



Parent Newsletter

St Mary Magdalene Secondary

Co-Principals' Message

Friday 26th September 2025

Autumn 1 -

Theme: Flourishing
Federation Value – Resilience

John 10:10 I have come that you
might live in all its abundance

Memory Verse

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are delighted with how well the students have settled back into the new academic year. The transition for our new Year 7s and Year 12s has been successful and they have quickly become part of our family. It is lovely to see the students making new friends and developing positive relationships with staff. The students seem very focused in lessons and have already taken advantage of the numerous co-curricular opportunities available to them.

The GCSE and A Level results were very positive. They were a reflection of the hard work and dedication of the students and staff and it is worth noting the significant amount of progress the Year 11s made in their GCSEs, and over 90% of our Year 13 students secured their first-choice university. This was an excellent achievement. We can never underestimate how crucial these outcomes are to students and the impact they have on their futures. The current Year 11s and Year 13s have already shifted their focus to exam preparation. They will be working hard each day with their teachers to continue to develop their knowledge and understanding across all subjects.

There have also been a number of school events and highlights so far this term which included our Open Evening for prospective Year 7 students, the Year 11 Careers Event at Woolwich Works and sporting fixtures for the students. As we look ahead, we are keen to welcome our Year 7 and Year 12 parents/carers on Wednesday 1st October for the Meet the Tutor event where parents/carers will get the opportunity to discuss how well their child has settled into school life at St Mary Magdalene. We also have our first Open Morning coming up on Thursday 2nd October where prospective Year 7 students and parents will have the opportunity to visit the school and experience it in action. We are also very excited for the Harvest Festival in October which will include a service and collection. We will continue to share key dates and information with students and parents as the year progresses.

Finally, we endeavour to maintain our high expectations and standards for our students and we kindly ask for your support in this regard. We expect all students to be in full and correct uniform as per our policy and for them to arrive to school on time every day. We are very grateful for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

Mr. Benn & Mr. Riley
Co-Principals



Key Dates for Year Groups

Year 7:

Wednesday 1st October 2025 - Year 7 Meet the Tutor Event

Wednesday 10th June 2026 - Year 7 Parents' Evening

Year 8:

Wednesday 22nd April 2026 - Year 8 Parents' Evening

Year 9:

Wednesday 4th February 2026 - Year 9 Options and Parents' Evening

Year 10:

Wednesday 20th May 2026 - Year 10 Parents' Evening

Year 11:

Wednesday 3rd December 2025 - Year 11 Parents' Evening

Year 12:

Wednesday 7th January 2026 - Year 12 UCAS Event (5-6pm)

Wednesday 18th March 2026 - Year 12 Parents' Evening

Year 13:

Wednesday 14th January 2026 - Year 13 Parents' Evening



St Mary Magdalene Secondary Open Mornings

Open Mornings for Year 6 Families

We are pleased to be offering a series of Open Mornings for Year 6 pupils and their parents to visit our secondary school. These sessions are a great opportunity to explore the school, meet staff and get a feel for the learning environment. If you would like to attend, please book a morning appointment through the link on our school website under the Admissions section.

Open Morning dates available:

- Tuesday 2nd October 2025
- Tuesday 7th October 2025
- Tuesday 14th October 2025
- Thursday 23rd October 2025

8.55am registration

9am to 9.35am Tour and Q&A



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 proud of 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 time, including a blazer, tie, black/gray socks, black shoes and lanyards.
- 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 tracksuit 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 false eye lashes or acrylic nails to be worn
- Kits should be knee length
- No lip-gloss or other form of makeup should be worn. These will be confiscated if seen.

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

Please check the following on your child's uniform and replace what's needed:

- Broken or misplaced shoes
- Damaged or too small shirts and trousers
- Damaged or broken trousers
- Enough trousers and shirts for five-day week
- Enough black or dark grey socks for five-day week

SAFEGUARDING & CHILD PROTECTION NOTICE

In line with the school's child protection policy and procedures, should you have any concerns about a child's safety and protection, please immediately refer these worries to one of the following members of staff.

