

Macmillan Academy NEWSLETTER



AUTUMN 2025
Year 10 Edition

A NOTE FROM MRS CONING



Hello everyone,
Welcome to our latest newsletter. It's been another busy and exciting term and I am so proud of everything our students and staff have been getting up to. The classrooms have been full of energy, new ideas and lots of hard work — it's been great to see.
In this issue, you'll find plenty of highlights from recent projects, trips and events. Whether it's achievements in the classroom, on the sports field or within the community, our students continue to impress us every day.
Thank you, as always, for your support at home. It makes such a difference, and we really appreciate it.
I hope you enjoy catching up on what's been happening around the school. Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year. Best wishes, Mrs Coning (Headteacher)

ATTENDANCE FIGURES

Our Get In There campaign is still up and running. It's all about boosting attendance, staying engaged, and making every school day count.

GET IN THERE!



IN THIS EDITION

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Macmillan Academy's Christmas Concert brought students, staff, and families together for an evening showcasing outstanding musical talent.

ATTENDANCE UPDATE

An update on all things attendance based. 'Driving up attendance' how to win a free driving experience kindly gifted by Motif8.

CARE HOME PERFORMANCE

Students spread Christmas cheer during a special visit to a local care home, performing carols and festive favourites that had residents singing along.

ECO SQUAD UPDATE

Our Eco-Council celebrated the renewal of the Green Flag Award with distinction after completing a full environmental review across all ten focus areas.

MAMMOET IN MATHS

Engineering experts from Mammoet delivered interactive workshops to Year 10 and Post-16 students, demonstrating how maths is applied to major global engineering projects.

RECOGNITION & REWARDS

Celebrating success across all year groups, including our annual cinema rewards trip, Rewards and recognition trip and our very first Golden Ticket day.

PIE & PEAS EVENT

Macmillan Academy hosted the Endeavour Foundation's first fundraising event, bringing staff and guests together for an evening highlighting the foundation's work.

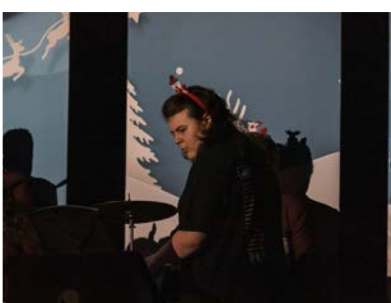
CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Tuesday 16th December - Macmillan Academy hosted its much loved Christmas Concert, bringing together students, staff, and families for an evening of music and celebration. From heartwarming solos and lively band performances to the grand finale featuring our staff ensemble, the event truly showcased the incredible talent within our academy.

Deputy Head Teacher, Mrs. Tumelty, shared her gratitude:

"Thank you to everyone who attended and supported this special evening. Our students have worked tirelessly, supported by our music department, technical team, and front-of-house staff. It's a joy to celebrate their hard work and creativity." In the spirit of giving, all funds raised from donations and refreshment sales will be donated to the Endeavour Foundation, supporting young people and families in Middlesbrough.

Thank you for helping us make this festive season brighter for our community. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



ACADEMY

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CHRISTMAS CONCERT



MUSIC STUDENTS PERFORM CARE HOME

Fresh from the success of the Christmas concert, Mr Wilson and the academy choir paid a visit to Parkville Care Home recently to spread some festive cheer amongst the residents and staff. It was heart warming to see that there was no divide between generations, simply love, kindness and joy, which is the true meaning of Christmas.



ECO SQUAD UPDATE



Our Eco-Council proudly received the certificate and flag to celebrate our Green Flag Award renewal with distinction! As part of this achievement, the team has completed a full environmental review across all 10 Green Flag Award topics and identified ways to further improve our sustainability actions for this academic year. On Monday 17 November, we welcomed Lara Bell-Sayers from Living Woods North East to the academy. She met with our Eco-Council to discuss our Seeds2Trees project and explore potential careers in forestry and project management.

