



Autumn Term Newsletter No.2

We have welcomed our youngest children in to school this week. Ash and Elm classes have enjoyed getting to know new friends and exploring their new school. There is lots to learn but they are settling in well. We are looking forward to getting to know them all!



If you are a new parent to our school then we will send home details of how to log in to our eschools app. If you already have children in the school then you will need to log out of the app and back in again for it to refresh and show your Reception child too. When you add the school's name or login details on the app please be careful typing as it is case sensitive. The school name is **st-margarets** with no capitals or apostrophe. We use this app to send you messages and letters and you will also need to use it to book parents meetings with your child's class teacher. Any problems please call into the office.



The Senior Leaders of the school will be out in the school grounds as the gates open and close so please come and ask us if there is anything you wish to know or come and introduce yourself. Mrs Stell and Mrs Pike will be out and about most days and our Assistant Heads will be around on some days too— Wednesday will be Miss Wooldridge, Thursday will be Mr Marchant and Friday will be Mrs Turner.

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



Beech — Toby is a role model to the rest of his class. He is a superstar!

Pine — Charlie has been sharing all of his ideas with us and contributing brilliantly to class discussions

Apple — Charlie has faced each day in a positive way both before school and through all the day.

Oak — Joshua has settled into Y2 really well and always tries his best.

Birch — Caterina has shown brilliant growth mindset this week, especially with her maths.

Rowan — Poppy for all round excellence She has such a positive attitude to learning and inspires others!

Cherry — Thomas shows a great learning attitude all the time. Well done!

Maple — CJ has been persevering and critiquing his own work to make sure his letters were the same size.

Holly — Toby G has been trying his best in every part of his learning. A great start to the year!

Willow — Ollie has a great all round approach to his learning; contributing in class and some great writing too!

Hawthorn — McKenzie has an aspirational attitude and made an incredible start to Y6!

Hazel — Noah goes the extra mile in everything he does, showing an outstanding learning attitude.

Diary Date Reminders:

Monday 24th September—Y6 visit to Bygones

Tuesday 25th September—Y5 Visit to Bygones

Monday 15th October—Harvest Festival in school for children.

Week Beginning 29th October— Parents meetings for Y1—Y6

Dates and times to be available for booking on eschools soon

Tuesday 18th December - KS2 Christmas Service in Upton Vale Baptist Church at 6pm

Please check the eschool calendar for further events.
Term dates for the next two years are in the Parents section of the website.



Attendance Award

Congratulations to Pine, Birch and Holly Class for winning the School Attendance Award with 100% attendance.

A great start to the year!

The whole school achieved 96.3% attendance. Well done everyone!
Keep it Up.

Parent Involvement

We are keen to further develop the partnership between parents and school and we hope you will join in with events that your child's class organise, or come along to workshops that the teachers are hosting to help you understand how your child is learning reading or maths, etc. If you have suggestions for workshops you feel would benefit you please let us know.

Some parents come in as volunteers and listen to children reading—if you think you might like to get involved in this please speak to one of the Senior Leaders and let us know.

One of the key ways that parents are involved in the school is through fundraising and the PTA have raised lots of money over the years through holding fun events for the children to attend. All the money is ploughed back in to the school and they have bought many things, such as Learnpads, play equipment, Leavers Year Books etc.

Unfortunately the PTA's current Chair and Treasurer are no longer able to continue in these roles and we want to thank them for all the time they have given freely. Without a Chair or a Treasurer there can be no PTA.

If you think you might like to take up one of these positions then please call in to the school and ask to speak to an office member or Mrs Stell so we can explain the role to you. Obviously, this is a role with some responsibility and requires a time commitment but if many parents join the PTA the workload can be spread around so please don't be put off volunteering!

If you are interested please come in and let us know by Friday 28th September as there will be an Annual General Meeting in October when the PTA formalises the committee—or when it might officially have to close. It would be very sad to see the PTA dwindle away as the children and staff value all the events and money raised so please do talk to your friends and consider volunteering together.

School Library

Our library is having a little overhaul as we have decided to 'go it alone'! Previously we bought into a library service from Devon but this was a huge cost to the school so we are now buying our own books. The initial cost will probably be half the cost of buying in to the service and we hope future years will be even less. If you have any good quality books that your child has outgrown we are very happy to accept donations! The children will soon be able to access the library again and we hope they will love the new choice of books and the new furniture that we have bought.



Just a few reasons why we would love to have you as a volunteer!

Learning today to achieve our tomorrows.



Torbay Council are launching a new initiative soon called *Beat the Street* to help get children and adults of all ages more active and enjoy better health.

Beat the Street will run across Torquay, Paignton and Brixham from **19th September-31st October, 2018**. People of all ages play the game

by walking or cycling around the area, discovering new places in their communities, earning points and winning prizes. It is free to enter and the simple materials required will be available from local 'Distribution Points.' We are having a launch Assembly on Monday and the children will come home with a special fob and further information about how to play the game. If you would like to find out a little more about this please click on the link to access a YouTube video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KJbOghMQ5ZM>

Roman Day

Y3 and Y4 have loved the introduction into their new Learning Topic! They spent a day making their battle shields, had to research Roman Army tactics and then took up position on the playground. Unlike real battles, this one was enjoyed by all! More photos on Twitter soon.



Just a few reminders for the start of the new year.

For the safety of your child at the beginning and end of the day please do not let them not climb over the garden walls, on the garden furniture or swing on the railings. At the end of the day please also make sure that your child stays on the path and does not run down the slope as it is a busy time of day and accidents happen easily—plus, unfortunately, dog owners do use this grassy area.

If you need to change the collection arrangements for your child at the end of the day please let the class teacher know in the morning or, if it is a last minute change, please call the office and give full details of who is collecting your child on your behalf. Please do not leave it until too late to pass this information on as the office staff have to go to the classrooms to pass the message on.

We do provide healthy fruit snacks for all the children in school but you are welcome to send in your own fruit for your child if they only like certain fruits. We also have chilled water dispensers in every classroom so please send a bottle in to school so your child can fill up throughout the day.

If PE kits could be left in school all week that would be great as then no-one misses out on their PE lessons. Thank you!