

Magdalen Gates News

Friday 17th October 2025

Dear parents, carers, families and children,

It's been a lovely couple of weeks at Magdalen Gates. The leaves began falling a few weeks ago, and the playground is now full of autumn colours. The days are getting shorter, and the weather is changing, but there's still such a positive atmosphere across the school.

Thank you to everyone who came along to the Meet the Headteacher event last week. It was great to spend time together and talk about what's going well and where we can keep improving. Our next session is on Tuesday 21st October. Please join us for a pastry, a cup of tea or coffee, and a chance to see the children's lovely work and have a chat.

Our Care Rangers ran a brilliant Hot Chocolate Sale this week, raising over £37.00 to support their projects. Thank you to everyone who supported this cosy and cheerful event.

You may have seen the update about the bike thefts earlier this week. Fortunately, both bikes were found and safely returned. Thank you to everyone who has taken this on board and is now keeping bikes securely locked on site.

Next week we're looking forward to our Spooky Day and Spooky Disco on Thursday 23rd October, a fun way to end the half term together.

Have a lovely weekend,

Dhinasha Balachandre 

Remembering Kayla

A reminder that on Tuesday 21st October at 3:30pm, we will come together to remember Kayla Buttle and unveil her memorial bench outside the Year 2 classroom.

Families are warmly invited to join us for this special moment, to celebrate Kayla's life and share memories together. The PTA will also be serving tea and coffee to raise funds for Kayla's fairy garden.

Attendance

Good attendance is very important for learning and helps children to make the most of every opportunity at school.

Our aim is for every child to achieve at least **96% attendance** across the year.

The attendance winners for the last two weeks are the

Year 1 with 100%
and Year Reception, with 100%.
Well done!

Some of the Key Dates Coming Up

Tuesday 21st October

Tea and Coffee with the Headteacher

Tuesday 21st October

Remembering Kayla

Thursday 23rd October

Spooky Day (children may wear costumes)
and Spooky Disco

Half term

Break up 3:15 on Friday 24th October

School opens Monday 3rd November

Thursday 6th November

Year 3 trip – The Castle

Monday 1st – Friday 5th December

Year 6 residential – Horstead

Magdalen Gates News

Friday 17th October 2025

Spooky Day – Thursday 23rd October 🕸️

On Thursday 23rd October, children are invited to come to school in spooky costumes for a fun and spooktacular end to the half term.

Costumes should be comfortable and practical, and children should be able to manage them on their own during the day. Face paint and simple masks are fine, as long as children can still join in learning and play comfortably.

Please don't send any weapons or props (e.g. swords or axes), even if they're plastic or pretend - these will be kept safely by staff until home time.

We can't wait to see everyone's spooky outfits and enjoy a fun day together! 🧛‍♀️

Spooky Poetry Competition 🧛‍♀️

Our Reading Ambassadors are inviting all pupils to take part in this year's Spooky Poetry Competition. Children are encouraged to write a poem that *chills, thrills or gives us the creeps!*

We're looking for great presentation, neat handwriting and spooktacular creativity. For Reception, this could be mark-making or drawing with some initial sounds to share their spooky ideas.

Entries can be given to class teachers or handed in at the KS2 library desk by **Wednesday 23rd October**. We can't wait to read them! 🕸️

Spooky Disco – Thursday 23rd October 🏠

It's a whole day of spooktacular fun at Magdalen Gates and the excitement continues after school with our Spooky Disco!

Reception and Key Stage 1: 5pm until 6pm and
Key Stage 2: 6.15pm until 7.30pm

Entry is £1 per child, payable on the door.

There will be plenty of school staff at the disco to support all children, as we know that events like this can be very exciting and sometimes a little overwhelming.