

St. Margaret's Newsletter



Friday 17th November 2023

Learn every day, help each other and be happy.

This week it has been really lovely to hear what the children think about some very important issues. The week started with 'odd sock day': the start of anti-bullying week. On this day, we talked about the importance of the differences that we all have and celebrated what makes us unique. The theme of anti bullying has continued throughout the week, with our School Council delivering an excellent assembly that provoked a lot of thought. It has been very reassuring to hear the children's views on the importance of acceptance—some of their answers allow me to think that our society is in good hands with the next generation!

Today we have dressed up in order to raise money for Children in Need. Thank you for your support with this—we understand that times are challenging for lots of us and we always appreciate the community response to such events. It has been fantastic to hear the children talk about the importance of caring for others. As compassion is one of our school values, it is always very pleasing to see this running throughout the school.

Thank you to those parents who have attended our parent workshops this week. I understand that the timings of these can be tricky so we will endeavour to try different times with our next round of workshops—these will take place in the Spring Term.

I hope that you all have a fantastic weekend.

Sam Malyn

Home Work

Thank you for all of your support as we continue to develop our homework strategy. For any homework that is being completed, please can this be brought into class on Monday 11th December. This will give us time to share and celebrate the effort that your children have gone to.

If you have any questions about this, please ask Mr Malyn.

Thank you.

Messages from the Office

CHRISTMAS DATES

6th December—Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day

11th December—Year 3 performance at 2.30pm and 5.30pm

12th December—Year 4 performance at 2.30pm and 5.30pm

13th December—Year 6 performance at 2.30pm and 5.30pm

14th December—Year 5 performance at 2.30pm and 5.30pm

15th December—Christingle in St. Margaret's Church (time to be confirmed)

- **There will be a Children's Craft Chapel at the Holy Trinity Church in Westward Ho! On Saturday 25th November from 10am until 12noon. This will be part of a Christmas Coffee Morning so parents can attend as well to enjoy cake, craft and other stalls with a raffle etc. Other attractions include Santa's Gift Vestry. There will be a £3 charge towards craft costs.**
- Could you please ensure that your child has a NAMED coat in school each day as they are going outside to play at break and lunchtimes as much as the weather will allow.
- **If bringing medicine into school for your child to take could you please make sure you complete the medicine form in the school office. If your child requires an asthma inhaler this form still needs to be completed. The inhaler can then be kept in the child's classroom. All other medicine will be kept in the school office.**
- The final payment for London residential trip needs to be paid to the school office by 8th December. The final payment for the PGL trip is due now. If you are unsure how much you have left to pay please contact the school office. Please remember that all cheques now need to be made payable to Ventrus Ltd.
- **Ventrus are hoping that we will migrate to a new management information system by the end of November. This means that we will be able to set up a new online system for parents to pay dinner money etc online. Eventually both school will be cashless in line with Ventrus policy with all payments being made online.**
- ***The HAF (Holiday Activities and Food) website is now live and gives a programme of events for the Winter. Places are available for children who are accessing benefit related free school meals. Please visit <http://devon.cc/haf-winter-23> to find events in our area and to book a place. Previously issued HAF codes remain valid.***
- There will be a toy sale at St. George's school hall on 30th November and 1st December from 2.30pm. If you are having a pre Christmas clear out we would love your toy donations. Please leave at either school office.

Our learning this week

Year 3: In Maths this week we've moved onto multiplication and division, understanding how arrays can represent different multiplication facts. In writing, we've started to plan our own stories based on the 'The Secret of Black Rock' and we'll soon be ready to write our own versions.

Thank you to the parents who were able to donate some food for us to work with on Wednesday. We had a great time chopping, grating, pressing and juicing different vegetables and learned about the 'claw grip' to cut safely. We're looking forward to using these skills when making our own vegetable soup later in the term. Maybe the children will be ready to cook their family a meal!

This week in **Year 4**, we have finished our independent narrative work and have created some fantastic stories. We explored vibration in Science and had great fun experimenting with how vibrations move things. We used rice on the surface of a drum skin to show this in action. In art we have explored how colour can demonstrate feeling and have had a go at expressing this ourselves. We have started a new guided reading text, Agent Asha and have been impressing our teachers with our retrieval skills and how we evidence our ideas by using the text.

Year 5 have worked really hard in their English lessons this week, learning about what it would be like to set sail around the world in order that we can write our own. We had a lot of fun in PE, learning the basics of Tag Rugby and have tried to mimic some earthquake art work by Jave Yoshimoto.

This week in **Year 6** we have finished our modelled write about our mythical dragons and have started to create our own. We are trying to write in a factual style (albeit a fictional beast) about a dragon of our own creation. We have covered fractions, square roots, factors and multiples in maths and have been showing off our skills to Mr Malyn when he taught us on Thursday morning. In PE, we have progressed to the Silver award in our gymnastic competition preparation. It's starting to get a bit tricky, luckily Mr Ovey has some gymnasts in the class to rely on. Friday has been lots of fun in our pyjamas and spotty outfits - burpees were interesting in onesies.

Class Teacher Awards

Trust: Willow

Peace: Calin

Friendship: Clementine

Forgiveness: Chloe

Hope: Sophia

Wisdom: Isla

Thankfulness: Isla

Compassion: Katie