



Spring Term Newsletter No.4

Another week has flown by! Thank you to all the parents in Y4 who attended the Maths Workshop on Wednesday. It was great to see so many people and we hope you found it useful. If you have any suggestions for other workshops that would help you support your child at home please let us know. We will be running some phonic workshops soon so please look out for the information about these if you are interested in attending.



The children enjoyed visiting the Life Education Van over the last few days. Harold the Giraffe is always popular with the younger children! These sessions help to get important messages across in a fun way about keeping your body healthy and safe.

Parents Meetings

The last week of this half term will be Parents' Meetings week so next week we will be putting out sheets for parents of children in Y1-Y6 to sign up for a ten minute appointment. These sheets will be available for you to sign up to after school from Monday to Friday from 3:05pm by the office. We will be half way through this academic year and it will be a great opportunity for you to hear how your child is progressing and to find out how you can further support them at home. The teachers are always appreciate of your time and we hope you will book an appointment as we know that when there are strong home-school relationships children achieve better all round.

We are very proud of this week's Star Pupils:

- Beech — Maisie is developing a fabulous growth mindset in her maths.
- Pine — Grace puts a fabulous effort in to her maths and is very gracious.
- Apple — Daisy has worked really hard on improving her handwriting.
- Oak — Donney has shown great concentration skills and respect in class.
- Birch — James E has persevered in maths and improved his handwriting significantly! Keep it up!
- Rowan — Reece has taken great responsibility for his learning and behaviour. We are very proud!
- Cherry — Ashton displayed an excellent learning attitude, particularly to his work on fractions.
- Maple — Oliver is a tremendous role model on the playground and has embraced our Core values.
- Holly — Katie demonstrated great effort and independence in writing her blog.
- Willow — Will showed great fractional thinking in maths and is an all round excellent pupil.
- Hawthorn — Angel puts an immense effort in and is an independent learner.
- Hazel — Daisy has high aspirations in her learning and always goes the extra mile.



A Guide to eSchools

The package we have bought into with eSchools allows us three different facilities – they are all linked but all serve different purposes.

1) The Website (www.stmargaretstorbay.org.uk)

Schools have to have a website and there are regulations around which information must be available to the public. Our website complies with all the regulations and offers information for parents, prospective parents, Ofsted inspectors etc.



We have tried to organise the website into clear areas:

Home Page: This will give you the most recent information, including links to newsletters, our calendar and our Twitter feed. The purple tabs along the top will provide you with much more detailed information about the school.

About the School: Here you will find information about Staff, Governors, the Academy's performance, etc.

Parents and Carers: Here we have outlined day to day information about the school. For example, the term dates are here, the menu, information about our electronic payment system, etc.

Curriculum: This section has information for parents about the curriculum in our school and each Year Group has a page where you will find the Topic Map and the Home Learning for this term (always handy for when your child has forgotten to bring their Home Learning Book home!)

Children: This section has information on the clubs we run each term, the different Pupil Groups that children volunteer for, new child centred initiatives, etc.

The **Green Login** at the top will take you through to a separate section specifically for you and your child which is not visible to the public. Here you will find information about your child's attendance, be able to book parent meetings, see current learning topics and letters sent home and additional home learning information. You will be able to see your child's class page too. This section of the website is not yet fully up and running but will be in the very near future— you can log in and see some basic information there at the moment. If you have a smart phone or a tablet you may wish to save a link to this website on your home screen so you can be sure you always have easy access to current information.

2) Communicating with Parents through the eSchools App



The App is available to download to your mobile phone and is our means of communicating directly with you. It serves a different purpose to the website.

Currently you receive texts messages but these will soon be coming through the eSchools app as direct messages.

When we send a newsletter or any other electronic letter home you will receive a notification on your mobile and will be able to open the letter in the App to save you logging in to the website or your emails.

You will receive text messages through eSchools when the information is important and we need to be sure you have seen it but all other communication will be through the messaging service so please do download the App and log in if you have a smart phone.

Please note, the App is an information App so if you wish to change your password or any other settings you will need to log in through the website to be able to do so.

3) eSchools Learning Platform



The children will have their own logins and will use the learning platform in school time but also be able to access it at home if you wish. Their class teachers will set up a class page and the children will be able to write Blogs and share their learning with others. Again, we will let you know when this phase is ready to roll out.

Please note that eSchools is a separate company to School Gateway and you will still need to keep your School Gateway account as this is our electronic payment provider.

We hope this information helps you understand the three different aspects of eSchools that we will be using. Please do log in to the website and also download the app from Google Play or the App Store.

Diary Date Reminders:

Monday 30th January—Cherry Class swimming
Mon 30th—Feb 3rd After school 3:05pm every day
- Parents' Meeting sign up sheets available in the main school.

 **Friday 3rd February—NSPCC Maths Themed Dress Up Day (£1 donation)**

Come wearing clothes with spots, stripes, patterns, shapes, numbers... or be more creative) But please don't go out and buy anything special!



Attendance Award

Congratulations to Rowan Class for winning the School Attendance Award with 99.3% attendance.

The whole school achieved 95.5% attendance overall which is just below our target.

Learning today to achieve our tomorrows.