



Parent Newsletter

St Mary Magdalene Secondary

Summer 1
Theme: Justice and Responsibility
Value: Responsibility

Co-Principals' Message

Monday 18th May 2026

Micah 6:8 The Lord God has told us what is right and what he demands. See justice be done, let mercy be your first concern, and humbly obey your God.

Memory Verse

Dear Parents and Carers,

GCSE & A Level Exams

Ever since our return to school following Easter holidays, the summer term has been dominated by exam preparation for our Year 11 and Year 13 students. Both staff and students have been working extremely hard to ensure that all students are in the best possible position to secure the best possible outcomes. We are really pleased with the efforts from staff as they have gone above and beyond to not only do after school interventions, but Saturday intervention sessions as well to support our students. The students have responded well to these sessions based on their attendance and engagement. We urge them to continue to make the most of the support that has been put in place for them during the exam period.

As you are aware, both GCSEs and A Level exams are now in full flow which is a very demanding and taxing time for the students. Please continue to support your child at home, using the advice and guidance that Mr Riley provided on the Year 11 and Year 13 Information Evening which took place on Thursday 23rd April. If you did not attend this event, please refer to the video which was sent with a summary of how you can support your child. We cannot stress enough; how important it is for parents/carers to play their part as well during this critical time for the students.

Year 10 & Year 12 Mocks

Continuing on the theme of exams, the Year 10s and Year 12s will sit their mock exams in June. These exams will commence on Monday 15th June and they will be absolutely vital in providing us with a clear understanding of what is required to best prepare the students for Year 11 and Year 13. It is important that they use the half term break to prepare for these crucial exams by having a carefully planned revision schedule and sticking to it with real purpose and commitment. Students can seek support from their teachers if they need assistance with putting an effective study timetable together.

The wider life of the school

Whilst the main focus has been on exams, students across all year groups have been in range of activities outside of the classroom. The co-curriculum is an area of school that we value deeply because of the impact it has on our students' personal development.

The students have had the opportunity to go on multiple trips, take part in various competitions, participate in sports fixtures, as well as attend a wide variety of clubs. Please encourage your child to take full advantage of the numerous co-curricular opportunities that are available to them. We are deeply grateful to all the staff who give up their time to run clubs to enrich the students' experience at SMM.

As we approach the final week of term, we would like to remind you of our 10-year anniversary which will be held on Friday 10th July 2026. Further details will be shared with you in due course.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. Riley & Mr. Benn
Co-Principals



Key Dates for Year Groups

Year 7:

Wednesday 10th June 2026 - Year 7 Parents'/Carers' Evening

Year 8:

No upcoming events at present to report

Year 9:

No upcoming events at present to report

Year 10:

Wednesday 20th May 2026 - Year 10 Parents'/Carers' Evening

Monday 15th June 2026 - Friday 26th June 2026 - Year 10 Mock Exams

Year 11:

Tuesday 5th May 2026 - Friday 19th June 2026 - GCSE/A-Level Exams 2026

Thursday 25th June 2026 - Prom Night 6pm - 10:30pm

Year 12:

Monday 15th June 2026 - Friday 26th June 2026 - Year 12 Mock Exams

Year 13:

Tuesday 5th May 2026 - Friday 19th June 2026 - GCSE/A-Level Exams 2026

INSET Days:

Monday 20th July 2026

Please note that the dates listed are subject to change





2025/2026 Term Dates

Autumn Term 2025

INSET DAY	Monday 1st September 2025
INSET DAY	Tuesday 2nd September 2025
School re-opens	Wednesday 3rd September 2025
School finishes	Thursday 23rd October 2025
INSET DAY	Friday 24 th October 2025
Half term	Monday 27 th October to Friday 31 st October 2025
School re-opens	Monday 3rd 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 2026
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 4 th 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 20 th July 2026
Summer Holidays	Tuesday 21 st July 2026 – Monday 31 st August 2026

*1 INSET DAYS: Tuesday 1st September & Wednesday 2nd September

(UKMT) Junior Maths Challenge

On 29th April, 91 of our top mathematicians from Years 7 and 8 took part in the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust (UKMT) Junior Maths Challenge. The UKMT is a nationally recognised organisation that promotes mathematical thinking and problem-solving through a series of quizzes held across the country each year.