Safeguarding concerns should be raised by anyone who comes into contact with a child either outside or inside school.

Please note: the Safeguarding policy is available on our school website, or for a printed copy please ask at the school office.

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE



ST. MARY MAGDALENE
C OF E SCHOOL
SECONDARY PHASE
*Excellence through innovation,
founded in faith since 1840.*



Mr Benson
Designated Safeguarding
Lead
Director- Inclusion



Mrs Wainwright
Executive Co-Headteacher
Federation Safeguarding lead



Mr Benn
Co-Principal of School



Mr Riley
Co-Principal of School



Mrs Van Der Maas
Home School Link Worker
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mr Golding
Assistant Principal
(Behaviour)



Ms Brady
Vice principal
(Teaching & Learning)



Mr Marshall
Director of Sixth Form



Mr A Hussain
Director of KS3
Behaviour & Culture



Mr Lawrence
Director of KS4
Behaviour & Culture



2025/2026 Term Dates

Autumn Term 2025

INSET DAY	Monday 1st September 2025
INSET DAY	Tuesday 2nd September 2025
School re-opens	Wednesday 3 rd September 2025
School finishes	Thursday 23 rd October 2025
INSET DAY	Friday 24th October 2025
Half term	Monday 27 th October to Friday 31 st October 2025
School re-opens	Monday 3 rd November 2025
School finishes	Friday 19 th December 2025
Christmas Holidays	Monday 22 nd December 2025 to Friday 2 nd January 2026

Spring Term 2026

School re-opens	Monday 5 th January 2026
School finishes	Friday 13 th February 2026
Half term	Monday 16 th February to Friday 20 th February 2025
School re-opens	Monday 23 rd February 2026
School finishes	Friday 27 th March 2026
Easter Holidays	Monday 30 th March to Friday 10 th April 2026

Summer Term 2026

School re-opens	Monday 13 th April 2026
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 4th May 2026
School finishes	Friday 22 nd May 2026
Half term	Monday 25 th May to Friday 29 th May 2026
School re-opens	Monday 1 st June 2026
School finishes	Friday 17 th July 2026
INSET DAY	Monday 20th July 2026
Summer Holidays	Tuesday 21 st July 2026 - Wednesday 2 nd September 2026
*1 INSET DAY TBC	

Year 11 Careers

Year 11 Careers:

It's been an exciting term for Year 11 as they've been exploring their next steps after GCSEs. During PSHE, students have been using Unifrog to discover the wide range of post-16 pathways available to them – including some options they hadn't even considered before! They also enjoyed a visit to the Woolwich Works Post-16 Fair, where they met providers from across the borough and asked questions about future opportunities. Alongside this, one-to-one careers guidance appointments have now begun, giving each student the chance to receive personalised advice and support as they make important decisions about their future pathways.



Achieving Greatness in Greenwich Awards



Collective Worship

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to share with you the purpose of Collective Worship here at St Mary Magdalene and why it is such a fundamental part of our school life.

Collective Worship is central to who we are as a Church of England school. It is where we express and live out our ethos, which underpins everything we do. This is achieved by ensuring that our Collective Worship is:

- Invitational – all students are welcome to participate in a way that is meaningful to them.
- Inspiring – designed to create moments of awe and wonder.
- Reflective – offering quiet space for students to pause and consider the bigger questions in life, even those that may be difficult to understand.

At the heart of our worship is our golden rule: “Do unto others as you would have them do to you.” This simple yet powerful teaching shapes our values of Faith, Family and Fellowship, guiding how we treat each other and how we live within our community.

Students at St Mary Magdalene take part in daily acts of worship, which include:

- Family Group Worship
- Head of Year Worship
- Clergy-led Worship
- Leadership-led Worship

Each of these plays an important role in helping our young people explore faith, reflect on life, and connect with the school’s values.

We would greatly value your support in continuing these conversations at home. By asking your child what was discussed in Collective Worship, you can help them reflect further on the message, apply it to their lives, and deepen their understanding.

