



# Parent Newsletter

## St Mary Magdalene Secondary

### Co-Principals' Message

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the February half term, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on what has been a very positive and productive spring term so far.

One of the highlights of this term has been our Year 7 students' visit to see Turandot at the ballet. This was a wonderful cultural experience for our students, many of whom were attending the ballet for the first time. The opportunity to experience live performance of this calibre is invaluable in broadening horizons and inspiring creativity. Our students represented the school impeccably, and we received excellent feedback about their behaviour and engagement. Thank you to the staff who accompanied and organised this trip.

We have just concluded Year 9 Options Week, a pivotal moment in our students' educational journey. This week provided Year 9 students with the information, guidance, and support they need to make informed decisions about their GCSE subjects. Students attended assemblies, subject taster sessions, and had the opportunity to speak with teachers and careers advisors about their choices.

We encourage Year 9 parents to discuss these options carefully with your child, considering their strengths, interests, and future aspirations. The options form deadline will be communicated shortly, and our pastoral and careers teams remain available should you have any questions or need additional guidance.

When we return after the half term break, our Year 11 and Year 13 students will be entering their next round of mock examinations. These assessments are crucial in helping students understand where they are in their preparation and what they need to focus on in the coming months.

We ask that parents support their children by:

- Ensuring they have a quiet space to revise at home
- Encouraging regular breaks and healthy routines
- Helping them maintain a balanced approach to study and wellbeing
- Checking that they have all necessary equipment for their exams

Mock exams are an opportunity for growth and learning - they help students build confidence, identify areas for improvement, and practice essential exam techniques. We know our students will approach them with the same maturity and focus they have shown throughout this term.

Overall, this has been a very positive spring term. Students have returned with focus and determination, behaviour and attitudes to learning have been excellent, and there is a real sense of purpose throughout the school. Our co-curricular programme continues to thrive, with students engaging in a wide range of activities from sports to arts to academic clubs. Thank you to all parents for your continued support in maintaining high standards - ensuring your children arrive on time, in correct uniform, and ready to learn. This partnership between home and school is essential to your child's success.

**"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."**

*Philippians 4:13*

Yours faithfully,  
Mr. Riley & Mr Benn  
Co-Principals

Spring 1  
Theme: Treated Well  
Value: Respect

Luke 6:31 Treat others just as you  
want to be treated. Or: Do unto  
others, as you would have them do  
unto you.

**Memory Verse**



## Key Dates for Year Groups

**Year 7:**

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2026** - Year 7 Parents' Evening

**Year 8:**

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2026** - Year 8 Parents' Evening

**Year 9:**

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2026** - Year 9 Parents' Evening

**Year 10:**

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2026** - Year 10 Parents' Evening

**Year 11:**

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026 - Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026** - Year 11 Spring Mock Exams

**Year 12:**

No upcoming events at present to report

**Year 13:**

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026 - Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026** - Year 13 Spring Mock Exams

**INSET Days:**

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2026

**Bank Holiday:**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2026

**Please note that the dates listed are subject to change**



# Year 11 and Year 13 Spring Mock Timetable

<b>Spring Mock Timetable</b>					
<b>Week 1</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tue</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thur</b>	<b>Fri</b>
	<b>23/02/2026</b>	<b>24/02/2026</b>	<b>25/02/2026</b>	<b>26/02/2026</b>	<b>27/02/2026</b>
	<b>Sports Hall</b>	<b>Sports Hall</b>	<b>Sports Hall</b>	<b>Sports Hall</b>	<b>Sports Hall</b>
<b>Main Hall</b> 8.40	Science Warmup	English Warmup	Maths Warmup	Science Warmup	RS Warmup
<b>P1</b> 8.40 - 9.40	<b>NRT Testing</b>	<b>GCSE English Literature - Paper 1</b> (1hrs 45mins)	<b>GCSE Maths (Non-Calculator) - Paper 1</b> (1hr 30mins)	<b>GCSE Chemistry</b> (1hr 45mins)	<b>GCSE RS - Paper 1</b> (1hr 45mins)
<b>P2</b> 9.40 - 10.40		<b>A Level English - Prose</b> (1hr 15mins)	<b>A Level Maths (Pure)</b> (2 hrs)	<b>GCSE Combined Science - Chemistry</b> (1hrs 15mins)	<b>A Level PRE</b> (2 hrs)
		<b>BTEC National in Sport - Unit 1 (Yr 12)</b> (1hr 30 mins)	<b>A Level French - Paper 1</b> (2hrs 30mins)	<b>A Level Chemistry</b> (2 hrs)	<b>A Level Politics - Paper 2</b> (2 hrs)
<b>Break</b> 10.40- 11.00	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
<b>P3</b> 11.00 12.00	Attend P3 lesson	Attend P3 lesson	Attend P3 lesson	Attend P3 lesson	Attend P3 lesson
<b>Early Lunch</b> 12.00	Early Lunch	Early Lunch (if you have a PM exam)	Early Lunch (if you have a PM exam)	Early Lunch (if you have a PM exam)	Early Lunch (if you have a PM exam)
<b>Main Hall</b> Mus tering 12.45	Subject students only <b>12.45 pm</b>	Subject students only <b>12.45 pm</b>	Subject students only <b>12.45 pm</b>	Subject students only <b>12.45 pm</b>	Subject students only <b>12.45 pm</b>
<b>P4</b> 1.45 - 2.45	<b>GCSE Computer Science - Paper 1</b> (1hr 30mins)	<b>GCSE Biology</b> (1hr 45 mins)	<b>GCSE History - Paper 2</b> (1hr 50mins)	<b>GCSE English Language - Paper 2</b> (1hr 45mins)	<b>GCSE Computer Science - Paper 2</b> (1hr 30mins)
<b>P5</b> 2.45 - 3.15	<b>GCSE Sociology - Paper 1</b> (1hr 45mins)	<b>GCSE Combined Science - Biology</b> (1hr 15mins)	<b>A Level History - Paper 1</b> (1hr 30 mins)		<b>GCSE MFL (Reading)</b> (H 1hr - F 45 mins)
	<b>A Level Politics - Paper 1</b> (2 hrs)	<b>BTEC Applied Science</b> (1hr 30 mins)			<b>BTEC Computing</b> (1hr 45mins)
<b>FG</b>	Attend FG	Attend FG	Attend FG	Attend FG	Attend FG

