St Margaret's Academy

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Spring Term Newsletter No. 7

Welcome back after the half term holiday. We hope you all had a lovely break. You, hopefully, have noticed all the work that we have done over the half term! We now have a shelter outside KS1 so the children can learn outdoors all year round—plus it offers parents some shelter from the rain. We also have replaced the windows in the older part of the building and tidied up the railing and pathway by the pebbled garden. Apple and Oak Classrooms have been painted too.

We started the week with an assembly about a "Golden Mile" - all of our children have been running as part of their curriculum for sometime now but we have decided to add an element of competition so the Y1- Y6 children can track how they are improving over time. Please make sure your child has well fitting PE shoes in school every day so they can participate safely in this activity. We will also be sending out information about a Parent Running Club before Easter with a view to starting after the Easter holidays. This will coincide with drop off times and as the first school in Torbay to offer this we will be part of a case study for Active Devon.

Your children's learning for the half term is all on our website in the curriculum area, along with their homework. You will also find a calendar which is full of events happening in the school so you can stay up to date. If you have not yet looked at our website please do as there is much information on there about the school day.

We are very proud of this week's Star Pupils:

Beech — Charlie has brought his golden heart into the class and settled in so well!
Pine — Thomas is helpful and plays gently with his friends.
Apple — Gemma tries her best, giving 100% all the time. She's responsible and caring.
Oak — Ben tries hard with his writing and has been answering questions with enthusiasm.
Birch — Hedley has participated well in maths this week—great growth mindset!
Rowan — Liam has settled well into the class and has a brilliant attitude!
Cherry — George is a good friend to others and has worked hard at his writing.
Maple — Mia has shown excellent behaviour and attitude to learning, especially on the school trip.
Holly — Mackenzie has improved his editing skills and shown great enthusiasm in Science.
Willow — Kyan has taken more responsibility and approached his work with great attitude.
Hawthorn — Darcey is an aspirational learner who always tries her best!
Hazel — Louie has impressed us with his fantastic writing and vocabulary choices.

Diary Date Reminders:

Tuesday 28th February—Netball Semi-final until 5pm
Tuesday 28th February—last day to pay for PTA film night
Thursday 2nd March PTA Film Night until 5pm
Thursday 2nd March —World Book Day
Thursday 2nd March—Y5 and 6 Boys Football County Finals



Attendance Award

Congratulations to Cherry Class for winning the School Attendance Award with 99.3% attendance.

The whole school achieved 95.6% attendance overall which is just below our target.

Football News

This week the Boys Football Team played in the TUFC Cup. Throughout the evening they played 5 matches, winning two, drawing two and narrowly losing to the eventual winners Curledge Street. The boys worked hard and played very well eventually finishing second in the tournament. They have the opportunity to bounce back straight away when they Barton in the league later this week.

World Book Day

World book Day takes place on Thursday 2nd March 2017, and we would like to invite you to join us in helping your child to make the most of this special occasion. To fully engage the children in the event as well as develop reading for pleasure, we are inviting children to come dressed up as their favourite character or author. Please don't feel that you have to spend any money to create these costumes, there are some great ideas on the World Book Day website http://www.worldbookday.com/dressing-up/ . Don't forget your amazing Roald Dahl Day costumes; it would be great to see lots of them again! Some children may wish to write or draw about their chosen character or book to share with friends as a way of persuading them to read it! Children are encouraged to bring in a NAMED copy of their favourite book to share across the year groups in the afternoon.

We suggest that children who dress up donate £1 to the Book Aid International charity who send new children's books to schools and libraries in Africa with the donations.

World Book Day celebrates the joy and value of books and reading, especially for children. To help get them started on their reading journey, every child will receive a £1 World Book Day Book Token. Your child's token will be handed out by their class teacher and can be redeemed at most UK bookshops. Please help your child to use it on or around World Book Day by visiting your local bookshop.

You can join us in building your child's enthusiasm for books well beyond World Book Day by reading together regularly and joining your local library if you are not yet members. For more information about World Book Day and ideas on sharing books at home, visit www.worldbookday.com

Headlice

Please can we ask that you check your child's hair regularly for headlice. They are, unfortunately, a childhood hazard but are easily treated. It is very frustrating for parents when they clear their child's hair only for them to come home again with more headlice —the only way we can reduce cases of headlice is if all families check daily and comb or treat hair if they discover any eggs or live lice. Thank you.

Learning today to achieve our tomorrows.