Thank you for working with us to nurture our young people, enabling them to flourish both academically and spiritually.

Kind regards,

Mr Jermaine Gayle
Assistant Principal of Equalities and Disadvantage



Co-Curriculum Timetable

Monday

Before school:

Y9,Y10 and Y11 Netball 7:30am - 8:30am Hardcourt - Ms Woolsey

Lunchtime:

Lunch/Social Skills Club at the SEN Hub - Ms Ikhlq

After school:

Y10 & Y11 Basketball 3:30pm - 4:45pm Sports Hall - Mr Ashong

Y7 Football 3:20pm-4:45pm Sports Hall - Mr Mudge

Y11 Art Intervention 3:15pm- 4:15pm, CH6 - Mr Ashwell

Scripture Union 3:25 - 4:25, CS3 - Ms Wilcox



Tuesday

Lunchtime:

Drawing Club, KS3, CH6 - Ms Thomas

Lower school Badminton 12pm - 12:40pm - Mr Mudge

Lunch/Social Skills Club at the SEN Hub - Ms Ikhlq

After school:

Y7 & Y8 Netball 3:20pm - 4:45pm Hardcourt

Y9, Y10 & Y11 3:20pm - 4:20pm Dance Studio - Mr Abe



Wednesday

Lunchtime:

Y9 Indoor Football, Lower school, Sports Hall - Mr Ashong

Y7 Book Club, KS3 Lunch, CS11 - Miss Leach & Miss Choudry

Y9 Futsal, Lower lunchtime, Sports Hall - Mr Ashong

KS Practise and Play Music, CH10 - Ms Steel

Lunch/Social Skills Club at the SEN Hub - Ms Ikhlq



Thursday

After school:

Y9 Football 3:30pm - 4:45pm, 4G - Mr Walsh

Science Club 3:15pm - 4:15pm, RD1 - Ms Akeju, Miss Townsend & Mr Spyrou



Friday

Lunchtime:

Girls Indoor Football, Lower school lunchtime, Sports Hall - Mr Walsh

KS3 Practise and Play Music, CH10 - Ms Steele

Lunch/Social Skills Club at the SEN Hub - Ms Ikhlq

After school:

Y10 Football 3:20pm - 4:45pm, 4G - Mr Lawrence

Sixth Form Football 3:30pm - 4:45pm - Mr Fernandez-Folkes

Y7 & Y8 Dance Club 3:30pm - 4:20pm, Dance Studio - Ms Abe



Reminder: No Chewing Gum or Sweets at School

Dear Parents,

We would like to kindly remind all families that chewing gum and sweets are not permitted in school. While we understand that these items may be a treat for students, they can lead to distractions, littering, and issues with students' health and well-being.

We appreciate your cooperation in helping us maintain a focused and clean learning environment for all students. Please ensure that your child comes to school without gum or sweets, and help us encourage healthy habits throughout the school day.

Thank you for your support!



Message from the Chaplain
Re: Dominic Hubbuck

Welcome. Welcome one and all.

Whether you're the smallest, the tallest, the strongest or the one that feels afraid.

You are welcome.

Jesus welcomed the little children and welcomed the parents who were being told off by the disciples around them.

Jesus welcomed the poorest and those excluded because of their health, education, cultural heritage or gender.

And we welcome you too.

As the children settle, we pray for them as they are served by our staff who have planned for their days and weeks with us.

As the parents get into the school routine, we pray that those struggling, those over-thinking, those striving will feel God close to them as they seek to do their best.

As the staff learn every new face and try to deliver lessons that are chosen especially for each child, may they feel the Holy Spirit lifting any burden of stress or worry from their shoulders.

Gracious God send your spirit in through our gates. Fill the halls and corridors and classrooms with the joy and peace in knowing you as our God.

Guard and guide each parent and family as they navigate this new school year and bless each child as they seek to learn all that they can.

In the name of Jesus, bless us all. Amen.

Rev. Dominic Hubbuck

School Chaplain

Assistant Priest with East Greenwich Team Ministry

