

St Margarets Academy

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

Dear Parents,

Monday's assembly seems a very long time ago when we reflected on the story of the 'Seed in the Mud' that had to grow strong roots to overcome all the challenges as it grew into a mighty oak tree. It was a useful metaphor to help us all consider how we best face the challenges we meet in our lives.



It has been an extra-busy week in school for pupils and staff. Individual year group Sports Days have been taking place – sadly without parents to watch. Year 6 have been enjoying their activity week in place of a traditional residential. They have enjoyed a trip to the beach, swimming, photography, DT, baking, kayaking, raft building, and a school sleep over last night. They have more going on next week so look out for some photos and longer write-up. Children across the school have been completing various assessments to help inform the end of year teacher judgements.

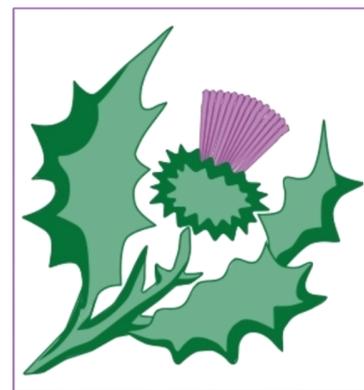
Huge thanks to *Blue Bird Care* and *Chloe Brooks*



We have received a lovely donation of £100 from Blue Bird Care towards stocking more books in our school library. As you know we are starting a Reading project with the Open University in September as well as launching a new programme to improve reading. This will really help and is much appreciated. Thank you also to them for their lovely cakes which vanished in a rush this morning.

Huge Thanks to *Mrs Baker's Mum, Bernadette Matthews*

St Margaret's Academy was built in the 1960s on the site of an old farm, called *Shorts Farm*. The only remaining part to the farm is our school orchard which retains the original name on the gate: *Shorts Farm Orchard*. Bernadette has spent hours lovingly restoring this sign to a beautiful condition. It's possibly 100 years old and must have witnessed a lot of things in its time. Check out the picture.



Whole School Attendance

96.8%

This week's class attendance star goes to

to Maple Class with

99%

Amazing Attendance

More Important News

Welcome to our New Parents

On Wednesday evening this week, we had our first welcome meeting for the parents of new children who will be joining us in September. We had planned to hold this in the hall as our first face to face proper meeting but unfortunately had to change to a virtual meeting in line with government guidance. If you're one of our new parents reading this or would like a look anyway, a recording of the meeting is now available on our website under *Parents and Carers – New Reception Starters*. The slide show is also on there. [Quick link here](#). These might help refresh your memory after the huge amount of information that came your way at the actual meeting. As mentioned at the meeting, this page will be regularly updated with relevant documents as they become available so keep checking back.

Staffing News

Congratulations to Mr Marchant who has been promoted to a Deputy Head Teacher position at Teignmouth Community Primary School. Mr Marchant will be leaving us at the end of the summer term and we wish him all the very best. Our new Assistant Head Teacher for Key Stage 2 from September will be Mrs Kerswell.

On Tuesday this week, we interviewed for two new teachers and I'm delighted to inform you that we appointed two talented individuals: Rebecca Hoey and Harriet Lynds. From September, Miss Hoey will be one of our Year 5 teachers and Miss Lynds will be one of our Year 3 teachers.

For your information, here is where the teachers will be from September. If not listed below, your children will be told which class they are in on our transition day on 8th July and this information will come out to you on the end of year report on 13th July.

Year	Teachers
Rec	Mrs Russell (Ash) / Miss Watkinson (Elm)
Y1	Mrs Tandy (Beech) / Mrs Morgan and Mrs Posey (Pine)
Y2	Mrs Turner and Mrs Scaife (Apple) / Mrs Rice (Oak)
Y3	Mr Tullier (Birch) / Miss Lynds (Rowan)
Y4	Mrs Wall (Cherry) / Miss Pritchard (Hazel)
Y5	Miss Hoey (Willow) / Mrs Bindon and Mrs Chivers (Holly)
Y6	Miss Pilkiewicz (Maple) / Mrs Kerswell and Mrs Kennedy (Hawthorn) <i>Please note: current Year 5 Holly Class will become Year 6 Maple Class and current Y5 Willow Class will become Year 6 Hawthorn Class</i>

I would also like to welcome Emma Hollis and Lydia Cullen to our teaching team, both of whom are joining us as teaching assistants from September.

