

MHS Newsletter

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

What a fantastic week it has been across the school! We're especially proud of our Year 8 pupils who returned from an incredible art, drama, and music residential trip. Their creativity, teamwork, and passion culminated in performances that truly inspired everyone who had the privilege to see them. It's moments like these that remind us of the power of the arts to bring people together and showcase the talent flourishing in our school community. Well done to all involved!

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Science club had a great time making slime from PVA glue and borax solution



Please can parents and guardians who drop off and pick up students in a vehicle be mindful of local residents, pedestrians and road safety laws as not doing so is creating hazardous conditions. Cars should not:

- Block driveways on Southlowe Avenue
- Park on double yellow lines
- Park on the pavement
- Park or stop on zigzags
- Stop in the bus stop layby
- Use the school entrance as a turning circle

COMING UP:

This Week:

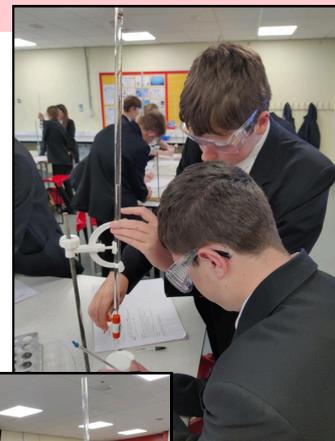
World Mental Health Day

Next Week:

Football Show Down

YEAR 10 CHEMISTRY

Pupils performing the temperature change required practical. Pupils have to neutralise an alkali with an acid and record the temperature increase.



Y11 REVISION EVENING

Last Thursday evening saw the year 11 Preparing for Exams Evening. A night dedicated to parents and students on how they can best prepare themselves for the year 11 exams.

The message was clear how every 1% can help towards the end goal of becoming as successful as possible. How to revise in all subjects, alongside doing independent work and the benefits on memory retention.

Parents and students then had opportunities to look at revision guides, exam support resources, and speak to staff about any concerns they had regarding upcoming exams.



STUDENT TOP TEAM

Here are your head students for the 2025/2026 academic year. They had to produce a short cover letter and endure a tough interview process in order to secure the role. Since being in the position, students have helped with duties at lunch, started preparations for the Year 11 prom, delivered a speech at our prospectus parents evening and helped to improve and shape the culture of our school.

Head students -

Sahib G

Isobel K

Millie M

Lily-Rai R

Timneyt G



SPARX

Sparx Maths

Independent Learning League Tables

Year 7

Jack W	1180
Owen H	720
Jensen James G	160

Year 8

Theo G	900
Heath T	540
Bentley H	480

Year 9

Millie R	580
Ebony Eliza W	480
Ellie G	420

Year 10

Jessica B	280
Annabel H	160
Jack B/ Gracie B	20

Year 11

Joseph H	60
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Points earned from 24/9/25 – 8/10/25

HOUSE

We are delighted to introduce the newly appointed House Leadership Team for the academic year 2025/2026. These students have demonstrated outstanding commitment and enthusiasm, and we look forward to seeing the positive impact they will make across our school community.

We would also like to extend our thanks to every student who applied — your interest and effort were truly appreciated.

Next week, our House Leaders will be representing the school during student interviews and attending a Climate Action Conference, where they will engage with key issues and contribute to meaningful discussions on sustainability.

HOUSE POINT LEADER BOARD

RANK	HOUSE	HOUSE POINTS
1	Churchill	28630
2	Doulton	27314
3	Bridgewater	27114
4	Moorcroft	26122
5	Wedgwood	25646



Congratulations

Our new House System Leadership Team!

Your energy, commitment, and leadership have earned you this incredible opportunity. Get ready to inspire, motivate, and lead your houses to greatness. We're so excited to see all the amazing things you'll achieve together - let's make this the best year ever!

CHURCHILL	BRIDGEWATER	MOORCROFT	DOULTON	WEDGWOOD
Captains: Lacey T (10CHU)	Captains: Ricci T (10AQ)	Captains: Niamh C (10LM)	Captains: Jessica B (10DJ)	Captains: Callan G (10RM)
Vice Captains: Selina B (9AME)	Vice Captains: Ebony W (9AJM)	Vice Captains: Beth R (9LS)	Vice Captains: Aaliyah R (9LAG)	Vice Captains: Alice G (9MH)
House Coordinators: Bobby B (7CMC)	House Coordinators: Ronnie-Mae H (8CB)	House Coordinators: Louis B (7HB)	House Coordinators: Grace H (8JCA)	House Coordinators: Gracie G (8MJ)

FOOTBALL

It's 6 points from 6 and 2 wins on the bounce for the year 11 students. Another controlled performance that was topped off with 2 goals from Mason R.

The team battled well throughout and showed quality in front of goal.

Shoutout out to Noah W and his defence for another clean sheet!



YOUTH VIOLENCE

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTH VIOLENCE

Youth violence affects one in four children in the UK, but it doesn't have to. When parents, carers, and educators understand the risks, they're better placed to support young people. The right support, mentoring, therapy, and guidance can help young people affected by violence to feel safe, manage conflict, and make positive choices.

UNDERSTANDING YOUTH VIOLENCE

WHY DO YOUNG PEOPLE COMMIT SERIOUS VIOLENCE?