The Junior Maths Challenge is designed to stretch and inspire young mathematicians, encouraging students to apply logic, reasoning, and creativity to solve a range of really challenging problems. Participants compete against thousands of students nationwide, with the highest performers progressing to follow-on rounds such as the Junior Kangaroo and Junior Olympiad.

We are delighted to celebrate the achievements of our students this year. A special congratulations goes to Alexander Lachev in Year 7, who achieved an impressive Silver Award. Many other students across both Year 7 and Year 8 also earned Bronze Awards for their excellent performances.

Congratulations to everyone who took part and represented the school so well. Certificates will be distributed in the coming days.

On 29th April, alongside the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust (UKMT) challenge, five of our outstanding Year 9 mathematicians represented the school in the Jack Petchey Count On Us Secondary Challenge at Haberdashers' Borough Academy School.

The Count On Us Challenge is a fast-paced national mathematics competition in which schools from across the country compete in a variety of problem-solving and team-based mathematical games. The event is designed to develop confidence, teamwork, and logical thinking, while encouraging students to enjoy mathematics in a competitive setting.

Although our team did not progress to the next round of heats this year, the students represented the school brilliantly and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. We are extremely proud of their enthusiasm, teamwork, and determination throughout the competition.



Y11 & Y13 Social Science Trips

What a wonderful half term it has been for trips in the Social Science department! We have had three wonderful trips to Westminster (and all in the sunshine)!

Year 11 Sociology started off the excitement with their trip to The Supreme Court in relation to their Crime & Deviance topic. It was a fantastic opportunity for students to explore the highest court of appeal in the UK and to explore how our justice system aims to tackle its own potential inequalities. It was lovely to celebrate the end of GCSE Sociology with such a lovely afternoon out before exams started; all students and staff had the most wonderful time exploring Parliament Square in the sunshine and pretending to be Supreme Court Justices.

Year 13 Sociology and Politics also enjoyed an afternoon at The Supreme Court where they learned about the checks and balances within British democracy and the role that the court plays in this. They also asked some incredibly thoughtful questions about the lack of representation seen from the 11 justices and how this is being tackled going forwards to increase the credibility of The Supreme Court.

The students said:

The Supreme Court visit showed us an insight into how laws and decision are made not only in the UK but overseas as well, it was a great experience that allowed us to focus our visions on what we want our future careers to look like.



Finally, Year 12 Politics had a wonderful day out at The Houses of Parliament and The Supreme Court. We also were lucky enough to watch the rehearsal for Trooping the Colour on The Mall with a range of musical and equestrian talents on display.

The students said:

This was a truly wonderful experience for all staff and students involved really one for the ages. From when we disembarked to Parliament it was remarkable as all students were really buzzing with anticipation a feeling in which stayed constant throughout the whole trip. Once we arrived, we were met by a wonderful tour guide in which she spoke about the great history of Parliament and her own personal experiences in which was very valuable information for all students. She took us through the House of Commons and explained thoroughly on how the house is structure.

To then finish, our intelligent tour guide then took us to explore more about the UK political history, where we saw the Winston Churchill statue. This really had an positive impact on our Politics course. It introduced to us a lot of new facts plus gave us empirical evidence in which we were able to internalise and use towards our studies. Next, we embarked on our journey towards the Supreme Court in which we were met by our next tour guide. In which he was also very wonderful. He was amazing enough to present us the opportunity to witness a live case which was very inspiring to the students. He then guided our collective to observe not one but two empty courtrooms in which he further broadened our knowledge by ending the day with the Supreme Courts exciting exhibition.

Our collective then finally ended the lovely day by going sightseeing in which we observed many marvellous monuments like the Big Ben, Trafalgar square and the new Banksy statue. Really a wonderful experience in which I believe I can talk for all when I say it was an experience we would not swap for.

