

St. Margaret's Newsletter



Friday 24th November 2023

Learn every day, help each other and be happy.

We always aim for our children to be proud of the work they do during their time at school. Celebrating our children's achievement is a key part of what we do – and one of the best parts of my job! From stickers to family group points, bench of legends to biscuits and a book with the boss, our approach is centred around making our children aware of just how brilliantly they are doing.

It has been a week where this pride has really shone through. The children in Year 3 are a great example of this. They have been working hard publishing their writing and it looks incredible! Our Year 4 children are showing a brilliant level of understanding as they continue to tackle some really tricky maths. The presentation of their ideas shows the importance that they are placing on their thoughts and it is fantastic to see the logic they are showing when working through the division and multiplication challenges. This is an approach that Year 5 and 6 continue to develop – the way that they can articulate and explain their thinking shows just how much they are thinking about their work.

Another important step forwards in our school development journey is establishing a new group of governors. This includes parent governors—if you are interested in this please do contact me.

Within worship this week we have been thinking about talent – the concept of 'God given talent' and how we can best use the abilities that we have been given. Celebration Worship always inspires me as it is an opportunity for us to hear about the many talents that our children work on outside of school. I truly do not know where the children get their energy from! I hope you all have a fantastic weekend.

Sam Malyn

Christmas Jumpers

As we move towards Christmas, I wanted to update you on some of the things that we are doing within school to allow our children to celebrate this exciting time together. **For every school day during December, the children are allowed to wear Christmas jumpers.** School uniform expectations will remain the same with the only alteration being that children can wear Christmas jumpers. Please note – this is an offer that children CAN take up – there is no pressure for them to do so. We do not want to add pressure at this time of year regarding the purchasing of Christmas jumpers so children can also wear normal school jumpers if they wish.

The children are working hard on their songs ready for our performances. Following the success of last year, these will have a Christmas Carols by the tree theme. We will sing some songs, share some thoughts about Christmas and, most importantly, give our children the chance to shine.

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.**
- We have had cases of headlice and thread worm reported in the lower end of the school. Could you please check your child this weekend and treat if necessary. The school nursing team recommend wet combing with conditioner and a nit comb for headlice. Treatment for threadworm can be obtained from a pharmacy.
- ***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.
- **Christmas Dinner for the children will be on 6th December. FONS have very kindly agreed to pay for a dinner for each child and we are very grateful to them for this. Order forms will be going home with the children today. This year the children have voted to go back to a more traditional roast dinner. There will also be vegan and vegetarian options available. Please can the order be returned to school by next Wednesday 29th November to give time for the kitchen manager to order in the supplies. Please note that even if your child receives free school meals an order must be returned.**

Our learning this week

The View from our Blogging Team

The year 3 students this week in English have been rocking at writing their own version of a book called the Black Rock , but they also had fun drawing pictures of erosions. The year 4s have been learning their 3,6,7 and 9 time tables but they couldn't do much of their 9s because 7 8 9. In PE this week they have been tired out doing bench ball, hockey, and gymnastics. In the year 5 classes, they have been writing their own version of a book called Kensuke's Kingdom. In geography they have been learning about continental drift, luckily they didn't drift away. In art they have been doing seismograph art, they also have done some PE [tag rugby]. The year 6's have been bending in gymnastics and shooting in football. They also have been writing about dragons, they flew all over the pages when they saw the amazing writing.

Year 3: In Maths this week, we've continued working on multiplication and division, we have now mastered using arrays to help us represent different multiplication facts. In writing, we've planned and written our own stories based on the 'The Secret of Black Rock' and have started to publish them, they look awesome! In DT we have also researched and designed our own vegetable soup. Perfect for the incoming cold weather!

Year 4: In Maths this week we have been using different methods and approaches to tackle lots of multiplication and division calculations. We have been working hard on our predicting skills in reading and have continued our work on diary writing. We have been writing a diary that focuses on us using really powerful language to describe the events of a natural disaster. In PE, we have started a new unit of hockey. We worked on how to hold the hockey stick and simple passing to a team mate. Another very successful week!

Year 5: This week we started our swimming lessons, which was very exciting for us! We really enjoyed ourselves and our teachers were very impressed with our listening skills and how we behaved.

Year 6: This week in Year 6 we had a really exciting visit from the people at ShelterBox. They came to talk to us about the work they do in disaster zones. They brought an example of the box they send out to disaster zones and we had the opportunity to go through it, look at the kit and erect a tent. Year 6 had lots of interesting questions and showed some fantastic learning behaviours. Elsewhere in the curriculum, we have finished our dragon reports and have begun turning them into a webpage so we can share it with everyone.

Class Teacher Awards

Trust: Arthur

Peace: Leo

Friendship: Reggie

Forgiveness: Finn

Hope: Ronnie

Wisdom: Hazel

Thankfulness: Lily-Mae

Compassion: Kaleesi