A recent study surveyed over 10,000 young people affected by violence, asking why serious violence occurs among their peers, such as an assault involving a weapon or sexual violence. The most common reasons given were due to a personal characteristic of the victim e.g., race, religion, sexuality, gender, a gang or school rivalry, and being provoked. While not all young people face these issues, many lack the emotional regulation skills needed to manage provocation.

WHAT ARE SIGNS A YOUNG PERSON IS AT RISK?

Children and young people often express that something is wrong through behaviour rather than words. Be alert to signs such as sudden mood changes, secrecy around friendships, excessive phone use, unfamiliar slang, unexplained injuries, fear of school, aggression, going missing, or substance use. They may also be associating with older peers. These behaviours can indicate underlying issues that can lead to violence.

ONLINE INFLUENCES

Social media plays a powerful role in normalising and escalating violence. Platforms like Tik Tok and Snapchat can expose young people to harmful content, often shaped by algorithms. Many see violent material that distorts reality, leading to fear and desensitisation. A recent study found 70% had seen real-world violence online, and 80% felt less safe in their communities. Alarmingly, 39% said it made them more likely to carry a weapon. Online conflict can often spill into real life, with serious and sometimes tragic consequences.

Opportunity

Community

Wellbeing

Respect

UNCERTAINTY

CONFLICT

FEAR

WHEN IS VIOLENCE MORE LIKELY TO HAPPEN?

For children and young people in England and Wales, the hours between 4 pm and 8 pm – just after school – carry a particularly high risk for serious violence. This can stem from conflicts that escalate during the school day, online arguments, or simply moving through unfamiliar areas on the way home. Understanding this risk helps us support safer travel and routines. Our recent report found that over one in three young people don't feel safe in the area they live in, and 36% don't feel safe walking the streets.

WHY MIGHT A YOUNG PERSON CARRY A WEAPON?

Young people may carry weapons due to fear, threats, peer pressure, or a false sense of protection. Many young people tell us they feel unsafe and carry weapons 'just in case', while others may be influenced by social media, peers, or criminal activity. Some don't realise it's illegal or may believe it earns respect.

WHERE IS VIOLENCE MORE LIKELY TO HAPPEN?

Violence often happens in certain places. Busy areas like transport hubs carry risk simply because lots of people gather there. Other hotspots, like places linked to drug activity, attract those more likely to be involved in violence. Some areas become risky due to poor supervision, such as under-resourced public spaces. Understanding where violence tends to occur helps us guide young people safely through their communities and advocate for better support and safer spaces.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TALKING TO CHILDREN ABOUT STAYING SAFE

Choose a safe moment for the conversation, emotionally and physically. If a child is upset or angry, help them settle before discussing serious topics. Listen actively without judgement, even if what they share is difficult. Avoid interrupting and offer advice when the time feels right. If you're worried, you're not alone; support is available.

AVOID CONFLICT & MANAGE ESCALATIONS

Encourage young people to consider the 'Safe T's' – Trust instincts, Take a breath, and Talk to a trusted adult. When triggered or provoked, they may react from their 'survival brain', unable to think clearly about the consequences. Taking a breath helps calm, and helps them access their 'thinking brain'. Remind them that moments pass, and seeking support from trusted adults builds resilience and safer decision-making.

HELP CHILDREN UNDERSTAND CONSEQUENCES

Young people can be searched by police or teachers if suspected of carrying a weapon. If found with a knife, they could face arrest and criminal proceedings. A conviction can result in a criminal record. Even being present during a violent assault, encouraging it, filming, or sharing footage can lead to prosecution. Open and honest conversations can help children understand these risks and make safer choices.

REPORT INFORMATION

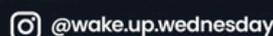
We all have a role in preventing violence. If a child shares concerns, you can act. For educators, it's important to follow your school's safeguarding procedures. Other adults can report anonymously through Fearless or Crimestoppers, and speak with other parents, the school, or local police through 101. If someone is in immediate danger, always call 999. These steps help protect children and the wider community.

Meet Our Expert

The Ben Kinsella Trust is a UK anti-knife crime charity educating young people through immersive workshops, awareness campaigns, and community resources. Visit: benkinsella.org.uk



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/youth-violence>



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PUMPKIN COMPETITION



The poster features a dark background with a tree silhouette and scattered leaves. At the top left is the logo for Mareside High School, consisting of a stylized 'M' with a leaf inside a square. The text 'HOUSE SYSTEM' is written in orange at the top. The main title 'PUMPKIN CARVING COMPETITION' is in large, bold, yellow and white letters. A yellow torn-paper-style box contains the deadline, prizes, and contact information. At the bottom, five pumpkins with different faces are shown, each with a small house crest icon below it. The background is decorated with orange, green, and red circles and starburst symbols.

M
Mareside
High School

HOUSE SYSTEM

**PUMPKIN CARVING
COMPETITION**

DEADLINE: 31 OCTOBER 2025

PRIZES FOR 1ST, 2ND & 3RD PLACE

SEND YOUR ENTRIES TO
LROBERTS@MHS.POTTERIES.AC.UK

THINK YOU CAN CARVE THE CREEPIEST, FUNNIEST, OR SPOOKIEST PUMPKIN?
GET CREATIVE THIS OCTOBER HALF TERM AND ENTER OUR PUMPKIN CARVING COMPETITION!
HOUSE POINTS WILL BE AWARDED FOR ALL ENTRIES