

St Margaret's Academy

Hands-Face-Space- Act as if you've got it



Dear Parents,

We have now completed 6 weeks of education in school following the end of the last lockdown. Our review of the impact of the pandemic is showing it having had the greatest impact on younger children and the most vulnerable, which is consistent with Torbay and the national picture. The first lockdown had the greater negative impact on academic standards. During the second period of home learning we managed to maintain standards overall, which is testament to the increased offer we provided and the excellent support and teaching you managed to give at home. So, thank you for your support.

We have a good understanding of the gaps caused by the pandemic, both emotionally and academically, and we are tailoring our provision, teaching and design of the curriculum to meet your children's needs. As a school, we never lose sight of our core job of delivering the best education we can. This is always at the centre of what we do and has been throughout the pandemic. For example, throughout home learning and for the last 6 weeks we have focused our professional development on improving writing with training and peer to peer observations. We've seen the progress in pupils' writing improve as a result. On Wednesday evening, school governors met to review school progress and will be attending school across the summer term to get a picture of this work in practice. We will also be supported by our external school improvement partner to quality assure what we do. As always, if you would like to find out how your child is progressing since returning to school, please do contact the class teacher who will be happy to share their progress. You can find

Important Reminder



We will be now using the Medical Tracker system within school. Every child's medical record will be accessible to staff online and parents will receive instant **email notifications** of any incidents recorded. Please keep a look out for these as we will be phasing out the "first aid slips"

out what your child is learning about and how you can support at home via the Curriculum Information page. Just click on your child's year group

Deaf Awareness Week



This week, 4th - 7th May was Deaf Awareness Week nationally and we celebrated this at St. Margaret's with a variety of activities. Parents and staff that work with children in the Hearing Support Centre made cakes and we had a cake sale each day in the staff room to raise money for the National Deaf Children's Society. <https://www.ndcs.org.uk/>. Jo Saunders, Teacher of the Deaf, led an assembly on Tuesday for the whole school and taught signs that children could use around the school and on the playground to promote inclusion of deaf children at the school. During the week each class had a deaf awareness session with the Teacher of the Deaf where they talked about deaf awareness and learned additional signs, including practise of the alphabet and numbers in BSL. St. Margaret's pupils enjoy learning BSL and are encouraged to use BSL phrases around the school when they can, both with deaf and hearing children.

If you would like to know more about our [Hearing Support Centre](#), please do follow the link to have a look on the website. Also, have a look in the [Geography Blog](#) to see an exploding volcano done by one of our pupils.

Have a great Weekend

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Hughes'.

Tim Hughes
(Head teacher)



Whole School Attendance

96.6%

This week's class attendance star goes

to

Pine Class with

99.3%

Well done!



Beech	Keaton- for trying so hard with his letter formation. It has improved so much! Well done.
Pine	Archie- For being such a hard worker. He is always trying his best, he follows all of our school values and is especially kind and respectful. Archie always has a cheeky smile on his face!
Oak	Edith- for always showing kindness to others. I have been really impressed with Edith's writing this week and also it has been great to see her confidence grow with her reading her work in front of the class. Well done Edith!
Apple	Lyncoln - for an excellent attitude to learning this week that has been noticed by all the adults in our class. From spelling and writing to abstract artwork, he has listened, concentrated hard and produced some brilliant work. Keep it up Lyncoln!
Birch	Amy - For being really motivated to learn over the past couple of weeks, especially in your maths learning. Keep it up Amy!
Rowan	Alice - for such a positive attitude to her learning; a renewed sense of energy and enthusiasm. We are so pleased with you!
Cherry	Ella for showing our school values of aspiration and responsibility. These values have especially been seen in our current writing unit where she has been challenging herself to make very careful and deliberate choices with her sentence types. Ella has a genuine desire to learn in all subjects both in school and at home. We love your fantastic attitude. Well done Ella.
Hazel	Leo has shown such an improvement in his writing and maths this week, in particular being responsible for his own learning, listening and focussing. Well done Leo, keep it up.
Willow	Oscar – aspirational effort leading to fantastic improvement in presentation and handwriting.
Holly	Amelia - for her aspirational attitude. She has been working hard to develop beautiful joined handwriting and improve her speed of recall of times tables facts. Well done Amelia!
Maple	Joe as he always has a smile on his face - even whilst tackling tricky work - and is always happy to share his ideas. He also shows the school value of responsibility consistently in all aspects of school life, great job Joe!
Hawthorn	Ellen- a great week from you young lady! You are always trying you best in everything you do. You are inquisitive with your learning and always trying to improve.