Week 2	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri
	02/03/2026	03/03/2025	04/03/2026	05/03/2026	06/03/2026
	Sports Hall	Sports Hall	Sports Hall	Sports Hall	Sports Hall
Main Hall 8.40	Maths Warmup	History/Geography Warmup	Science Warmup	English Warmup	Maths Warmup
P1 8.40 - 9.40	GCSE Maths (Calculator) - Paper 2 (1hr 30mins) A Level Maths (Pure) (2 hrs)	GCSE History - Paper 3 (1hr 30mins) GCSE Geography - Paper 1 (1hr 30mins) A Level History - Paper 3 (2hrs 30mins) A Level Geography - Paper 1 (2hrs 30mins)	GCSE Physics (1hrs 45mins) GCSE Combined Science -Physics (1 hr 15 mins) A Level Physics (2 hrs)	GCSE Maths (Calculator) - Paper 3 (1hr 30mins) A Level Maths (Stats & Mech) (2 hrs)	GCSE Geography - Paper 2 (1hr 30mins) A Level Geography - Paper 2 (2hrs 30 mins) A Level Politics - Paper 3 (2 hrs) A Level French - Paper 2 (2 hrs)
P2 9.40 - 10.40					
Break 10.40- 11.00	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
P3 11.00 12.00	Attend P3 lesson	Attend P3 lesson	Attend P3 lesson	Attend P3 lesson	Attend P3 lesson
Early Lunch 12.00 - 12.45	Early Lunch (if you have a PM exam)	Early Lunch (if you have a PM exam)	Early Lunch (if you have a PM exam)	Early Lunch (if you have a PM exam)	Early Lunch (if you have a PM exam)
Main Hall Mustering 12.45	Subject students only	Subject students only	Subject students only	Subject students only	Subject students only
	12.45 pm	12.45 pm	12.45 pm	12.45 pm	12.45 pm
P4 12.45 - 13.45	GCSE Citizenship - Paper 1 (1hr 30mins) GCSE Business - Paper 1 (Business activity, marketing and people) (1hr 30mins) A Level Psychology (2 hrs) A Level Politics - Paper 3 (2 hrs) BTEC National in Sport - Unit 2 (Yr 12) (2hrs 30mins)	GCSE MFL - Writing (H 1hr 15mins) (F 1 hr 10mins) BTEC Tech Award in Sport (Yr 11) (1hr 30mins) Creative iMedia (1hr 30mins) A Level Economics - Paper 3 (Micro/Macro) (2 hrs)	GCSE Sociology - Paper 2 (1hr 45mins) GCSE Psychology (1hr 45mins) A Level Sociology - Paper 3 (2 hrs)	GCSE DT (2 hrs) GCSE FPN (1hr 45 mins) A Level English - Poetry (2hrs 15mins)	GCSE Business - Paper 2 (Operations, finance and influences on business) (1hr 30mins) GCSE Drama (1hr 45mins) GCSE Citizenship - Paper 2 (1hr 30mins) A Level Media Studies (2 hrs)
P5 13.45 - 14.45					
FG	Attend FG	Attend FG	Attend FG	Attend FG	Attend FG

# Sixth Form Applications



We would like to remind you that the applications are now open to apply for our Sixth Form.

