



Magna Academy

Poole

an Aspirations Academy

Principal: Ms N Ullah

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 @MagnaAcademy

8th April 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Despite being hit hard with staff absence earlier this half-term, staff and students have managed to transition into the new phase of living with Covid incredibly well. We are hopeful that things will continue to be more settled into the summer term. We have recently enjoyed many highlights, from success in mathematics competitions and charity endeavours to the spectacular production of Matilda Junior.

Hot off the press

The Year 8 boys football team have become the first ever Magna sports team to reach the Poole and East Dorset (PEDSSA) final. They successfully beat a local rival 4-0 in a very competitive and entertaining game. Every player went above and beyond regarding their positive attitude, resilience and commitment to each other. Regardless of the final result, we are incredibly proud of their achievements this season and all those that have represented the academy in a competitive fixture so far this year. Here is the [link](#) to the match report.

Mathematics competitions

We are really pleased with our recent success in the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust (UKMT) 'Pink Kangaroo' and 'Grey Kangaroo' competitions. Marios in Year 10 and Areya in Year 9 were our first ever entrants into the follow-on round of the UKMT's Intermediate Maths Challenge. (IMC) The IMC is a 60-minute, multiple-choice challenge. It encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought and fluency in using basic mathematical techniques to solve interesting problems.

Over a third of our Year 9 and Year 10 students sat the IMC in early March, achieving our best ever result of 16 Bronze certificates, 5 Silver and 1 Gold. This was due in part to them sitting the competition paper in the main hall for the first time rather than in normal lessons. Marios' and Areya's scores qualified them to enter the follow-on 'Kangaroo' rounds despite a last minute change for Marios as he was unable to complete the test in the academy and had to be swapped to an online entry at the very last moment, due to isolating at home with Covid. We are now looking forward to the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge which Year 7 and 8 will sit at the end of April.

Charity endeavours

This term saw students of our academy raise money for Comic Relief's Red Nose Day, many of them accessorised their academy uniform with an item of red clothing. We saw red tie's, red hair bands and some bright red shoes worn by some of our students. As well as this, students had the opportunity to take part in a number of different activities such as 'beat the goalie', board games, 'Magic Mr Stoddart' and 'sponge the teacher', during their extended lunch. Altogether the students raised £436.98, what a great achievement and we are looking forward to many more of these types of events.

On Friday 25 March, 26 Sixth Form students and 3 staff members built cardboard shelters and slept in them, on the grounds of Magna Academy. This was to highlight homelessness and raise funds for YMCA Bournemouth. The event was a fantastic success, despite the temperature dropping to a chilly two degrees. Spirits remained high throughout the evening, and we are proud to announce that we raised £2548. We are very much looking forward to running the event again for our upcoming Year 12 students in September 2022.

Matilda Jr.

Over the past two terms 52 of our students have been rehearsing, building, designing and painting set, producing the music and lighting for Matilda Jr. They finally were able to share the performance with over 600 audience members, over two nights this past week. Also, inspiring young students from Ocean Academy, Canford Heath Middle and Haymoor Junior School who attended the matinee and final dress rehearsal earlier in the week. To say we are proud of these students is a complete understatement, the enjoyment and confidence on their faces throughout the show was a delight to witness. Parents, carers, friends and siblings left with massive smiles on their faces, asking "*what are we showing next?*" Well done to those involved and thank you to all the staff and members of our community who supported the event, with a special mention to Miss Bennett, Mrs Giles and Miss Trunchbull also known as Miss Clampin.

Uniform and equipment reminder

The Easter break is a great time to recharge the batteries ready for a final push during the summer term, this includes restocking your child's equipment. This supports maximising their learning time every day. Also, the break offers time to check that their uniform is still meeting our expectations. Often items of uniform do need replacing throughout the academic year, this is why we have reduced the amount of compulsory branded items to make our uniform more affordable. By ensuring our students are in the correct uniform and remain smart, this will further promote the sense of belonging wearing a uniform brings. As the weather starts to improve, we expect to see more skirts. Please can we ask that skirts are only purchased from the academy via ParentPay or alternatively purchased from Marks and Spencer (link found in the full uniform list). The skirt must be knee length, not rolled around the waist, with the split central, worn at the back. Please refer to our full uniform list found [here](#) to ensure all items meet our expectations.



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Effective Revision

Effective Revision is a package of resources created by staff at Magna. This provision aims to support students with their retention of knowledge and making it stick for assessments. We have created an 'Effective Revision' Google Classroom page in support. Please encourage your child to accept the invite on their Google Classroom dashboard. The page contains a number of resources that will model learning strategies and revision techniques for study at home and to help students prepare for end of unit/topic tests, mocks and end of year examinations. Regular effective revision is key in raising student achievement and will unlock additional learning opportunities.

Staffing

As I explained in my previous letter we will sadly say goodbye to Mrs Rodgers (Assistant Principal Sixth Form) at Easter. She definitely does not want to leave us but must put her children first and has had to relocate to Berkshire, due to a change in her personal circumstances. She will be taking up the post of Head of Ebacc at Kings International College. I am sure you will join us in wishing her the best of luck. In order to ensure the Sixth Form continues to grow and develop we have successfully appointed an exceptional teacher and leader, Mrs Biddle, who will join us after Easter. You are able to find out more about her [here](#).

We will also say goodbye to Mr Henderson (Teacher of English) who is returning to Manchester and will be going back to do some freelance journalism for BBC 4 Live after Easter. We wish him the best of luck.

We were delighted with the return of Mrs Cook earlier this week and look forward to Mrs Gibbard returning from maternity leave after the Easter break. I am sure our students will be very pleased to have them back in the classroom and leading their respective areas again.

I hope you enjoy a restful Easter Break, we look forward to welcoming all students back to the academy on Tuesday 26th April.

Yours sincerely



Ms N Ullah
Principal

Calendar Dates:

Monday 25th April - INSET Day

Tuesday 26th April - Students return to the academy

Monday 2nd May - Spring Bank Holiday

Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June - Half-term break

Monday 6th June - Students return to the academy

Thursday 23rd June - Year 11 Summer Prom

Friday 24th June - INSET Day

Friday 22nd July - Last day of Summer Term

Thursday 18th August - A Level Results released

Thursday 25th August - GCSE Results released



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