MAMMOET IN MATHS

Mammoet, an international company with a local office in Teesside, is renowned for working on some of the world's largest engineering projects – from offshore wind farms to power grids and infrastructure at major ports. Recently, they brought their expertise into Macmillan Academy classrooms, delivering interactive sessions to our Post-16 and Year 10 maths students. The workshops focused on applying mathematical concepts to real engineering problems, reinforcing how essential these skills are in sectors that shape our future. Students tackled practical challenges, gaining insight into how maths underpins projects on a global scale.

Darren Lyall Lead - Resource development Project - Mammoet

"It's all about showing how maths connects to the real world. I hope these sessions help young people see that link and understand how maths is used in shaping career opportunities." We extend our thanks to Mammoet for their commitment to empowering young people and making learning relevant and exciting.





ATTENDANCE MATTERS

GET IN THERE!



Joining our Reward Trip were 10 more students who have proven that above all – attendance matters! Whether this was by amassing a perfect attendance record across the Autumn term or making brilliant improvements in recent months all had one thing in common that they had got in, got involved and got learning!

Their success was of course matched by many other students across the academy who also made every effort to get in, get involved and get learning. 264 students attended school every day they possibly could since the beginning of September. Our '100%ers' were celebrated accordingly in our end of term assemblies. Finally we must also recognise the 757 students - over half of students across Years 7 to 11 who proudly possess an attendance record of 95% plus!

DRIVING UP ATTENDANCE!

We're excited to announce that Motif8 is once again supporting our school attendance programme by donating Young Person Driving Sessions as a fantastic reward!

Here's how you can enter:

For every full week you attend school, you'll receive one ticket entry into our Big Summer Draw.

At the end of the summer term, two lucky winners will each win these amazing driving lessons!

Let's drive up attendance together – every day counts!

GET IN THERE!

Motif8 has kindly donated
driving experiences

for young people

simply achieve **100% attendance** in a week
to entered into the draw next term.



REMEMBRANCE DAY

Each year, on the 11th of November at 11am, we pause to remember. This moment marks the anniversary of the end of the First World War in 1918, when the guns fell silent on the Western Front after more than four years of conflict. This year, a group of students visited Beamish Museum to record a special broadcast in honour of all those who have lost their lives in war and conflict. The broadcast was shared with all students across the school just before we held our traditional silence.

Thank you to the incredible team at Beamish for their support in helping us create such a moving and meaningful piece. Their collaboration helped bring history to life and gave our students a powerful platform to reflect, remember, and pay their respects.

It was a moment of unity, remembrance, and deep appreciation reminding us all why it's so important to pause and honour those who gave so much.



POST 16 ALUMNI EVENT



Macmillan Academy Post 16 was delighted to welcome back former students from the 2023–2025 cohort for a festive alumni afternoon of Christmas drinks and nibbles, celebrating their achievements and hearing first-hand about life after Post 16.

The event brought together alumni now in their first term at university, on apprenticeships, or in employment, offering current staff the opportunity to catch up and hear inspiring stories about their adventures and successes since leaving Macmillan Post-16. Alumni generously shared insights into the transition beyond Post 16, reflecting on how their experiences have shaped their first steps into higher education and the workplace.

The afternoon also reinforced the strong sense of community and ongoing support that defines Macmillan Academy Post 16, highlighting the pride staff continue to feel in their students long after they have moved on to their next destinations.

Macmillan Academy Post 16 would like to thank all alumni who returned to share their journeys and wishes them continued success as they progress through their chosen pathways.

SUMMER TERM CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES



YEAR 7



YEAR 8



YEAR 9



YEAR 10



YEAR 11

As is now customary, the final week of term saw our Year 7 to Year 11 students come together for Rewards Assemblies.

It is a fantastic opportunity for Heads of Year to celebrate the achievements and successes of their Year groups.

From outstanding learning and exceptional performance to a wide range of recognitions, these assemblies are an excellent way to publicly acknowledge the hard work and dedication shown by so many students throughout the term.