If you are interested in joining our Sixth Form, please click on the link below and complete the form as soon as possible.

## [Sixth Form Application](#)

Our internal students are already registered and have received a welcome email with instructions on how to login and complete their application.



# Football and Basketball

## Football fixture update;

The year 8's progressed to the semi-finals of the Blackheath cup after a hard-fought victory against Plumstead Manor. 4 Goals from our top scorer this season so far Jehu, helped the team come from behind to secure our place in the last four of the competition. After reaching the final last season and narrowly missing out on winning the cup, the boys find themselves one game away from reaching a second consecutive Blackheath cup final.

## Y8 Basketball club;

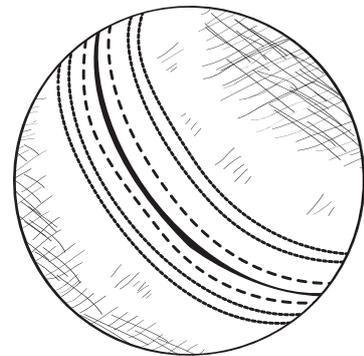
Y8s basketball club is in full affect. Going into the fourth week of our Thursday club, a lot of talented basketballers have been in regular attendance every Thursday after school which is brilliant to see. The boys are scheduled to have their first competitive basketball fixture of the year in the first week of February. Will be exciting for those selected to showcase their basketball ability whilst having the chance to represent the school.



## Padel and Cricket Club

**All Years Padel Club** has got off to a brilliant start this term, with strong uptake across year groups and a positive buzz around sessions. Running every Tuesday from 3:30pm–4:30pm at the O2, students have been enthusiastic, focused, and keen to learn, with clear improvements already seen in racket skills, movement, and game understanding. It's been great to see students of all abilities growing in confidence and enjoying a sport that's new to many of them.

**All Years Cricket Club** has also started the term strongly, taking place every Monday from 3:30pm–4:30pm on site, with good levels of participation and engagement. Students are developing their batting, bowling, and fielding skills week by week, and progress has been evident across all age groups. In addition, there is extra coaching available from 3:30pm–4:30pm with ACE, an external cricket organisation working closely with the school to further support student development. Indoor cricket fixtures will be announced soon, and we're looking forward to seeing students put their improving skills into competitive action.



## Year 10 & Year 11 Boys Basketball

### SMM vs John Roan

The basketball match between John Roan and St Mary's Magdalene on January 9th was a closely fought contest, with St Mary Magdalene securing a narrow 43–39 victory. The game remained intense throughout, as both teams matched each others score for score and showed strong defensive effort. St Mary's ability to stay composed in the closing stages made the difference, allowing them to protect their lead and see out the win. John Roan pushed hard until the final whistle, making it an exciting and competitive matchup between two well-matched sides.



### SMM vs St Matthew Academy

The game between St Matthew's and St Mary's Magdalene was a tense, hard-fought battle that went right down to the wire, with St Mary's snatching a dramatic 24–21 victory. Both teams were locked level in the closing seconds, trading defensive stops and missed chances as the pressure built. With time almost expired, St Mary's produced a moment of magic, hitting a clutch three-pointer at the buzzer to seal the win. It was a thrilling finish that capped off an intense contest and showed St Mary's composure and confidence when it mattered most.



## Girl's Netball Club



**The Girls' Netball Club** takes place every Monday after school and continues to grow in numbers each week. The girls have been competing in a range of matches and have already enjoyed great success, with many more exciting fixtures coming up to look forward to. We are also thrilled to have an upcoming netball trip, where students will have the fantastic opportunity to visit the O2 Arena to watch the London Pulse Netball Team in action.

# 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**

Very soon it will be St Valentine's Day.

You've probably seen the cards and gifts in the shops for weeks. The shelves awash with pinks and reds.

St Valentine was a Priest at the time of the Roman Empire who stood up for love. He married couples even though it was banned, and he wrote encouraging notes to people from prison signing them 'from your Valentine'.

At this time, we need to stand up for love.

We need to speak words of love and encouragement, not insult and derision.

We need to act in ways that speak of love and not hate and division.

In the coming days, why not set yourself a challenge: to do things with love each day.

Share something, compliment someone, smile and be thankful.

God of Love,

Who represents love in all things.

Who loved the world enough to send your Son.

Who loves it still to send your Holy Spirit.

Bless us all with mouths that speak of love, with hands and hearts and heads full of ways we can show love for each other.

Stir in us your love that is beyond all understanding and keep us close to your heart. Amen.

**Rev. Dominic Hubbuck**

**School Chaplain**

**Assistant Priest with East Greenwich Team Ministry**

