



Spring Term Newsletter No. 5

Lots of good learning has been captured this week—the children have been using the class camera and Learn-Pads to photograph moments in their lessons. They love the responsibility and it focuses them in on what good learning looks like!



Cherry Class have been investigating how to lengthen shadows.

We had lots of activities throughout National Story Telling Week and we loved it when family members came in to share a book with us.



Parents Meetings—these are scheduled for this week for all classes other than Reception Children. Please make an appointment to meet your child's class teacher and discuss their progress so far. If you would like to see their work please drop in to their classroom after school on Thursday between 3:05—3:30pm. This is a great opportunity to talk your child about their learning.

This Week's Star Pupils:



- Beech — Finley Cull
- Pine — Olivia Mae-Franke
- Apple— Alfie Harries
- Oak— James Bellamy
- Cherry— Alan Cavanagh
- Holly — Liam Stamp-Vincent
- Willow— Jebediah Whatley
- Maple — Harrison Spurle
- Birch — Daisy Thorpe
- Rowan — Laila Browne
- Hawthorn — Katie-Jane Garrett
- Hazel — Dylan Glancy

Diary Date Reminders:

Thursday 11th February—Parent Drop In 3:05—3:30pm

Half Term—15th to 20th February

Friday 12th Feb Non-Uniform Day

£1 per child, £2 per Family in aid of PTA funds

April 29th 2016—Extra Bank Holiday (linked to the May Day holiday weekend) to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday.

Attendance Award



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

The whole school achieved 95.1% which is above our target. Well done!

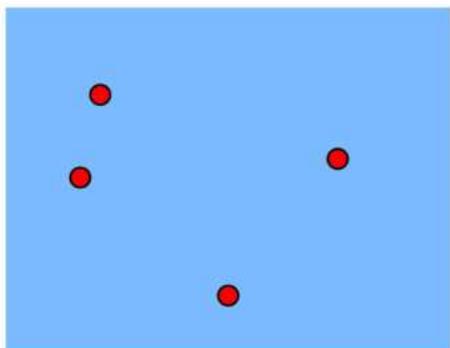


Don't forget to follow us on Twitter to see photographs and updates about school life.

<https://twitter.com/StMargaretsTQ>

Maths Challenge

Invisible Square



The four points shown lie on the sides of an invisible square. Can you draw in the sides of the square?

(This puzzle is a variation of a puzzle by Ivan Moscovich.)

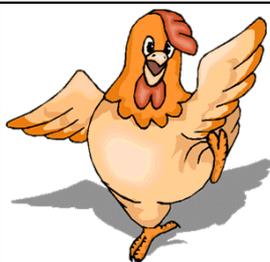
Family Ponder.....
Is it worse to fail at something or never attempt it in the first place?

Please check our lost property box in the school hall as **Chrissy's Used Uniforms** will be collecting any unclaimed, un-named property on Tuesday 9th February.

We always return your child's belongings if they are clearly named so please mark all your child's uniform, bags and lunch boxes. Thank you.

Building Works

Just a reminder that we will be having substantial building works beginning after half term and throughout the rest of the term until we return after Easter. We will be sending out a letter informing you of all the changes that will be necessary to ensure that the children are safe during this time. We will be putting notices around school to remind you that the access from St Margaret's Close will be closed during the entire building project. We do apologise for the inconvenience that this will cause some parents but it is necessary as walls will be being removed, the old hut will be demolished and groundworks are necessary before the new building can begin so we cannot have pedestrian movement around this area. Please watch out for a separate email later this week outlining new procedures for that period of time. Thank you.



Chicken Duty

Each class has a weekly turn of looking after our chickens and our vegetable beds. At this time of year it is extremely muddy in the Orchard so we thought we would put a reminder on each newsletter so you know which class is responsible and then you could send your child in with some wellies for the week. That way, hopefully, we won't be sending them home to you too muddy!

Look out for the chicken picture and the class! **This week it is Y3 - Holly Class!**

PlayTorbay

Registered charity number 1137551

February half term programme 2016

It's nearly half term! See the full list of play activities here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0BzIsx5gdzeHfVIFxZIVHa2d6cmc/view?pref=2&pli=1>

Well done to all the children joining in with SignHealth's deaf awareness and fundraising event, they clearly enjoyed singing and signing the sign2sing 2016 song. We raised £98.00- thank you for your donations.

If you would like to know more about the song, it can be found on the SignHealth website <http://www.sign2sing.org.uk/>. This is a lovely way for the children to learn some sign language.

sign2sing

RAISING MONEY FOR THE DEAF HEALTH CHARITY SIGNHEALTH



Year 5 Poetry Slam

Our five finalists did us proud in the Torbay Schools Alliance Poetry Slam this week. They were clear, animated and did well to remember the poem as it was three minutes long! Well done to all the children in year 5 for fantastic ideas full of great vocabulary, song ideas and rhymes. Your poem is written in full below. Huge congratulations to Peter, Lucy, Jess, Laila and Daisy, you were brilliant!

Disaster Strikes

**We are the kids from St Margaret's Academy
We're here to share with you some slammin' poetry.**

**This poem is all about disasters that are natural
But which ones are the worst, if we're being factual?**

Laila here, down at Torquay sea front, reporting your latest weather news.

It's going to be dull, cloudy with a high chance of rain,
So if you're thinking of heading out this morning, ooh that's a shame.

Then later on, the clouds will clear,
To reveal that the temperature will be 2⁰c here.
Back to the studio

Oh no not again!

We British don't half moan a lot about the weather!
I'm always hearing:

Why is it always raining?
It's chucking it down!
Where's the sun gone?

***I can't feel my face coz it's so cold! How I hate this!
How I hate this!***

Hang on a minute! It could be a lot worse,
Think of all the places been hit by a curse, curse,
curse

The riverbanks burst, the lakes overflow,
The water swallows everything that you know.
The ferocious flood caused so much harm,
The once beautiful river had lost all its charm.

Yeah ok, we get flooding here
But what about other countries, they've had loads to fear.

Quick as lightening came the tsunami,
Moving into land like a battling army.
Chaos and destruction was left behind.
The search began, with many people to find.

The huge wave came crashing down,
Smothering every inch of the devastated towns.

(Continued)

But what about an earthquake? I wouldn't want to be around

When one of those disasters is busy going down!
Bang! Crack! Rumble and crumble!
Buildings, vehicles and people start to tumble!

We will, we will shake you!

I am the terror that destroys your life,
Splitting and cutting the road like a knife.

(Beat-boxing with sound effects)

Wait! Sparks spit out of an erupting volcano,
While the gas and clouds whirl around like a tornado.

Fearless - it exploded with a BANG!
In the midnight sky, the clouds and ashes hang.

Or a hurricane?

It looked like the devil had roamed the land,
There was a hurricane, which was not at all planned.
The hurricane came from many directions.
Now the people of the city had to make lots of corrections.

They were homeless and hungry; their lives upside down
Like so many other families in the town.

(Big sigh)

So how on earth can we decide which one is worse?
There are many more, we haven't even rehearsed!
One thing's for certain, one thing's for sure,
When you're hit by a disaster you can't take much more!

**So we must all stand back in awe of the creator
For we all know the power of Mother Nature**