



## MAGDALEN ACADEMY – NEWSLETTER 8

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026  
Every Fortnight

Parents as Partners

Dear Families,

Happy New Year and welcome back! We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break. Staff made it into school for training despite the snow on Monday. We hosted other schools within the trust for more training linked to our Talk for Writing project. The focus was on teaching non-fiction writing and all the children are working on information texts this half term.

This term we have a big focus on spelling and handwriting. Children in EYFS and KS1 use Read Write Inc as their phonic programme before moving onto spelling rules. We have made the decision not to send spellings to learn at home moving forward. There is a lot of research to say that learning lists of words does not impact on general writing, and this seems to be the case. We also realise this is often an added stress at home. Class teachers may send copies of the words home so that you can practise if you wish but there will be no weekly test.

We are also focusing on handwriting. Currently, we have asked all children to write in pencil while we finalise the criteria for working in pen. Many children will return to this quickly, but we want to ensure consistent expectations across the classes. We will share more detail about spelling and handwriting in the coming weeks.

Regards

Mrs Louise Arrowsmith  
Executive Head



## MAGDALEN ACADEMY DIARY DATES 2026

<b>JANUARY</b>		
<b>Thursday 15th</b>	<b>Change of Menu</b>	
<b>FEBRUARY</b>		
<b>Tuesday 3rd</b>	<b>Bags2School</b> <b>Bags will be sent home in the new year!</b> 	<b>Collection @ 9am</b>
<b>Friday 13th</b>	<b>Break up for Half Term</b>	
<b>Monday 23rd</b>	<b>Back to School</b>	
<b>MARCH</b>		
<b>Monday 16th</b>	<b>BEE Netball</b>	<b>Year 3 &amp; 4 AM</b>
<b>Thursday 12th</b>	<b>Year 6 &amp; Reception Class Height &amp; Weight Check</b>	<b>Paperwork sent to parents.</b>
<b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> – Friday 27th</b>	<b>Thorpe Woodlands Residential Trip</b>	<b>Year 5 &amp; 6</b>



**Magdalen Academy**  
Park Crescent, Magdalen, Kings Lynn. PE34 3BU  
Telephone 01553 810326  
[www.unityeducationtrust.uk](http://www.unityeducationtrust.uk)  
Chief Executive Officer:  
Mr Glyn Hambling M.Sc.B.Ed. (Hons), N.P.Q.H



## **YEAR 5 & 6 RESIDENTIAL**

**25<sup>TH</sup> – 27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026**

This is now live and payable on ParentPay.

If you wanted to have a quick look at the chosen venue for this trip, then here is a link to their website. A letter will be coming out this week with some further information & there will also be a meeting nearer the time.

[Thorpe Woodlands Adventure Centre](http://www.thorpewoodlands.co.uk)

Thank you to you all for your very quick responses.

**WEDNESDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2026**

**BUSHCRAFT RETURNS!**



Please send the children every Wednesday to school in warm old clothes (not school uniform), suitable to be outside in all weathers. A change of footwear is also needed to avoid too much mess in the school.

**Once again there will be an Afterschool Club**

**This is now live on Parent Pay - £40 for the Spring Term**

**BOOK YOUR CHILDS PLACE NOW**



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**SWIMMING LESSONS**  
NORFOLK WOODS, PENTNEY

**KROSS TRAINING**  
for your body, not everybody!

**Wednesdays**  
Jan 14th, 21st, 28th, Feb 4th & 11th

**Thursdays**  
Jan 15th, 22nd, 29th, Feb 5th & 12th

**30-minute lessons delivered by  
ASA Qualified Swimming Teachers**

Get your child happier, more confident, safer and stronger in the water. Enrolments on this 5 week block are now being taken for child beginners, improvers and stroke development swimmers

To enrol or for more info. please call  
ASA Level 2 teacher,  
**KEVIN CROSS**  
on 07825 371 381  
or email [kevin.cross70@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kevin.cross70@yahoo.co.uk)  
[www.krosstraining.co.uk](http://www.krosstraining.co.uk)



### SCHOOL UNIFORM – MAGDALEN ACADEMY

We have a few children that are coming into school not wearing their full school uniform. Year 6 have their leavers hoodies which they are allowed to wear instead of their school sweatshirt.

Please can you ensure that proper school trousers/skirts are worn, no leggings, joggers or jeans.

School shoes should also be worn; however smart full black trainers are acceptable.

On Bushcraft Day (Wednesday) then it is non-uniform for Eagles & Falcons, we suggest old warm clothes as they will outside in all weather.

PE Day – should be royal blue or white t shirt, with royal blue or black shorts. In the winter then jogging bottoms can be worn (non-branded), plain white or black trainers.

Children can wear small stud earrings, however these will need to be removed for PE.