

# St Margarets Academy

8<sup>th</sup> December 2023



## Christmas News

What a fabulous week and a bit: so Christmassy and traditional. Last Friday there was the KS1 Nativity at Babbacombe Theatre. This week it has been Christmas dinners and

Christmas jumpers, making every day festive and fun. There has been the PTA cinema trip and film for younger ones. Today, we finished with the stunning PTA Santa's Grotto and the class Christmas tree judging by our friends from Dunboyne Court. Keep an eye on BBC Spotlight tonight as they are trying to squeeze a short grotto feature in just before the weather. Thank you so much to everybody who has helped to make these days so magical.



## Special Thanks

Thank you so much to Lawrence Rolfe from Torquay 41 Club who did a sponsored bike ride to raise money which they used to buy sacks of presents for some of our families. So kind.



**“Its beginning to look a lot like Christmas”**



## Breakfast Club and After School Clubs

From January we are very sad to say that we have to increase the cost for Breakfast and After School Club. The last time prices were raised was over 4 years ago. We have resisted this move for as long as possible in the current financial climate but unfortunately we now have no choice due to the continuously rising costs school is incurring. We are really sorry we have to pass this on to you too as parents. The new costs per session will be as follows:

- Breakfast club will rise from £2.50 to £3.50
- After School Club will rise from £7.70 to £9.00 with sibling reduction rising from £5.50 to £7.00

## KS2 (Years 3-6) Carol Service

This will take place at Upton Vale Church on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December, 5:30-6:30pm. You, your family and children are invited to attend the carol concert for an hour of singing and celebrating at this wonderful time of the year. Please note: parents will need to stay at the church during the performance please. We would love to see as many of you there as possible! Children will be required to wear their uniform but can wear some tinsel/a hat/something Christmassy if they wish!



## Congratulations to our hearing support team

Three members of our Hearing Support Centre staff have been beavering away learning Cued Speech in order to be able to put it into practise with our deaf pupils. Cued Speech is a communication tool that can be used to give deaf children a visual representation of the sounds in the English language. Some of the children at St. Margaret's use Cued Speech to support the development of their literacy skills alongside BSL for words that cannot be signed in BSL. Well done for passing your Level 1 Cued Speech exam this week!



## Curriculum News

Look in the History Blog to see how [Year 4](#) enjoyed their trip to Torquay Museum last Friday

## Train to be a Teacher- Locally

Would you like to train to be a teacher and do so locally? Or do you know someone who would like to? To find out more please visit [www.swifteachertraining.org.uk](http://www.swifteachertraining.org.uk) or email Nicky or Abby via [info@swifteachertraining.org.uk](mailto:info@swifteachertraining.org.uk). You can also read more detail on [our website](#) under 'Useful Resources for Parents'.

Happy December

A small white rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be 'Tim Hughes'.

Tim Hughes  
Head Teacher



## Stars of the week

Beech	Erin is our star of the week this week. She has grown in confidence so much over the last few weeks. She is now putting her hand up to answer questions during whole class lessons and joining in much more. Well done Erin.
Pine	Liam for trying really hard with your learning this week. Well Done- keep up the good work!
Oak	Esmail for her outstanding performance in the play last week and your fantastic writing in class this week. Well Done
Apple	Our star this week showed super aspiration in our nativity. Although Oliver was a little apprehensive in having a speaking part, he absolutely nailed it and said all of his lines confidently. Oliver has also shown more responsibility in his learning recently - well done and keep it up!
Holly	We're so proud of our star of the week - Ethan! He's spent lots of time in class and has been aspirational in his learning. He's worked with lots of different members of Holly class and has been showing lovely manners to both adults and children.
Willow	Bentley is the star of the week in Willow class. He demonstrates great concentration on his learning and we were amazed with the wonderful melting snowman he made during our writing experience lesson. Well done Bentley.
Cherry	Lola P is my final star during my 7.5 years at St Margaret's and what a wonderful star she is. She consistently gives her best, always listens well and is a joy to teach. Keep being brilliant!
Hazel	Our Hazel class star of the week is Niamh for your fantastic and aspiration effort in learning to sign in BSL. You make sure that everyone is included in the learning by helping to sign to your friends. You are such a valuable member of our class! Keep it up.
Birch	Birch's star this week is Paige for her excellent resilience, aspiration and kindness during her sewing. Not only did Paige use her skills to create a gorgeous gift bag, she helped other children with their work too! Well done, Paige. You're a superstar!
Rowan	Lily is this week's star. She is an incredible role model in the classroom and has shown such kindness this week in DT, we have been sewing and she has been so helpful with tying knots and generally supporting others. Thank you Lily for being such a superstar.
Maple	Maple's star of the week goes to Neave for her aspirational attitude in Design and Technology. This week, we have made Christmas decorations in class and Neave has blown us away with her sturdy frame structure which I'm sure will look lovely on her tree at home! Well done Neave!
Hawthorn	Maddie is our Star of the Week for her aspiration. She has been focusing so well in English lessons which is showing in the progress she is making with her writing and this week her Christmas decoration was made with great care and precision in DT. Well done Maddie!