



Parent Newsletter

St Mary Magdalene Secondary

Co-Principals' Message

Thursday 23rd October 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 and Carers,

As we reach the end of the autumn half term, I wanted to take a moment to celebrate the wonderful achievements of our students and look ahead to the exciting opportunities that await us in the coming weeks.

We are particularly proud of our Girls Flag Football team, who experienced a truly unforgettable day as special guests of the New York Jets at their NFL game against the Denver Broncos. The girls played a showcase match on the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium pitch in front of over 50,000 fans, scored a spectacular touchdown, and formed a guard of honour as the Jets entered the field. This incredible experience was a well-deserved recognition of their hard work and dedication over the past two years. I would like to say a massive thank you to Mr Lawrence for supporting the girls all the way up to point.

Our students have also demonstrated their creativity and community spirit through the Firework Safety poster competition, producing vibrant and impactful work that promotes responsible celebration of Bonfire Night. Please ensure your children stay safe during these exciting celebrations.

Year 11s and year 13s sitting their first mocks of the academic year when we get back. This critical time marks the start of their preparation for their summer exams and working towards their college and sixth form places. Our Year 11 students will have the opportunity to meet with their teachers at Parents' Evening on Wednesday 3rd December, a crucial checkpoint as they continue their GCSE journey. This will be an important evening to discuss progress, set targets, and ensure every student is on track to achieve their very best in the run up to applying for sixth and college places.

Our sporting calendar continues to flourish, with fixtures scheduled across football, netball, and basketball for all year groups. We encourage students to take full advantage of our extensive co-curricular programme, which runs throughout the week with activities ranging from football and netball to art club, science club, dance, and music sessions. These opportunities not only develop skills and talents but also build confidence, resilience, and lasting friendships.

As we approach the season of Advent and the lead-up to Christmas, our school community will come together for moments of reflection and celebration. We will mark important occasions including Remembrance Day and our All Saints and All Souls services, reminding ourselves of the light and hope that guide us even as the days grow darker.

And lastly, watch this space for details about our upcoming SMM Talent Show and Christmas Concert – wonderful opportunities for our students to showcase their incredible talents and for our community to come together in celebration of the festive season.

We look forward to welcoming students back after half term, refreshed and ready to build on this term's excellent progress.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. Riley and Mr Benn
Co-Principals



Key Dates for Year Groups

Year 7:

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

INSET Days:

Friday 24th October 2025

Monday 20th July 2026

Bank Holidays:

Monday 4th May 2026



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

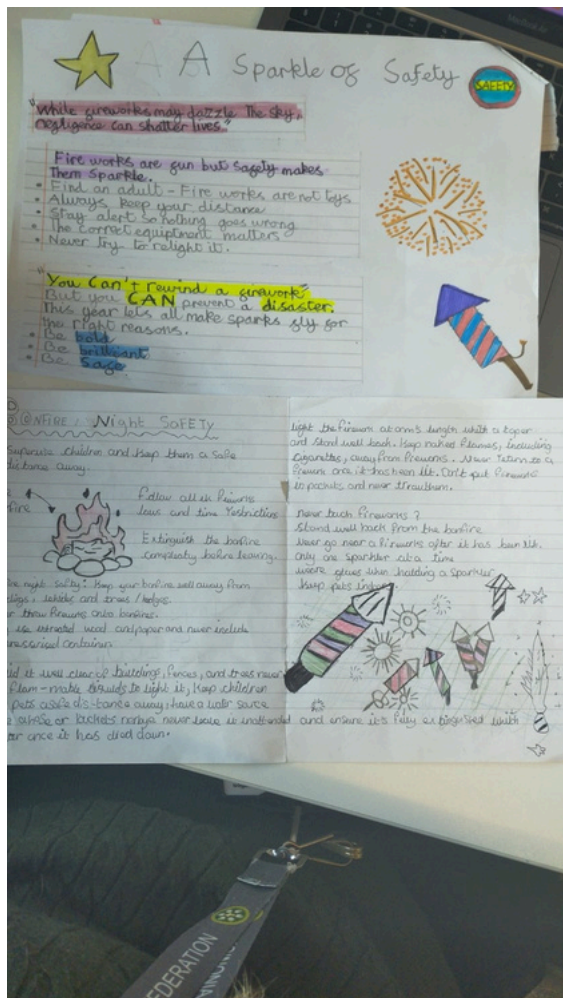
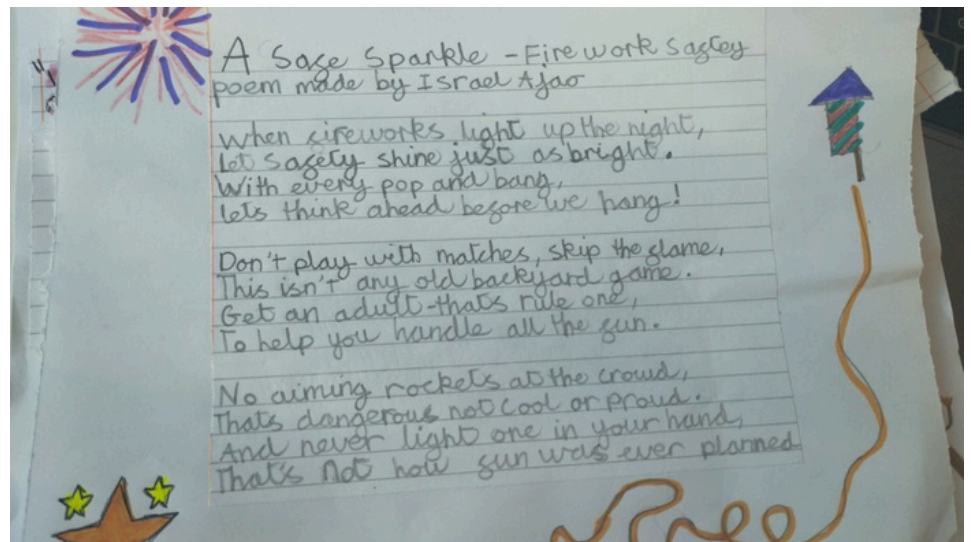
School re-opens	Monday 5 th January 2026
School finishes	Friday 13 th February 2026
Half term	Monday 16 th February to Friday 20 th February 2025
School re-opens	Monday 23 rd February 2026
School finishes	Friday 27 th March 2026
Easter Holidays	Monday 30 th March to Friday 10 th April 2026