A huge well done to everyone who was celebrated—you've made us proud!

REWARDS & RECOGNITION WALL

Our Recognition and Rewards programme continues to grow, with even more incentives for students to aim for. From everyday learning celebrations with departmental postcards, to our 'Wall of Fame' the Recognition Wall and our end-of-term R&R trips, we're committed to celebrating hard work and dedication. As the programme becomes embedded into daily academy life, we're seeing students work harder and focus on putting as much effort as they can into different lessons, subjects and experiences.



HEALTH & SOCIAL



ART



RELIGIOUS STUDIES



ENGLISH

R&R CINEMA TRIP



In the final week of term, 60 students were treated to a private cinema screening of the blockbuster film Zootopia 2. This special event gave students a fantastic morning off timetable to celebrate their hard work and dedication to learning. The trip was part of our Ready to Learn initiative, rewarding those who consistently demonstrated an excellent attitude. We selected the top student from each tutor group across all year groups—an incredible achievement!

R&R GOLDEN TICKET DAY

This term marked our first-ever Golden Ticket Day, which showcased further student success. Extraordinary effort deserves to be celebrated, and that's exactly what we did on Friday, 28 November. Throughout the day, staff looked out for students who demonstrated genuine dedication to learning, whether through consistent focus, a positive attitude, or a willingness to challenge themselves. Those who went above and beyond were awarded a Golden Ticket.

A Golden Ticket is more than just recognition; it unlocks exclusive rewards designed to honour students who consistently give their best. It's our way of highlighting the power of hard work, resilience, and personal growth.

Congratulations to everyone who earned a Golden Ticket – we are super proud of you.

We're also thrilled to announce the winners of our special prize draw:



PRIZE DRAW WINNERS

SUMMER R&R TRIP:

GABIJA K – TICKET 20
FREDDIE L – TICKET 18
TOMMY W – TICKET 11
DEXTER C – TICKET 19
ELLIOT H – TICKET 18

AMAZON VOUCHERS:

JOE W – TICKET 8
DANIEL P – TICKET 10

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R&R GOLDEN TICKET DAY



YEAR 10

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A CATCH UP WITH HEAD OF YEAR



As the festive season approaches, we reflect on what has been a busy and rewarding term for our Year 10 students. From academic progress and personal growth to memorable experiences both in and beyond the classroom, this term has showcased the resilience, effort, and commitment of our cohort. Our recent festive challenge saw the year group rewarded for their efforts across our first Key Stage 4 term. We concentrated on making sure our standards remained high across different focuses including punctuality and attendance. Students qualified for a festive treat they were most deserving of from a 'Christmas Social' to the always popular annual year group quiz. The upcoming fortnight provides a welcome opportunity to celebrate these achievements, express our gratitude to staff and families for their continued support, and look ahead with optimism to the new year ahead.

Take care
Mrs Jones

YEAR 10 SPOTLIGHT



FOOD AND NUTRITION - KNIFE SKILLS

Year 10 food and nutrition had fun practising their knife skills. They learned the skill of segmenting an orange, and making apples into swans and crabs as we build higher level skills ready for their cooking exam next year.

YORKSHIRE SCULPTURE PARK 2025

Our Year 10–12 art and textiles students visited the Yorkshire Sculpture Park to explore work by world-renowned artists including Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth and Damien Hirst. Students sketched, discussed and reflected on the artwork before enjoying a sunny picnic overlooking Bretton Hall. We can't wait to see how this inspiring trip influences their future work.



