

# Magdalen Gates News

Friday 5th December 2025

## Dear parents, carers, families and children

I had the privilege of joining the Year 6 children for part of their residential trip to **Horstead Activity Centre** this week. They have been exploring nature, building teamwork skills and taking part in lots of exciting activities - including zip wires, archery and more. Some of our Year 6s remained at Magdalen Gates and have had a fantastic week too, taking part in baking, project work and being wonderful role models for our younger children.

We have also begun our Christmas festivities across the school. Trees are going up, elves have arrived and the sound of singing is filling our shared spaces as children prepare for the Christmas carol concerts.

This week, we are introducing **a new set of diary dates** to help families keep track of key events. These will be added to and updated throughout the year. Occasionally, plans may need to change, and we will always keep you informed as early as possible.

As a school, we mainly share information through:

- **Reach More Parents** (the app)
- **The school newsletter**
- **Emails from the office**

If you need any help accessing any of these, please let us know, we are always happy to support.

**Dhinasha Balachandre**

## 📋 Attendance

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

The attendance winners for the last two weeks are

**Year 1 class 100 %**  
and **Year 4 class**, with 98 %  
Well done!

## 📦 Lost Property 📦

We have lots of lost jumpers, coats, hats, and bottles! Please check the lost property area before the end of term.

Mrs Goose will keep putting items and spare uniform out for families.

## Safeguarding

Our Safeguarding Leads monitor and manage all safeguarding practices. They also ensure that staff are supported and receive the training they need. Please speak to one of these adults if you are worried about the safety of a child at school:

- **Miss Dhinasha Balachandre** – Headteacher
- **Mrs Chloe Demeuzois** – Deputy Headteacher
- **Mrs Emma Kingston** – Year 3 Teacher and KS2 Lead
- **Mrs Karen Orford** – School Secretary and Extended School Hours Manager
- **Mrs Carrie Brown** – Parent Support Advisor

**If you have a safeguarding concern about a child out of school hours, then the number to ring is:**

CADS – Children's Advice and Duty Service – 0344 800 8020

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## Food Donations – Supporting Norwich Open Christmas

Thank you for all the food donations we've received so far, your generosity is truly appreciated. ❤️🙏

We are proud to be supporting Norwich Open Christmas, a local charity providing meals and companionship for people in our community over the festive period.

Let's keep the momentum going and see if we can reach 100 items before Christmas! 🎄

## 🎄 Christmas Holiday Club at Magdalen Gates! 🎄

Looking for a bit of time to get your Christmas shopping done, wrap presents or catch up on things at this busy time of year?

📅 Monday 22 December

📅 Tuesday 23 December

🕒 8.15am – 3.15pm

💰 £20 per day

To find out more or book a place, please email:

✉️ [outofschool@magdalengates.co.uk](mailto:outofschool@magdalengates.co.uk)

Spaces are limited - early booking recommended

## 🎵 Year 4 and 5 Singing at Doughty's - Monday 8th December 🎵

On Monday 8th December, our Year 4 and 5 children will be visiting Doughty's Almshouse, which provides supported housing for older people, to sing for the residents and share some festive cheer.

It's another lovely example of what a wonderful, community-minded school we are.

If you would ever like to get involved in supporting school trips or projects, please let us know, we are always looking for volunteers.

## School Hall Hire

Did you know that you can hire our school hall for birthday parties and events? It's a great-sized space, perfect for a birthday party, with access to a kitchen for preparing food.

If you are interested, please contact the school office for availability and pricing.



Have a lovely weekend!  
From the Mag  
Gates Elf 🎄

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Diary Dates 2025-2026	
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• p.m. Year 4 and 5 trip singing at Doughtys</li><li>• 2:45 – 5:30pm Reception Parent Conferences</li></ul>
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• a.m. Year 6 Trip Crucial Crew at the Nest</li><li>• 3:15pm Christmas Bake Sale</li></ul>
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• a.m. KS2 Care Rangers Trip to the Cinema</li><li>• 8:30am Year 4 and 6 Reading Breakfast</li></ul>
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 08:30am KS1 Reading Breakfast</li><li>• 1:30 – 3:30pm Christmas Decoration Day</li></ul>
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2:30pm Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Performance</li></ul>
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 08:30am Year 3 and 5 Reading Breakfast</li><li>• 9:30am Year 3,4,5 and 6 Christmas Performance</li><li>• 2:30pm Year 3,4,5 and 6 Christmas Performance</li></ul>
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 08:30am KS1 Reading Breakfast</li><li>• Christmas Jumper Day</li><li>• Christmas Lunch</li><li>• Christmas Grotto</li></ul>
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Last Day of Term</li></ul>