

# Macmillan Academy NEWSLETTER



AUTUMN 2025

Year 9 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.

# ACADEMY NEWS



AUTUMN 2025

Year 9 Edition

## 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



AUTUMN 2025

Year 9 Edition

## CHRISTMAS CONCERT



# ACADEMY NEWS



AUTUMN 2025  
Year 9 Edition

## 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.

# GET IN THERE!



## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

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 enter into the draw next term.



# ACADEMY

## NEWS



AUTUMN 2025

Year 9 Edition

## 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.

# ACADEMY NEWS



AUTUMN 2025

Year 9 Edition

## 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.

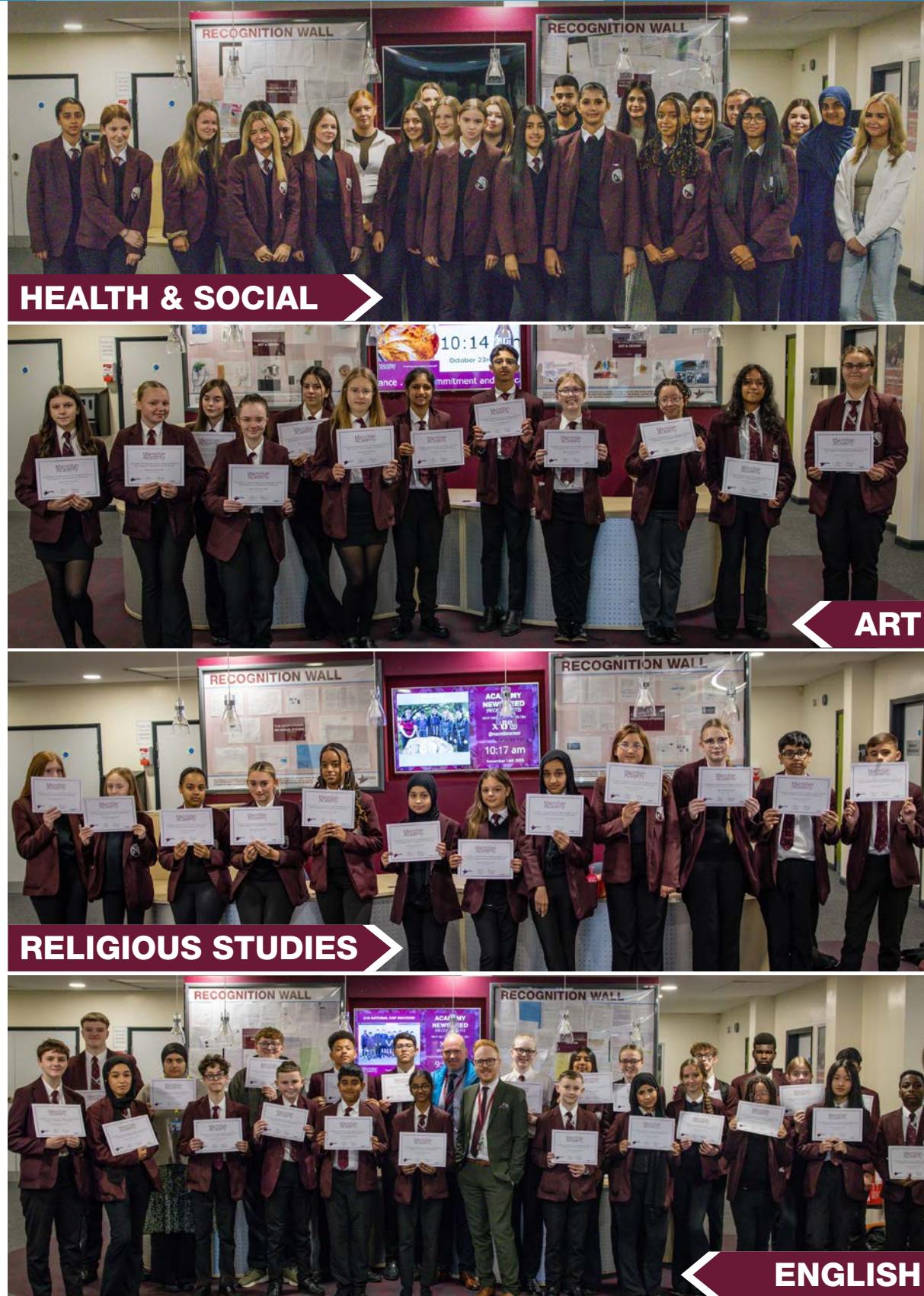
It is a fantastic opportunity for Heads of Year to celebrate the achievements and successes of their Year groups.

