

Macaws Autumn newsletter 2026

Hello, and welcome to the new academic year. We hope you all had a lovely summer break. The Macaws class team are all so excited to start the year with you and your child.

The Macaws class consists of 9 unique and beautifully spirited children, seven boys and two girls.

The class team are:

Gem, Emma, Joe, Laura and Sue (Thursday and Friday). We are all dedicated to supporting your child develop in all aspects of the school curriculum, alongside developing and achieving individual targets with a focus on communication, confidence, independence, self-identity, wellness and forming friendships, both old and new.

In the Macaws class we promote independence, individuality, acceptance, self-regulation, kindness, friendship and communication through a total communication approach.

Our class ethos values full collaboration with parents and carers, the Macaws classroom door is always open. We invite you to be a part of your child's school environment and learning. If you would like to come into class you are always welcome!

Key dates:

Thursday morning:

The class will go to the forum for adult led swimming sessions. A separate letter will be sent out with the equipment your child needs for this session. After the session the children will go to the forum café for snack.

Thursday afternoon:

Shadow dance which is led by Lucy. We would like the children to change into a PE kit for this session as it's quite physical (shorts and a T-shirt), the PE kit will stay in school and we will send it home at the end of each half term.

Although the session can be quite energetic, we encourage your child to participate at a level they are comfortable with and breaks/rests will be supported by staff throughout the sessions.

Friday afternoons – All year:

Forest sessions, the children will need a suitable coat and wellies. The forest can become extremely muddy. The wellies will stay in school for the full academic year. If you need the wellies sending home each half term please let us know and we will make sure they come home with your child on the last day of the half term.

Home/school communication

This is a very important aspect in your child's learning and we will support your choice of communication. These are Class Dojo where you can message us privately to share updates, news or address concerns or message on the group chat and communicate with each other.

My email address is: g.yabsley@ashgate.manchester.sch.uk

If you prefer to email rather than download Class Dojo

Alternatively, you can phone the school on 0161 3595322 and ask to speak to Gem or a member of the Macaws class team. Between 8.30 and 8:45 or from 15.00 to 16.00 are preferred times. However, you can always speak to a member of the office team and leave a message and we will ensure to call you back.

We value your input and communication and look forward to a home/school collaboration.

Contribution

A voluntary contribution of £1 a week to support the cost of snack at the forum café is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your continuous support.

Gem and the Macaws team.