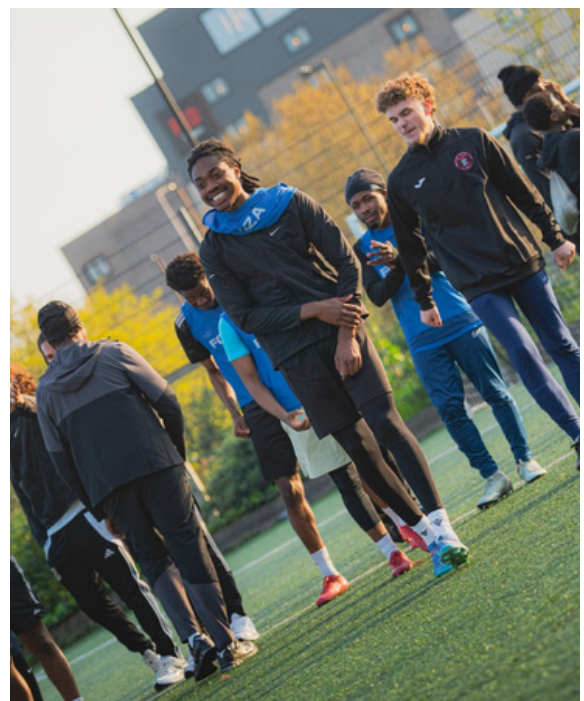


SMM All-Stars: A Celebration of Community and Sport



Over the Easter holidays, Motive Sports - All Stars Event brought a fantastic energy back to our pitches, hosting a football tournament specifically for our Year 11 students and SMM alumni. It was a brilliant celebration of our school spirit, with over 40 young people coming together for an afternoon of competitive and high-spirited football. We were incredibly fortunate to have the event sponsored by Chelsea FC, who provided fantastic prizes for the winning teams, adding an extra layer of excitement to the day.

Beyond the goals and trophies, the afternoon was a beautiful testament to the strength of the SMM community; it was wonderful to see former students reconnecting, hearing about their new adventures, and listening to them share fond memories of their time at school. Events like these are vital for keeping our community together, and we are so proud of everyone who participated and made it such a memorable day.



Government Drive on Mobile Phones

Understanding Children's Mobile Phone and Social Media Use

The government has announced new measures to help improve children's relationship with mobile phones and social media. As parents, it's important to be aware of these developments and how they may affect your child.

Key Points:

- **New Guidance for Schools:** The government is providing updated guidance to help schools manage mobile phone use during the school day, supporting a phone-free learning environment.
- **Age-Appropriate Design:** Tech companies will be required to design their platforms with children's safety and wellbeing in mind, including stronger age verification measures.
- **Parental Controls:** Improved tools and information will be made available to help parents manage their children's screen time and online activity more effectively.
- **Mental Health Support:** Recognition of the link between excessive social media use and mental health issues, with increased support for young people struggling with online pressures.
- **Online Safety Bill:** Continued implementation of measures to hold social media companies accountable for harmful content accessible to children.

What This Means for Parents:

As a school, we support these measures and encourage parents to:

- Have open conversations with your children about their online activity
- Set clear boundaries around phone and social media use at home
- Use parental controls and monitoring tools where appropriate
- Model healthy digital habits yourselves
- Be aware of the platforms your children are using and who they are communicating with

For more detailed information, please visit this [link](#).

If you have concerns about your child's mobile phone or social media use, please don't hesitate to contact your child's family group tutor, Head of Year or the Safeguarding Team.



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:

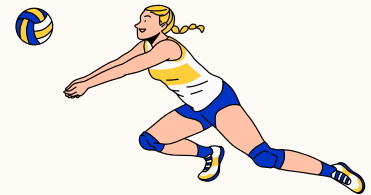
Y9 Indoor Football, Lower school, Sports Hall - Mr Ashong

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



**Message from the Chaplain
Re: Dominic Hubbuck**

This past weekend, London was filled with all kinds of people - those campaigning for change and for those in power to listen, and those supporting their team and seeking success and maybe a trophy.

People with passion and compassion.
People with a desire to gather together.
People with hopes and fears in equal measure.

As we are surrounded by things in this world that cause conflict, stress, joys and disappointments - let us pray to the God who lived with all these things as Jesus our Saviour:

Risen, Ascended Lord, as we rejoice at your triumph,
fill the world with power and compassion,
that all who are faced with fear, oppression and loneliness
may receive your spirit and know your peace.
Amen.

Rev. Dominic Hubbuck
School Chaplain
Assistant Priest with East Greenwich Team Ministry