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	

Firework Safety Competition

Our students have been busy creating vibrant Firework Safety posters in the lead-up to Guy Fawkes Night, highlighting how to enjoy Bonfire Night responsibly. Entries will represent each House in our Inter-House Competition, with points awarded for clear safety messages, creativity, and impact. Well done to everyone who took part - enjoy a selection of the posters below!



Year 7 Girls Football

Y7 Girls Football

Our newly formed Y7 Girls Football team have now played two games; against St Paul's Academy and Trinity School Lewisham. The girls have been committed to their Thursday training with numbers of up to THIRTY girls!

They will now face both teams again in the 'return fixture' as well as their Blackheath Cup first round fixture against Prendergast Ladywell.

On Thursday 16th October the Y7 Girls played in their first tournament style football fixture against both Trinity Lewisham and Plumstead Manor. We entered two teams into the tournament, meaning each girl experienced three different matches. Well done to all girls who participated; continue to work hard! Girls Football training will be on every Thursday throughout the Autumn Term.

Tournament Results:

SMM Orange 0-0 Trinity

SMM Maroon 0-1 Plumstead Manor

SMM Orange 3-0 Plumstead Manor (Goalscorers: Lujaina x1, Kimberley N x2)

SMM Maroon 0-3 Trinity

SMM Orange 2-1 SMM Maroon (Goalscorers: Tia C x1, Kimberley N x1, Lujaina x1)

Plumstead Manor 1-0 Trinity



Year 7, Year 8 and Year 11 Boys Football

Y7, Y8, & Y11 Boys Football

Year 7 Boys

The Year 7 football team have made a fantastic start to their journey representing St Mary Magdalene. They played two games so far – a thrilling 5–3 friendly win against Bexley Grammar and a hard-fought 3–1 cup defeat to St Thomas More, where they showed real character and determination throughout. The team are now preparing for their next cup fixture against St Columba's on Monday 13th October, and spirits are high as they look to **bounce back with another strong performance**.

Year 8 Boys

The year 8's started their football season off with a tough fixture against St.Paul's Academy in a 1-0 Win. The game was a very close throughout, however the boys took complete control and dominated for large periods of the game. We had missed a number of chances to put the game to bed, however the boys showed excellent defensive resilience to keep a clean sheet in their first game of the season. The boys will be back in action against Royal Greenwich Academy in the Blackheath cup, followed by another tricky fixture against St.Paul's in the North Kent Cup.

Year 11 Boys

The Year 11s recently faced the Year 10s in a competitive friendly match, coming out 2–0 winners. It was a fantastic contest that showcased the talent and teamwork across both year groups. The Year 11s' experience and composure shone through, setting a great example for the younger players.



NFL Trip: New York Jets vs Denver Broncos

An Unforgettable Day: StMM Girls Flag Football Team Shine at the NFL London Game

On Sunday 12th October, our Girls Flag (American) Football Team experienced a truly unforgettable day as special guests of the New York Jets at their NFL game against the Denver Broncos at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium.

Upon arrival, the team received an incredible surprise – they had been invited to play a Flag Football showcase match on the very same pitch where the NFL game would later take place, performing in front of a crowd of more than 50,000 fans.