YEAR 10

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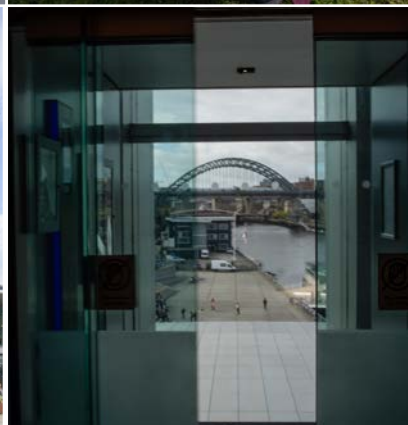
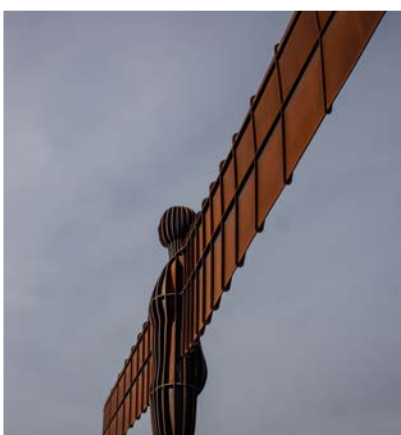


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YEAR 10 PHOTOGRAPHY TRIP

Our photography students recently enjoyed an enriching off-site trip to the Angel of the North, Penshaw Monument, and the Baltic Art Gallery. The visit provided a fantastic opportunity for students to practise their photography skills in diverse environments, experimenting with composition, lighting, and perspective outside the classroom.

These original images will form a key part of their coursework, helping them to develop creative techniques and gain marks toward their projects. The trip was not only educational but also inspiring, giving students real-world experience and a chance to explore iconic landmarks through their own artistic lens.



YEAR 10

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YEAR 10 PHOTOGRAPHY TRIP



YEAR 10

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CELEBRATION EVENT - PHOTO POD



Year 10 recently completed a festive Christmas Challenge to celebrate a successful first term at KS4 and to recognise excellent standards and attendance. Over the past few weeks, students took part in a series of activities designed to test their skills, teamwork, and engagement across a range of focus areas.

The challenge culminated in a special Thursday P5 session, where students were grouped into one of three events based on their performance. The event was a fun and rewarding way to celebrate their achievements, foster camaraderie within the year group, and reflect on the positive efforts demonstrated throughout the term.



YEAR 10

FOCUS



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YEAR 10 SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED...



AOTW - LORELEI

Well done to Lorelei for her amazing sheep observation drawings inspired by the style of Henry Moore.



FOOTBALL FRIENDLY

Our Year 10 boys took on our Year 11 boys in a pre-season friendly ahead of their upcoming National Cup fixtures.



JUDO SUCCESS

A huge well done to grace for achieving a gold medal at the Nottingham Judo Open and a bronze medal at the Heart of England competition.

POST 16 OPEN MORNING - 14/02/2026

Join us at Macmillan Academy's Post-16 Open Evening to explore our sixth form provision, meet subject specialists, and speak with current students about life beyond Year 11.

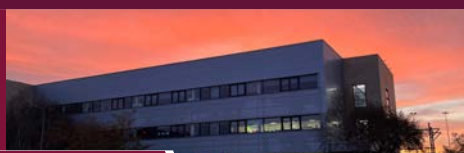


ENDEVAOUR FOUNDATION PIE & PEAS QUIZ

On Wednesday, 10th December, Macmillan Academy proudly hosted the Endeavour Foundation's inaugural fundraising event. Phil Latham, CEO of Endeavour Academies Trust, warmly welcomed staff and guests, sharing inspiring updates on projects delivered over the past year across the foundation's three key strands: families, health, and futures. The evening featured a lively quiz hosted by Harvey Hall, a former student now studying Mathematics at Durham University. Guests enjoyed a delicious pie and pea supper between quiz rounds and took part in a raffle with fantastic prizes. A huge thank you to everyone who attended and supported this special event – your contributions help make a real difference!



KEY DATES FOR NEXT TERM - CHECK THE ACADEMY CALENDER FOR FULL LIST



05/01/26
ACADEMY RE OPENS



19/01/2026
YEAR 8 OUTWARD BOUND



21/01/26
JOBS FAIR



14/03/26
POST 16 OPEN MORNING



20/02/26
CLOSED FOR HALF TERM



24/03/26
HIGHER IDEAS EXCHANGE