

# St. Margaret's Newsletter



Friday 9th February 2024

**Learn every day, help each other and be happy.**

We have made it! I am really keen to start today with a well done. Well done to all of our resilient children for making it through this incredibly tricky term. The attitude and engagement that they all continue to show is ever so impressive - I am really proud of all of them. I would like to say well done to all of our parental community. I totally understand the challenges that come with supporting children in getting them to school, ready to learn and smiling. Well done to all of the staff who have worked tirelessly to nurture, support and inspire our children during their time within our school.

Today marks the halfway point for us this academic year. That means that our Year 3 children have been with us for half a year! It has been great to see how they have settled in - the school wouldn't feel the same without them. We are always really conscious of the challenge that comes with the transition from Year 2 to Year 3 and the time that I have spent in their classrooms this week has confirmed that they are settled, focused and proud of the work that they are producing. This is a similar theme across the school - our children continue to develop the positive feelings of achievement and pride that are experienced when we try our best. We continue to develop the idea of achievement and pride through a series of systems and this is something that will continue to be a focus next half term.

After half term, we will be having a real push on the personal characteristics and learning skills that we need in order to flourish. We will focus on resilience and the way that we react when faced with challenge, while thinking about how we can identify our achievements in order to motivate us to achieve further. I am really looking forward to working with our children on this.

I hope that you all have a fantastic half term holiday.

Sam Malyn

## **World Book Day- Thursday March 7th 2024**

World book day this year will be held on Thursday 7th March at St Margaret's Junior school. As always, we would like to use this opportunity to share our love for reading and would like to warmly welcome all parents/ guardians into school first thing on Thursday the 7th of March to share a favourite children's book with your child or a small group of children.

In true world book day tradition, we would love our children to come to school dressed as a favourite character from one of their books. Again, this does not need to be an added expense. The more home made the better! There will be a small prize for the most creative costume from each class.

Please find below a link from the literacy trust that provides you with a bank of resources and ideas for you and your child to enjoy.

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/about-us/world-book-day-national-literacy-trust/>

<https://www.worldbookday.com/about-us/>

## Messages from the Office

- **Non Pupil Day - Monday 19th February. Children return to school on Tues 20th February.**
- **First day back menu has been changed from the online version. Please see options below**  
**1. Cheeseburger, 2. Falafel Burger, 3. Jacket Potato, 4. Ham Bap.**
- **School Lunch Menu has been slightly updated. Please check website for changes.**
- **To keep your children safe, please could we kindly request you do not enter the school premises during drop off or collection without prior appointment. If you need to speak to your child's teacher, please go to the school office to make an appointment. The office can pass on any information whether you phone or visit the school office.**
- **We have sent out invitations to parents/guardians to log into an online parent portal through our new Arbour Management Information System. Through this app you will now be able to pay for school meals online. (Please note that opening balances will be transferred after half term). Once the system is up and running we will be adding other items such as school uniform and school trips. It is the intention that both St. Margaret's will become entirely cashless in line with all other Ventrus schools. If you have problems logging in please let us know.**
- **We are now in desperate need of NEW underwear for boys and girls ages 7 –10 years as we have no spares left. Any donations of NEW underwear would be gratefully received.**
- **Advance notice PGL Parents Meeting will be on Wednesday 21st Feb at 5:30pm.**
- **Super advance notice: We will be holding a Scholastic book fair week beginning 29th April 2024.**
- **Lost Property—We have several items of lost property in the office. Three single keys, glasses and case, unnamed bodywarmer and a couple of unnamed coats. Please contact the office if you think any of these items below to you.**
- **Please see the letter from Public Health England. Click on the link below which outlines the symptoms and what parents should to do if you are worried a child may have measles.**  
[What to do if you think your child has measles and when to keep them off school - The Education Hub \(blog.gov.uk\)](#)  
  
**Link for more information regarding vaccine [MMR \(measles, mumps and rubella\) vaccine - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)**

## Our learning this week

This week in Year 3, we have been writing a modern day version of 'Cinderella'. In maths, we have been understanding scaling and possibilities. In PSHE, we have been considering people who have overcome barriers in their life and set ourselves targets that we can try to achieve. We are currently designing a perfect and tranquil garden, perfect for a restful half term!

This week in Year 4 we have had great fun making sliders as part of our DT. We made a moving picture around our topic of the Romans and the children did a fantastic job. We have also finished writing our class story around the animated The boy, the mole, the fox and the horse. We have had some great discussions about bravery and helping each other through tricky times. We have set ourselves the target to keep practising our times tables over half term so please remind us to log on to TTRockstars daily in case we forget.

Year 5 - We have had a busy week learning how to be safer on our bikes with some great Bikeability instructors. In English, we are learning about how jelly beans are made so that we can write an explanation text next half term. You'd be surprised how many fruits and vegetables are in them!

Year 6 - This week we have enjoyed writing our own stories and have been looking at ratio and proportion in maths. We have planned out our designs for our own game in Computing. In art this half term we have been looking at how art is influenced by religion and have now created our own stained glass windows which depict a Christian scene or story. It has been a really busy half term and we have really enjoyed learning lots of new concepts across the curriculum. Happy half term holiday.

### Class Teacher Awards

Trust: Ava

Friendship: Mariia

Thankfulness: Lily-Mae

Hope: Isabella

Peace: Harrison

Forgiveness: Lexie

Wisdom: Jasmine

Compassion: Griff



# Should I keep my child off school?



## Yes

### Until...

<b>Chickenpox</b>	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
<b>Diarrhoea and Vomiting</b>	48 hours after their last episode
<b>Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)</b>	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
<b>Impetigo</b>	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
<b>Measles</b>	4 days after the rash first appeared
<b>Mumps</b>	5 days after the swelling started
<b>Scabies</b>	they've had their first treatment
<b>Scarlet Fever</b>	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
<b>Whooping Cough</b>	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

## No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

<b>Hand, foot and mouth</b>	<b>Glandular fever</b>
<b>Head lice</b>	<b>Tonsillitis</b>
<b>Threadworms</b>	<b>Slapped cheek</b>



SCAN ME

### Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.