life might be a beacon of love for others. Pray that God's love might be real in people's lives.

God our Father,

Lover of the world who sent his son to show us love.

God our Mother,

Who sends the Holy Spirit to care for those who call on God.

God, who forgives us, heals us, leads us and loves us,

Be with us and all who care and support us this week.

Strengthen us to love when love is the last thing we feel able to do.

Inspire us when thoughts of division and despair feel ever close.

Love us, especially when we feel unloved and without hope.

Amen.

[Rev. Dominic Hubbuck](#)

School Chaplain

Dear parent/carer,

Welcome back to all our students. I hope all families have enjoyed a relaxing and pleasant half term break.

As a Federation, it is important that we review and evaluate our policies and procedures that we have in place. We have decided to make some changes to certain aspects of our current behaviour policy, which will be in place with immediate effect. Please see [letter](#) from Mr Golding- Assitant principal for behaviour sent out last term.

Uniform

A reminder that hoodies and tracksuit tops are not part of school uniform and should not be worn to school.

We would also advise students not to wear designer jackets/coats to school to prevent expensive items being lost/damaged.

Easter revision

We will be holding easter revision sessions for selected year 11's, these will be on April 4th and 5th and run from 9 am – 3 pm. Students who will be expected to attend will be informed no later than 24th February.

The Inspirational Learning Group – Y8 National Careers Challenge

On Thursday 19th January the Inspirational Learning Group visited the school to deliver the National Careers Challenge to Year 8. This involved students working in groups of 6 to design a brand new zero emissions fleet for Airbus. The students had to consider their customers, unique selling points, slogan, logo & additional features such as hydrogen fuel cells and use of artificial intelligence. Groups who had worked well all day were then selected to present in front of the year group and a guest judging panel, with the winning group from 8AGZ being invited to compete at the National finals in the summer!



Y7 National Careers Challenge

On Thursday 9th February the 7s were able to take part in the national Careers Challenge, delivered by The Inspirational Learning Group. During this day students worked in groups of up to 6 to redesign an existing company using hydrogen powered vehicles rather than fossil fuels. The students developed a number of employable skills such as teamwork, communication, creativity, marketing strategy & presenting. The winning group of the day came up with a new strategy for Royal Mail to use hydrogen powered vans and lorries in order to reduce carbon emissions and improve air quality, using a comedy skit to further illustrate their idea. This group will now be moving on to the national finals in summer!



Future Frontiers – careers coaching office visits

Last term 30 Year 10 students were nominated for the Future Frontiers careers coaching programme. This programme consists of 4 trips to volunteer company offices where students are paired up with trained coaches for 1-2-1 guidance sessions on linking their interests and skills with future careers. The students were split into 2 groups with half going to Zaha Hadid Architecture offices in Angel, and the others going to Argus Media offices in Holborn. This will be followed up by 2 sessions in Year 11 to provide further guidance with post-16 options and applications.



Mr R. Hussain
Principal