

St. Margaret's Newsletter



Friday 8th September 2023

Learn every day, help each other and be happy.

Welcome to our first newsletter of the academic year! I hope that you have all had a lovely holiday and that adapting back to the school runs has been ok! It has been brilliant to have everyone back with us. It has been really noticeable how happy the children have been when walking through the gates in the morning and this is something that we are very proud of. We firmly believe that happy children learn more and I have been really impressed with the levels of effort and engagement—particularly considering how incredibly hot it has been this week. It was great to invite Rev Jules back in yesterday after our long summer break. She talked to us all about Jesus being the light of the World, and the light that we can all shine with our kindness and compassion. During my Worship this week, we have been talking about how we feel about the year ahead. We focused on the importance of not letting our worries or fears stand in the way of us reaching our potential. I genuinely am so excited to see just how far our children can fly this year. I hope that you all have a fantastic weekend.

Sam Malyn

TERM DATES

Non Pupil Day—Friday 20th October 2023

October Half Term—Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October 2023

Last day of Term— Friday 15th December 2023

Spring Term—Tuesday 2nd January to Thursday 28th March 2024

February Half Term—Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February 2024

Non Pupil Day —Monday 19th February 2024

Easter Holiday—Friday 29th March to Friday 12th April 2024

Summer Term —Monday 15th April to Tuesday 23rd July 2024

May Half Term—Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May 2024 (**May Bank Holiday**—**Monday 6th May 2024**)

Messages from the Office &

Key Dates for your Diary:

- **Welcome back—please find below a few reminders for the new academic year.**
- **If you have changed address or mobile phone number over the holidays please let us know. It is especially important that we have an up to date email address.**
- **Please be reassured that all safeguarding issues will be dealt with immediately by a member of the senior leadership team - all of whom have undertaken full training.**
- **The company who run our online payment system will no longer be providing the service. We will be joining the Ventrus Multi-Academy Trust in October and will hopefully move to the system they use. In the meantime can dinner money etc be paid to the school office using either cash or cheque.**
- **Please remember that all medicines must be brought to the office and a form completed. If your child has an asthma inhaler these can be kept in the classroom but please come to the office to either update your medical form or complete a new one.**
- **Please can we remind you that all absences must be reported to the office—when leaving messages on our absence line can you please give a reason as to why your child is not in school.**
- **The price of a school dinner is currently £2.40, however please be advised after October half term this cost will rise to £2.50.**
- **After School Activity Clubs will not start until after the October half term.**
- **On Saturday 16th September from 10.30am to 3pm Widgit Symbols and Dorling Kindersley Publishers will be holding a Family Fun Day in Appledore. Register at the ABF Gazebo on Appledore Quay. There will be a Family Trail Blaze through Appledore Village and a range of activities to take part in including potato printing, biscuit decorating, lego workshop, face painting etc.**
- **The Bremco North Devon Cross Country League will start at the beginning of October. It would be good to have representatives from St. Margaret's. There are six races and children need to run five races to get their medal. Please see entry details at <https://northdevonxcleague.weebly.com>. Race dates are: Sunday 1st October—West Buckland School, Sunday 5th November—Northam Burrows, Sunday 26th November—Coxleigh Barton Equestrian Centre, Sunday 14th January—Northam Burrows, Sunday 4th February—Northam Burrows, Sunday 3rd March—West Buckland School (finals and presentations)**

Our learning this week

We have been very busy this week. Here is just a snapshot of what we have been up to:

Reading at Home

You will hear lots this year about how much we love reading. We think that it is a great way for our children to grow their imagination, vocabulary and curiosity for the world around them. We know that it opens doors and opportunities wherever they will go. We are in the process of conducting the assessments that we use to ensure that children are given suitable reading books from school. Until that is completed, your child may come home with a book that is not perfectly matched to their reading ability. We apologise for this but feel as a group that it is very important that our children come home from their first week of school with a reading book. There will be some workshops taking place so that we can support our parental community with reading at home in upcoming weeks.

School Blog

Bloggers

Evie, William, Orla and Jasmine.

8/9/23

At the beginning of the week for us Year Sixes, we all met our new teachers, Miss Moores and Mr Ovey. They introduced us to our new topic, which is the Battle Of Britain (World War 2). In Maths, we've been learning some algebra. It was challenging at first for us but in the end, we managed to get the hang of it. For English this week, we have been doing a diary entry about our summer holidays. We also have been doing some guided reading about James Chadwick, who helped to create the first atomic bomb. And finally, in Art (based on our history) we have been making silhouettes of London during World War 2, during a time called the Blitz. And that is what Year Six have been doing this week.

Class Teacher Awards—These are handed out weekly in our Celebration Worship.

Trust: Lucy G

Peace: Leo

Friendship: Boris L

Forgiveness: Aadil

Hope: Polly

Wisdom: Jasmine

Thankfulness: Faith

Compassions: Aalekh