Finally and certainly not least, we also welcome Laura Mallandaine to our team. Laura will be joining the office team as one of our school administrators following a successful interview yesterday.

Transition Events

Following government guidance, secondary schools have cancelled the Y6-Y7 transition activities due to the rise in Covid-19 cases and we have sadly cancelled our picnic events for our new Reception children. In-school transition events will still go ahead, scheduled for Thursday 8th July when your child will meet their new teacher, adhering to our safety measures.

PTA Appeal

The current PTA is standing down and we desperately need some new parents to take up the mantle from September. We are seeking a Chairperson, a Treasurer and a Secretary. Please do make contact with the current team or let the office know if you might be interested. The PTA plays a huge part in school life and if we can return to normal working from September (fingers crossed) it would be great to be able to offer all the additional opportunities and much needed fund-raising. Please do approach us with any questions.

Free Bus Travel in the Bay

Torbay Council are delighted to be able to offer free bus travel to families that are entitled to benefits related free school meals for the summer holiday period. If you would like the chance to travel on Stagecoach buses to explore Torbay, we are offering eligible families, five family day passes. Each pass will enable up to two adults and three children the ability to travel for free. (If you have a larger family we will provide additional tickets) We hope that this will support you to take advantage of the many opportunities that the Bay has to offer. If you are eligible and would like to receive these tickets please register your details using the link below <https://forms.torbay.gov.uk/SummerBusTickets>
Registration to receive tickets closes on Friday 9th July 2021 at 5pm.

Rising Cases of Covid-19 in the Bay

Cases of Covid-19 are rising across Torbay and several schools have already been affected. Please do continue to be super aware and careful. Please wear masks on school site and keep 2 metres distance to others. If anyone in your household or support bubble has symptoms of Covid-19, the whole household must isolate pending the results of a PCR test.

If you find yourself in a household with a confirmed case and don't have symptoms, the advice now is that you can book a PCR test even without symptoms. However, you will still have to complete the full 10 days isolation.

As we approach the summer holiday, nobody wants to have to isolate during this time, so this is an extra incentive to be very cautious from now onwards.

Lateral Flow tests are not recommended for use by children under age 11 years. In addition to this, they should not be used by people with symptoms whether they are 11 years old or not.

Please notify us ASAP of a positive PCR test result either by phone during office hours or via the email: admin@st-margarets.torbay.sch.uk out of office hours.

Have a lovely weekend.



Tim Hughes (Headteacher)



Beech	Kyron-John - for having an AMAZING week! You have tried so hard with your writing. You have been a wonderful zoo keeper, a truly wonderful friend and a fabulous member of our class - well done you!
Pine	Sophie- For her general enthusiasm towards her learning. She absolutely loves reading her morning book and gets really exciting about it. What a wonderful role model you are Sophie!
Oak	Ruby- for always trying her best and having a positive attitude even when things are a bit tricky. It was lovely to see your smile during sports day too. Well done Ruby!
Apple	Ava - She always impresses us with her excellent manners but this week we have also noticed how hard she is trying with her phonics, even practising in her COOL time.
Birch	Bella - For always being so pleasant and kind to all. You put a smile on my face every day!
Rowan	Toby - for consistently working hard in all subjects and being such a pleasure to teach.
Cherry	Reuben for participating well in Year 4 sports day and for being more resilient with learning tasks.
Hazel	Theo and Bethany have been superstars in Hazel this week, for their aspirational effort in writing and showing kindness to others.
Willow	Lyla for being so aspirational in her attitude to her work and showing super progress in our end of term assessments! Well done Lyla!
Holly	Oscar and Lilly-Ann - for the effort they have both put into improving the presentation of their written work and forming their joined handwriting more carefully. It is fantastic to see you both responding to advice and being aspirational. Well done!
Maple	Harriet - for having such a positive attitude this week and having a go at all the activities we have done with real enthusiasm! Well done, we are so proud of you.
Hawthorn	This week all of Hawthorn class are stars! They have been an absolute pleasure to be around this week!