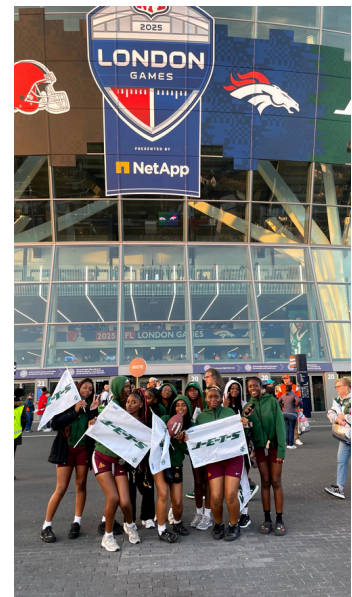
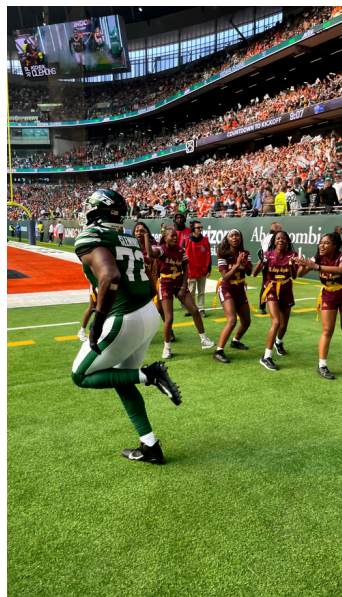
The girls rose to the occasion, playing brilliantly and showing great teamwork and determination. One of the standout moments came when one of our students ran in a spectacular touchdown for StMM, earning cheers from the stadium.

But the surprises didn't stop there! The girls were then invited to form a guard of honour on the pitch, welcoming the New York Jets as they entered the field from the tunnel – an incredible moment and a memory they'll cherish forever.

Throughout the day, the team also had the chance to meet a number of familiar faces, including Aitch, Nella Rose, and members of the Great Britain Flag Football Team.

The day concluded with the pupils enjoying the thrilling NFL game between the Jets and Broncos from their seats in the stands – the perfect ending to a day of celebration, reward, and inspiration.

This fantastic experience was a well-deserved recognition of the girls' hard work, dedication, and commitment to the Flag Football Team over the past two years. We couldn't be prouder of them!



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





VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

CALLING ALL PARENTS, CARERS AND FAMILIES!

**St Mary Magdalene School are looking for volunteers to patrol
our zebra crossings.**

**Now that Kev and Olabisi have left we need help! We are looking for
someone over 18, with sharp eyesight, good mobility and with an
understanding of traffic and driver issues.**

**You will need to be available Monday - Friday term time only
8.20-9.00am and 3.00-3.45pm**

Why would you volunteer for this?

- **You may need some proven volunteer time for another role**
- **You may want to give back to the community if you are retired**
- **You may want to make a positive contribution to your local area**

**Please contact Ann Grant @ Greenwich Council for further details
Ann.Grant@royalgreenwich.gov.uk**

**Full uniform and training will be provided.
We will obtain a DBS for you also**

PARKING

We would like to remind you that there is only extremely limited parking or drop off facilities at the school. As you are aware, in order to ensure your child can arrive and leave the school safely, Hendon Street is closed to traffic between 8.20am-9.05am and from 2.45pm-3.30pm.

There is no parking on John Harrison Way especially not in the bus lane. Traffic enforcers have been on duty and moved cars on. It is unsafe to let your child out of the car either in the bus lane or in the turning opening in the middle of the road.

The only place for to stop safely is on one side Neal Street where there are not any restrictions. However, over the last few weeks or so, some parents have made this area very dangerous by parking on the pavement, double parking and even driving the wrong way down Hendon Street. The risk to the student's safety in this area is now unacceptable. In order to support the school with its duty to keep your child safe, there are now barriers at the end of Neal Street to stop cars turning the wrong way into Hendon Street. The estates management team have also been out on patrol speaking to parents who have parked in an unsafe manner.

We understand that it is frustrating that there is no parking at our school. However, this has always been the case and will continue to be. We are situated in a zone where cars are actively discouraged and therefore there is very limited parking. Other parking options within a 10 minute walk are IKEA car park and some of the local roads nearer the river.

If you have to drive your child to school, please can you be considerate and mindful of the 1500 students that are entering and exiting the building and need to cross the local roads.

Thank you in advance for your support



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

Light is a big thing at this time of year.
The light is changing. The darkness arrives sooner and sooner.
And as the clocks change, the mornings will be darker and darker.
The skies seem more grey and the colours seem to fade.
It can be hard to remember the bright blue skies and the sun that warmed us.

In these days we have moments of reflection and remembering.
We gather to remember our loved ones that we see no longer during our All saints and All souls Days.
We take time for Remembrance where we think of those who fought and died for our freedoms.

And during all these things, it can become easy to feel drawn down it all.

But we are reminded too of the light in our lives.
We remember the Light that Jesus brought into a dark world and continues to shine in our lives through people of faith and courage and prayer and praise.
We may be surrounded by those who want to celebrate the darkness, by those who decorate their homes and houses with things that scare and shock and surprise.
But in all these things, we must cling to the God who saves, who guides, who protects and who loves us.

In these days and weeks ahead, though the skies turn grey and our thoughts are turned to sadness, remember to give thanks, to fill your thoughts with stories of blessing and love and joy.

My prayer for you is that your life will be filled with the knowledge of the love of God. That your days will contain moments of joy and peace. And that your family will be blessed by the Spirit of God that can do so much more than we can do for ourselves.

God bless you and may you discover the Light of the World in your life.
Amen

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