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.



# ACADEMY NEWS



AUTUMN 2025

Year 9 Edition

## 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 NEWS



AUTUMN 2025  
Year 9 Edition

## R&R GOLDEN TICKET DAY



# YEAR 9 FOCUS



AUTUMN 2025

Year 9 Edition

## A CATCH UP WITH HEAD OF YEAR



Welcome to the latest edition of the Year 9 newsletter. We have had another busy term as we approach a pivotal period for our students. The start of Year 9 sees our students commence GCSE courses in core subjects English and mathematics, as well as a growing focus on future studies. While it doesn't seem long ago that the students were starting at the academy in Year 7, the end of this term marks a halfway point in the 11-16 journey at Macmillan. In the Spring term, the Routes process will formally begin so we have taken opportunities in the Autumn term to encourage our students to start to think about their GCSE option choices and their plans for the future. I am looking forward to inviting you all into the academy after Christmas for some key events. On Wednesday 21 January, we will have our Family Information Event in which the key details of the Routes process will be shared. All Year 9 students will have their Options meetings in mid-March and there is also our Year 9 Parents' Evening on Tuesday 10 March to help students make informed decisions for their GCSE option choices. Thank you once again for all your support during the Autumn term. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and hoping for a happy and healthy 2026!

## YEAR 9 SPOTLIGHT

### FOOTBALL SUCCESS - ACADEMY CONTRACTS

Huge congratulations to Kiki, who has recently signed her first Academy contract with Tier 1 side Durham WFC U14s!

Kiki's dedication and commitment have also earned her an England Lionesses talent referral. An incredible achievement Well done Kiki.

Ava R also recently signed for her first Academy team, York City Ladies U14s. This is a fantastic achievement and a testament to her hard work. Well done Ava.



# YEAR 9 FOCUS



AUTUMN 2025  
Year 9 Edition

## YEAR 9 SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED...



### LANGUAGES IN BUSINESS - DAVID BINNS (CEO)

As our students are starting to think about their GCSE option choices, we welcomed David Binns to the academy in November. David is the director of Sanako UK and is a Fellow of the Association for Language Learning. He delivered a fantastic assembly to promote the benefits of pursuing an additional language to GCSE level. David gave the perspective of a business owner and employer to highlight the CV boosting quality of a GCSE qualification. He also advocated for the soft skills that a qualification in a foreign language demonstrates to future employers or higher education establishments.



### NORTHUMBERLAND RESIDENTIAL

In November, a group of students from the academy took part in a three day residential visit to The Sill, Northumberland as part of YHA's 'No Child Misses Out' campaign. Students completed various outdoor adventure activities including hiking, a scavenger hunt, star gazing, outdoor cooking and den building. For some students, this was their first experience of a residential and they did a brilliant job rising to the challenges that they were faced with.



### LAUNCH PAD

As part of our Alternative Provision at the academy, a small group of students have taken part in our Launch Pad programme. This is a series of activities that provide opportunities to learn outside the classroom. This term students have had the chance to try different water based sports at Tees Barrage and Flowrider at Redcar Leisure Centre. In the next two terms, there will be the chance to work with organisations such as The Learning Curve with sessions planned on construction, fitness, health and beauty.

# YEAR 9 FOCUS



AUTUMN 2025  
Year 9 Edition

## YEAR 9 SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED...



### FIRE ASSEMBLY/KNIFE CRIME WORKSHOP

As part of our continued commitment to work with community partners, Year 9 students have had two sessions delivered to increase awareness of local issues. David Bell from Cleveland Fire Brigade spoke to our students in October to share some key messages around fire safety, including messages relevant to Bonfire Night. We also had a small group of students work with Middlesbrough Youth Foundation in collaboration with the NHS on a workshop around knife crime.



### CREATING GARLANDS

Year 9 students have been busy creating garlands to decorate their tutorial bases based on the four themes of Advent; hope, love, joy and peace. The tutor team have also been involved, adding to the unique designs that their tutees have created!



### DIWALI CELEBRATIONS

We would like to say a huge well done Mahisha for your stunning performance at the Middlesbrough Diwali celebrations.



### U14 GIRLS NATIONAL CUP

Our Under 14 girls team faced Sedgefield in the second round of the National Cup and came away with an incredible 19-0 victory.



### AOTW - HAFSAH

Well done, Hafsa, for achieving Artist of the Week. Students have been exploring mythical creatures and the fascinating beings found in the deep sea.

## 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.



# ACADEMY NEWS



AUTUMN 2025  
Year 9 Edition

## 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 CALENDAR 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