



Maghull High News

Aspire Achieve Enjoy



Hello and welcome to Maghull High School News. It has been a short and very busy half term, with the move to the new build and the start of GCSE and A level examinations. The final half term of the year promises to be just as hectic; year 6 induction day, the official opening of our new build, sports events, leavers' proms, a Saturday open morning and much more. We wish our students good luck with the rest of their exams. Have a restful half term break—we'll see you all on Monday, 3 June.

In Memory



We dedicate this issue of our newsletter to former student, Andrew Hooton-Harvey, who passed away on 1 May from an undiagnosed heart condition. Andrew turned 22 the week before he died and was due to receive a first class degree in Computing from Edge Hill University this summer. After leaving Maghull High School in 2013, Andrew went on to college and then secured two years full scholarship at Edge Hill, where he excelled in his studies and was a great help and inspiration to his fellow students. Andrew faced some challenges during his time here at Maghull, so it was wonderful to hear from his mum how well he had done; he had already secured a job in his chosen field and was extremely well thought of by his employer, colleagues and clients he worked with. Staff who worked with Andrew during his time with us have fond memories of a cheeky chap with a quirky sense of humour who could always make people laugh. We all extend our deepest condolences to Andrew's family and friends.

Our New Build

It has been a delight to take ownership of our new main building after eighteen months of work on site. We are looking forward to an official open event day on Tuesday, 2 July and a Saturday Open Morning on 13 July where we will get the opportunity to show it off. In the meantime, some more images of the completed build to give you a flavour of our students' new learning environment:



We will reclaim the whole site after demolition of the old building in November 2019.

Echo Schools Awards 2019



We are delighted to announce that our wonderful Spanish trainee, Miss McKechnie, has been nominated for an award in the Echo Schools Awards for this year. She has been chosen as a finalist in the category 'Student Teacher of the Year sponsored by John Moores University'. Winners across ten categories will receive their awards at a celebratory lunch and ceremony on 25 June at John Moores University. Miss McKechnie has been an absolute asset within our Spanish department this year and has been instrumental in preparing our students in year 11 and 13 for their spoken Spanish exams; she will be very much missed but we wish her well in her new job at Childwall Sports and Science Academy.

Polite Request

You may remember that the Gainsborough entrance will be out of commission until November. This has caused lots of congestion with parents dropping off and picking up on Ormonde Drive. In the interests of the safety of all students and local residents, can we politely request that you arrange to drop off and pick up your child at some distance away from the school.

Gardening Club

Miss Cordingley has started to resurrect our very own allotment this half term and harvested a truly impressive amount of rhubarb. If any students would like to get involved in this venture or indeed if anyone can donate any seeds or equipment, please let Miss Cordingley know next half term.

Dates for the diary

Wednesday, 5 June - Year 12 Parent Evening
Wednesday, 12 June - Year 10 Parent Evening
Thursday, 27 June - Year 6 Induction Day and Evening
Monday, 1 July - INSET Day
Tuesday, 2 July - Main Build Official Opening
Saturday, 13 July - Open Morning
Tuesday, 23 July - End of term

Attendance

Excellent attendance and punctuality are fundamental for students to be successful at school. Research suggests that for every seventeen school days missed a year, a GCSE grade is dropped. At Maghull High School, we set a target of 97% for attendance; students whose attendance drops below this can expect to be subject to monitoring as per our Attendance Policy.

You may be aware that in 2013, there were changes to legislation; the government no longer allows schools to authorise term time holidays. Therefore, leave taken during term time due to holidays will not be authorised and parents may be liable to receive a Fixed Penalty Notice.

We encourage parents to advise the pastoral team or form tutor of any issues which may prevent excellent attendance and punctuality and to work with us and where necessary, outside agencies, to improve attendance and punctuality. Please be aware that any absence, authorised or unauthorised, will affect your child's percentage attendance which could in turn mean that they fail to meet the criteria for rewards events in the future.

Key Stage 3 Attendance Drive

18 OR MORE DAYS
- Excused and unexcused absences represent lost time in the classroom and lost opportunities to learn.
- Missing just one day every two weeks can add up to 18 days in a year. Absences add up before you even know it.

10 TO 17 DAYS
- Students who are absent an average of 15 days a year miss a year's worth of school before their senior year.
- When students miss a day of school it actually puts them two days behind their classmates.

