



St Margaret's
Academy

Tel:01803 327090

Email:admin@st-margarets.torbay.sch.uk

Website:www.stmargaretstorbay.org.uk

Twitter [@stmargaretstq](https://twitter.com/stmargaretstq)

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Autumn Term Newsletter No.4

What a beautiful sunny week we have had and the children have loved being able to get outdoors during the school day. It seems that lots of you are getting out and about in the evenings and the weekends too taking part in Beat the Street! The children are really enthused and we keep hitting the top of the leaderboard so please keep it up! The children's fobs are pre-registered to our school but if any adults are using the cards you need to register them online and select our school. The game is for adults too so please don't feel guilt if you are clocking up points on a dog walk, on your walk to work or on an evening run.

There are double points on certain boxes this weekend—details are on the website. If you are not sure how to play here is the link to their website where you can find more instructions:

<https://beatthestreet.me/torbay/howtoplay>



Y5 and Y6 visited Bygones this week to find out more about Victorian life. They had a guided tour and found out lots about how different life was—the dentist was quite a talking point on the way back to school! I think they will all be brushing their teeth well from now on!

Thank you for supporting the school by attending the Scholastic Book Fair. The fair is here until Tuesday and if you buy a book you will be entered into a draw for a book token so you could even win the cost of your book back (effectively getting two books for the price of one!) The school also gets a percentage from each sale and we will use it to buy more books for the library. So please do pop in after school.

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



Beech — Miley shows amazing aspiration in all her learning in Beech Class. We are very proud of her.
Pine — Sophia H comes in with a wonderful, happy smile every day and tries her best in all she does!
Apple — Hollie is a great role model and she is great at supporting others with their learning too.
Oak — Ruby-Lee had an amazing attitude when learning and writing about where penguins live.
Birch — Harry H's behaviour is impeccable every single day and has been noticed by many staff!
Rowan — Ava has her hand up all the time to share her knowledge. Her enthusiasm is infectious.
Cherry — Emily has created an excellent piece of writing this week. Well done!
Maple — Noah is extremely enthusiastic and aspirational in his learning. Another great role model!
Holly — Buster has shown a responsible and aspirational approach in all aspects of his learning.
Willow — Navid has had a great week of learning, ending with completing a fantastic piece of writing.
Hawthorn — Jasmine has a wonderful attitude and the contributions she makes are brilliant.
Hazel — Jack has excellent manners and behaviour and his effort is outstanding in all he does.

RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

ASPIRATION

Diary Date Reminders:

Scholastic Book Fair—after school today and Monday and Tuesday next week

Friday 5th October—Herald Express in school to take First Class photos of the Reception children

Wednesday 10th October—Y5 parents maths workshop at 3:15pm (addition and subtraction methods)



Attendance Award
Congratulations to
Birch Class
for winning the School
Attendance Award with
100% attendance.

The whole school achieved 97.2% attendance. Well done everyone!
Keep it Up.



Is it too early to talk about Christmas? We are sending the children's art work off to a card company again this year so thought we would give you advance notice in case you are already planning ahead. A proof of the cards will be sent home mid October and you will be able to place your orders online with the company who will return them to the school by mid November so we can them out to you in time for the Christmas post.

PTA AGM. The PTA will, hopefully, form a new committee on Tuesday 2nd October. If you are able to attend the meeting at 2pm to offer your support we would love to see you. Please meet at the office.

Before and after school

We have had a few concerns expressed by parents regarding the school run:

- Please do not leave your dog unattended, tied to the railings outside. Dogs are not permitted on the school site so if you have no one to stay with your dog then please do not bring them on the school run.
- Please do not smoke near the entrances of the school
- Please do not park on the double yellow lines around the junction. Blue badge holders can park on double yellow lines but not within 15 metres of a junction.
- Please do not drive down St Margaret's Close to drop children off. This is private road and is particularly busy due to the construction work at the top of the close.

Please help keep the children safe by following the above requests. Thank you.

Thursday 4th October—School census day. A request for your help!

School budgets have been hard hit over the last few years and, whilst we are still in a good financial position, we do need your help to ensure we get all the funding we are entitled to. On census day the Government gather information which they then use to determine funding. One of the key measures relates to school dinners. Each school gets funded at 80% of the full number of infant pupils in school and we have to inform them of how many pupils ate a school dinner on that day. If 100% eat a meal then we get the additional 20% added to our budget. It's a crazy system really as school dinner numbers vary daily and some days we do have about 96% take up of meals but other days it can be lower. If it is low on census day we get a lower amount of money for the year. We would really like to get our full entitlement to school dinner money as this helps us meet the costs of running a school kitchen and providing high quality food. If you have a child in Reception, Y1 or Y2 please encourage them to have a school meal that day (you could always send a packed lunch in too in case they don't eat much of their meal). It is roast turkey day—we know that the children love the school Christmas dinner so we are hoping they will all want to come for a dinner on Thursday! We are also holding a 'lucky plate' competition again where the children can choose a treat for their class if they are a winner. Please do support the school to receive its entitlement to the full funding for providing school dinners. Thank you.

Learning today to achieve our tomorrows.