



**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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Spring Term Newsletter No.1

It has been an exciting whirlwind first week for me at St Margaret's. I started the week with an assembly about new adventures and how we can always find a way to navigate problems and succeed in our plans. This is certainly a new adventure for me and I've spent the week getting to know as many of the children, staff and parents as possible.

I first visited St Margaret's back in June 2018 and on every visit since, including this week, I have always been impressed by the dedication of the staff and the happiness of the children. The children behave well, they are polite, they smile and they show respect to each other and the adults. Staff here really do care about the children who they always put at the heart of their efforts and planning. In every area of the school I see children being nurtured and cared for. Their success, academically and emotionally is right at the centre of all the work here. For example, on Thursday after school, the Senior Leadership Team and middle leaders met to review last term's successes and improvements needed this term. The next steps from this meeting will be taken forward into each class to enable all the children to succeed.

It has been great to meet many of you this week either on the gate or at the meetings straight after school. You clearly agree that your children are happy and thrive. I also took on board some useful suggestions from you which are helpful for me to feed into future discussions with staff. I am very keen to ensure the school maintains strong links with home as this partnership is crucial to the success of your children. I know the PTA plays a big part in this relationship and I will be working closely with them. Their next meeting is at 2.00pm on Monday 21st January at school when you are very welcome to come along.

If you ever want to chat to me, you are very welcome to catch me on the school gate or if you think you will need a little longer, you can make an appointment via the school office. I shall be out in the mornings and after school, either on the front or rear gate. Mrs Pike will be on the alternative gate to me and you are very welcome to catch her too.

I feel very privileged to have taken on the role of Headteacher at St Margaret's and will endeavour to maintain all the strong values and practices. I recognise my responsibility in helping ensure the continued success of the school and I look forward to working with everybody over the years to come.

Enjoy your weekend.

Tim Hughes

Football Success

The Y5/6 A and B teams were part of a futsal (slight variation on 5-a-side football) tournament yesterday. They worked tremendously hard and did themselves proud. Although the B team came 8th, they were praised by other coaches for their sporting behaviour. Our A team started well, scoring 23 goals in total including beating Sherwell Valley 5-0 but eventually came 4th. We all know there are only winners and learners in sport - and we learnt a lot! Well done to all involved!

Thank you very much to Mr Tullier for giving up his time to take them and coach them.

RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

ASPIRATION

Diary Date Reminders:

2.00pm Monday 21st January: PTA meeting at school

Half-Term Mon 18th February-Fri 22nd February



Weekly Attendance Award

Congratulations to Rowan Class for winning the School Attendance Award with 99% attendance.

The whole school achieved 93% attendance. Let's see if we can beat our target next time!

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

- Ash — Evie B: a *tryatops* who is a super learner and always joins in
- Seren: a real *thinkodocus* who is using her sounds to write about her unicorn carriage
- Elm — Gabriella: a real *stickosaurus* who never gives up even when it gets tricky
- Shayla: a brilliant *tryatops* who has been working hard at home and school to learn the letters and sounds
- Beech — Noah: showing respect to all he meets at all times
- Pine — Marshall: working very hard this week with a smile
- Apple — Amelia: fantastic effort and attitude in Maths and for helping others
- Oak — James: excellent improvement and effort in phonics and sentence work
- Birch — Lyla: aspirational with her handwriting and showing great improvement
- Rowan — Amelia: doing lots of home learning and showing improvement in her handwriting
- Cherry — Oliver: showing a great attitude to learning
- Maple — Connor: ready to learn with a smile
- Holly — Elizabeth: a brilliant start to the term with an amazing learning attitude
- Willow — Kristen: working really hard in Maths and showing a fantastic learning attitude
- Hawthorn — Riley: a wonderful start to 2019 with a terrific attitude
- Hazel — Emma: outstanding writing including all the techniques to engage the reader



Family Support Worker

We are really excited to welcome Carrie Da Rosa to school who is a family support worker and will be covering Andrea's absence. Carrie will be available every Monday and Tuesday if you have any concerns around parenting, fussy eating, difficult bedtimes or difficult behaviour generally at home. Do come in and have a chat to Carrie if you'd like some support – she has worked previously at Kings Ash School and is keen to get working with families again. If you would like to contact Carrie, please telephone the main school office to arrange a mutually convenient time. Carrie is happy to work with parents either in school or at home and is looking forward to being part of our school community.

