

# Macmillan Academy NEWSLETTER



AUTUMN 2025  
Year 11 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

## NEWS



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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



# ACADEMY

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## R&R GOLDEN TICKET DAY





# YEAR 11

## FOCUS



AUTUMN 2025

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### A CATCH UP WITH HEAD OF YEAR



As we reach the end of the autumn term, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on what has been a positive and purposeful start to the Year 11 journey. This term has been an important one, setting expectations and routines as our students move into their GCSE year, and it has been encouraging to see the maturity and determination shown by the majority of the cohort.

Throughout the term, students have engaged in a range of key events designed to support both their academic progress and personal development. These have included focused assemblies on exam preparation and wellbeing, mock examinations, careers guidance activities, and the introduction of additional support sessions to help students maximise their potential. Attendance at intervention sessions and revision opportunities has been particularly pleasing, demonstrating a strong commitment to learning.

We have also been proud to recognise students who have shown outstanding effort, resilience, and positive attitudes to school life. Celebrating these successes is an important part of motivating students as they move into the more demanding phases of the year.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. The partnership between home and school is vital during this crucial year, and we look forward to working closely with you as we guide our Year 11 students through the months ahead. The New Year sees the start of our Runway to Success and Passport to Prom initiatives which will support our students further in their final full term of Year 11.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and healthy Christmas break and look forward to the challenges and opportunities the new year will undoubtedly bring.

Wishing you all the very best,

Mrs S Barrett and the Year 11 team

### YEAR 11 SPOTLIGHT



#### FINAL DOFE SILVER AWARD

The final Silver expedition of the year was an incredible journey from Keswick, through Langdale and Buttermere, finishing over the Newlands Pass. The groups showed amazing resilience through the changeable weather. A welcome break was enjoyed on the night to watch To Know a Mountain, a brilliant film that explores diversity in the outdoors.



# YEAR 11

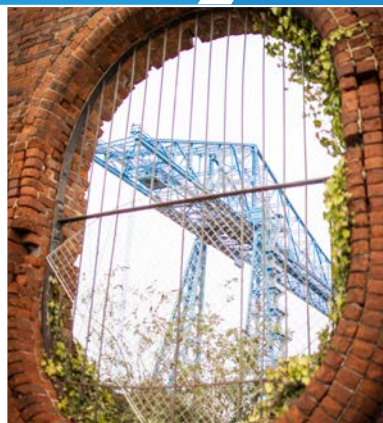
## FOCUS



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## YEAR 11 PHOTOGRAPHY TRIP

Our Year 11 GCSE Photography students recently visited Preston Park, gaining valuable hands-on experience to support their coursework. During the trip, they made detailed observations and captured photographs inspired by the park's landscapes and features, linking their work to professional photographers. This practical experience allowed students to develop both creative and technical skills while addressing the assessment criteria for their mock theme of "Renewal and Decay," providing excellent preparation for their upcoming exams.





# YEAR 11

## FOCUS



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## YEAR 11 PHOTOGRAPHY TRIP





## THACKRAY MEDICAL MUSEUM



As part of their GCSE history studies, Year 11 students recently visited the Thackray Museum of Medicine in Leeds for an engaging and interactive learning experience.

The visit brought key topics from the curriculum to life, giving students the chance to deepen their understanding of medical history. Highlights included a fascinating lecture in the Victorian operating theatre, a walk down Disease Street, and an exploration of how public health has evolved over time.

This hands-on experience is an excellent way for students to connect classroom learning with real-world history, reinforcing knowledge that will be invaluable in their upcoming exams.

A huge thank you to the Thackray Museum team for hosting such an informative and inspiring day!





# YEAR 11

## FOCUS



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## THACKRAY MEDICAL MUSEUM





## YEAR 11 GET A TASTE OF POST 16 LIFE



In the second-to-last week of term, our Year 11 students enjoyed a festive event designed to give them a glimpse of life in Post 16. Many of our students choose to stay on and study with us after GCSEs, and this celebration was the perfect way to explore what's ahead. The event was packed with festive fun—a Christmas photo pod, seasonal snacks and lunch, a visit from Santa himself, and plenty of Christmas tunes to set the mood! It was a fantastic opportunity for Year 11 students to chat with current Post 16 learners about exams, study tips, and what life is really like beyond Year 11.

The atmosphere was full of excitement and positivity, and we're thrilled to see so many students considering continuing their journey with us. A huge thank you to everyone who helped make this event such a success! Thinking about Post 16? Keep an eye out for more information and upcoming events in the new year!





## YEAR 11 GET A TASTE OF POST 16 LIFE





# YEAR 11

## FOCUS



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### YEAR 11 SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED...



#### A TEAM FOOTBALL SUCCESS

Strong all-round display as the boys beat Monkwearmouth 3-1. Goals from Shannon A (2) and Jonah W. MOTM: Shannon A  
A Team – County Cup  
Superb 7-2 win over Conyers! Jaydon B hat-trick, Shannon A (2), Jaden B, and Bobby M  
MOTM: Jaydon B

#### B TEAM FOOTBALL SUCCESS

Another outstanding performance in the B Team National Cup saw the boys defeat Monkwearmouth 3-1, the same team that knocked us out at this stage last year. After surviving early pressure, Luca S opened the scoring before Tyler B's header doubled the lead. Monkwearmouth pulled one back late on, but Wissam K sealed the win. The team now progress to the last 32. What a fantastic achievement.



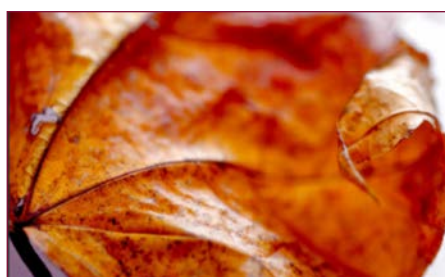
#### AOTW - FAITH

Faith has created a lifelike clay and wire sculpture of a cat for her Year 11 mock project Flora and Fauna. Well done Faith.



#### FOOTBALL FRIENDLY

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



#### AOTW - FAITH

Faith received the nomination for artist of the week for her macro photography, capturing stunning close-up details of an autumn leaf.

### 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**