9 OR FEWER ABSENCES
- Students with good attendance generally achieve higher grades and enjoy school more.
- Children benefit and make the most of their educational opportunities if they attend school regularly and on time.

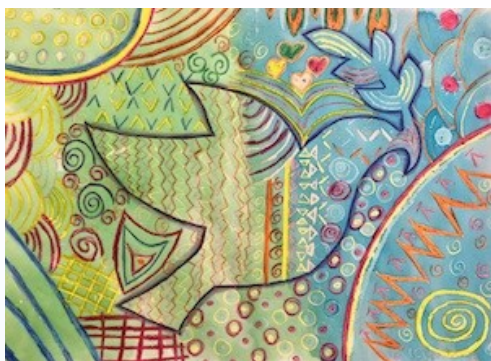
MISSING (SCHOOL) = MISSING OUT

The Key Stage 3 pastoral team have started a new weekly tutor attendance competition. Each week the tutor group with the best attendance within each year group is recognised. They are added to a tutor league table and at the end of the year, the tutor group who have had the best attendance will win a rewards breakfast.



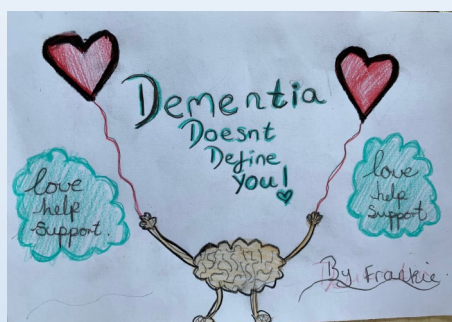
Art Updates

Dot Art



Three of our year nine students have this year been shortlisted for the Dot Art Liverpool Schools competition, with Charley Beasley being awarded first place for Maghull High School. Her work will now be exhibited in John Moores University and a prize giving ceremony will follow, in which she will have the opportunity to win a scholarship for a place at the university. Three years ago, Luke Hinton, now in year eleven, won this same scholarship.

Design Competition



Frankie-Jo Houghton from year 8 has been announced as the runner up in a design competition run by the Northwest Coast Strategic Clinical Network. She designed a compassionate logo which was celebrated on Friday 24 May at the Liverpool Royal Infirmary Education Centre through a prize giving ceremony. Well done Frankie!

Forthcoming activities



The artist Phil Disley will be working with a group of year seven students on 2 July delivering the workshop 'Featuring Faces'. We look forward to showcasing some of their work in our final issue newsletter in July.

Forthcoming Events

We have a lot of exciting events coming up this half term and are looking forward to reporting on these in the next issue. The PE staff are preparing students to compete in the forthcoming annual Sefton Athletics Tournament in mid June and as well as that, are training students ready for our Inter-House Summer Sports Day competitions.

Mr Donnan and Mr Perkins are briefing over seventy year nine and ten geography students ready for their summer field work trips for their GCSE studies and Mrs Brogden continues the Duke of Edinburgh work this term.

Mrs Velasco and the Spanish department are making the final preparations for their week long trip to Barcelona with around forty Key Stage 3 students. If the same trip from the year before last is anything to go by, the students are in for a wonderful experience.

Philosophy and Ethics Trip 2020

We are pleased to announce an exciting opportunity for students from current years ten and eleven, as well as those in year twelve, who are currently studying Philosophy and Ethics at A Level, or have demonstrated a keen interest in doing so. The trip will be a four day, three night residential to Rome scheduled to depart on Tuesday, 10 March and return Friday, 13 March 2020. To access further details regarding the trip, please download the letter from the front page of our website or contact our Head of Religious Education, Mr Scott.

Reading Matters

Last term, we did an assembly on how important reading is, not just for improving our vocabulary and our literacy skills but also, for our all-round wellbeing. Reading for pleasure is proven to promote better emotional wellbeing and good mental health. How many of you set yourself a reading challenge on the app Goodreads? Year seven and eight will do their third Star Reading Test on their return after the break and on 7 June, some of our most prolific readers in those years will enjoy a rewards trip as part of our Millionaire Readers rewards initiative. There are students in that group who have read over two million words this year!

Not wanting staff to miss out and to promote our whole school focus on literacy, Miss Lynes from the English department has launched a staff book club which will meet once a month to discuss an agreed book. We look forward to reporting on their progress.