

Magdalen Gates News

Friday 20th March 2026

Dear parents, carers, families and children,

Over the past fortnight, we have had some fantastic learning opportunities beyond the classroom.

Year 2 and Year 6 visited Duxford, where they were able to explore a range of historic aircraft and bring their learning to life. Year 1 also enjoyed a visit to Bridewell Museum, taking part in an engaging and hands-on experience linked to their learning. The children represented the school exceptionally well, and we are very proud of them.

It has been lovely to see the first signs of spring around the school, with the trees beginning to blossom and the children enjoying more time outdoors. Thank you to Mr Wilson, our caretaker, and our Forest School team for continuing to develop our outdoor spaces. Mrs Brown has also been working hard with a group of children to develop the garden at the back of the school. It is wonderful to finally see some sunshine.

Children have also enjoyed celebrating Comic Relief today, taking part in activities across the school.

🌙 Eid Mubarak to all of our families celebrating. We wish you a joyful and peaceful Eid, and hope you enjoy special time with family and friends. We look forward to hearing about the children's celebrations when they return to school.

Dhinasha Balachandre

Spring Fayre

Tuesday 24th March
We look forward to seeing you there! 😊

Please bring cash

Attendance

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

Missing just **1 day every two weeks adds up to around 4 weeks of learning missed across the year.**

Our attendance winners for the last two weeks are:

Year 1 – 100%

Year 6 this week-96%

Well done!

Safeguarding

If you have a safeguarding concern about a child outside of school hours, please contact:

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

You can also contact the NSPCC Helpline: 📞 0808 800 5000

Safeguarding Update

Many of you may have seen recent news reports about a local school where there was a critical incident involving a lockdown.

We want to reassure you that we have clear lockdown procedures in place to keep children and staff safe. These situations are very rare; however, as part of our ongoing safeguarding work, we will be reviewing our procedures in light of recent events to ensure they remain robust and effective.

We will share a brief overview of our procedures with parents next half term

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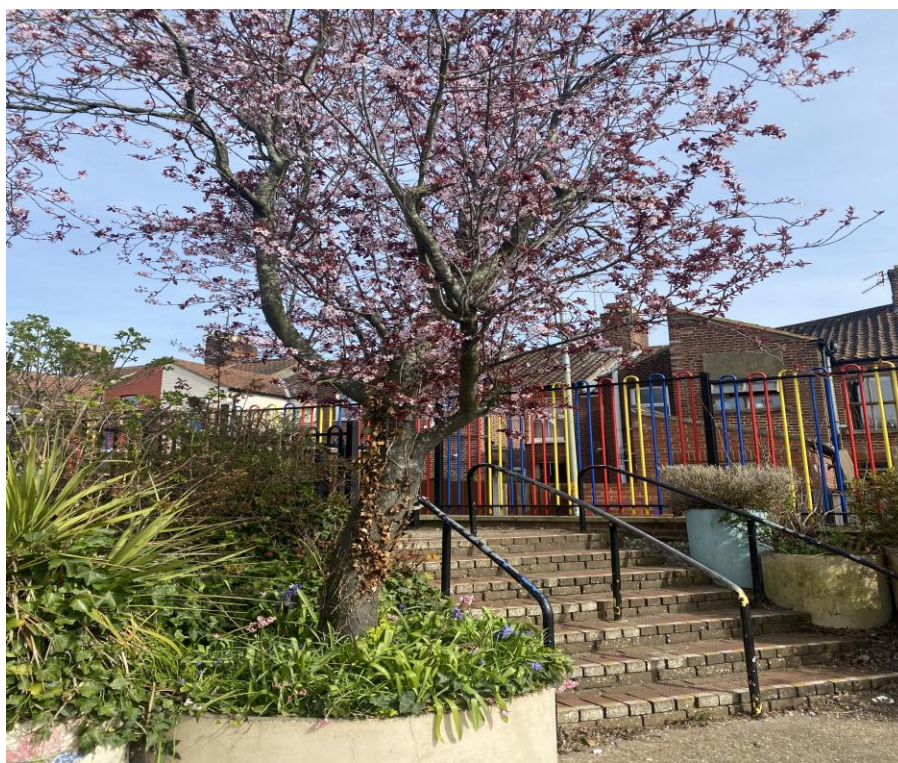
Uniform Reminder

We ask that children attend school in the correct uniform each day. This includes avoiding clothing with large sports logos or branded items, and ensuring PE kit is in line with our school expectations.

Wearing the correct uniform helps children feel part of the school community and prepares them for expectations as they move on to high school and beyond.

We understand that this is not always easy, and we are here to support. If your child does not have the correct uniform, we will contact you to work together to resolve this, and we are able to provide spare clothing in school where needed.

We have plenty of uniform available, and there will also be items available for a small, honest donation at the Spring Fayre.



Playtimes and Lunchtimes

We are reviewing our playtime and lunchtime provision, including behaviour expectations and the range of activities available.

These are important times for children to socialise, but they can also be more challenging, and we want to ensure they are positive and enjoyable for all. Expectations will continue to be reinforced in line with our behaviour policy, alongside improvements to the provision on offer.

A short survey will be shared next week to gather parent voice, and in school we will also be collecting pupil voice to help inform the changes we make.

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Diary Dates 2025-2026	
Friday 20th March	•School Reports to go home
Tuesday 24th and Thursday 26th March	•Optional Report Based parent conferences-after school
Tuesday 24th March	•Spring Fayre
Friday 27th March	•Last day of term
Tuesday 14th April	•Pupils return to School
Tuesday 14th April	•Some Year 5 pupils attending Spirit and Motion workshop (individual children will have received a letter with further details)
Thursday 16 th April	•Year 3 Heritage Centre and Library Trip (individual children will have received a letter with further details)
Thursday 23 rd April	•Year 4 Farm Trip (individual children will have received a letter with further details)
Wednesday 6th May - Friday 8th May	•Year 3 and 4 How Hill Residential Trip

Swimming (Parents and carers have been informed of group arrangements)	
Monday	Year 2
Friday	Year 5

Forest School and Mini Nature Explorers	
Thursday 26th February – Thursday 26th March and 16 th April	Year 4
Friday (weekly, all year round)	Reception

Reading Breakfast (weekly, all year round)	
Thursday after drop off	Reception, Year 1 and 2
Thursday after drop off	Year 3 and 4
Thursday after drop off	Year 5 and 6