

St Margaret's Academy

Hands-Face-Space- Fresh Air- Act as if you've got it

Dear Parents,

It has been another fun-packed and busy week at St Margaret's Academy. It is so lovely to walk around the school and see the engagement and excitement in the classrooms and at playtimes. This doesn't happen by chance. Beyond the school day and into the weekend, staff work long hours to plan and provide the best education. We really are very lucky to have such an amazing group who go above and beyond for your children in so many ways.

Curriculum News – Expanding Science!

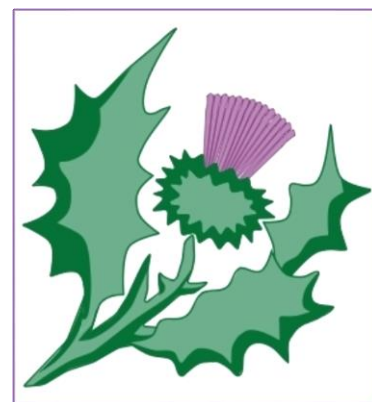
This week we have been getting involved in *National Science Week*. Across the school there has been a range of intriguing science taking place. For example, have a look in the Science Blog to see [Year 1](#) exploring invertebrates, [Year 4](#) making a time lapse video of their origami virus growth and [Year 6](#) getting stuck into a bird beak experiment; all great fun.



Today we were joined by our friends from Dunboyne Court to judge the science homework projects. A big well done to all the children who got involved. The winners were chosen by Phil, John and Ali to join them for lunch and will be taking a trip to Dunboyne Court on Monday to share with the other residents. See the [Science Blog](#) for more information and some of the photos.

As part of the *Growth* theme to the Science Week, our wonderful PTA organised for all the children to have first aid lessons, from Reception to Year 6. Have a look in the [PSHE Blog](#) to see how Year 1 got on in Pine Class.

On Monday next week, in recognition of *National Planting Day* the school council has unanimously voted for KS1 and KS2 to take part in a sunflower growing competition. The competition will be explained to the children in Monday's assembly and they will each be given a biodegradable pot, soil and sunflower seeds to go home with. The conversations around this will be a good follow up to this week's British Science week and also ties in well with



**This week's
class attendance star
goes
to
Birch Class with
99%
Well done!**

our school value 'responsibility'. Happy growing! Many thanks to Mr Tullier for organising this.

News from space! Check out the Science Blog to see photos and hear the news of how [Year 2, 5 and 6](#) got on when they travelled into space last week. Find out how [Year 6](#) got on exploring the universe and read the news about [Year 5](#) lifting off with the UK Space Agency logo competition.

Collectables

Remember that you can find these on the year group page under 'Curriculum Information'. These documents are really useful for you to help you understand more about what your child is learning, how they learn and what is expected from them by the end of the year. These are being regularly updated as the year progresses and you should also receive them by email as they are produced by teachers.

Recently, [Year 5](#) have added some new ones for maths and computing. [Year 2](#) have added a new one about money and [Year 1](#) have added one about their Design and Technology.

Our Approach to Managing Behaviour

Teachers and teaching assistants reviewed our single page summary approach to managing behaviour last week. You can find this useful single page document on our website; [quick link here](#).

Covid Update

Cases in the Bay, in Torbay schools and at St Margaret's are on the rise again. If your child has any of the three main symptoms please keep them at home and organise a PCR test. Thank you for your support.

School Facebook

I know many of you have noticed that our school Facebook page is fully up and running. We are using this social media to make our communication with you even better so if you use Facebook, please do follow us. You can find a link to our page on the home page of the school website. Don't worry though if you don't use Facebook as it will only be used as an extra to email, text and newsletters.

Earth Hour Torbay – Date for your Diary – Saturday 26th March 8.30pm

Earth Hour Torbay is coming on Saturday 26 March, which has been commissioned by Torbay Council and the English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark and is being delivered by Tonic Creatives. Join millions of people around the world as they turn off their lights to celebrate our planet and highlight the need to be more environmentally friendly.

Meet on the promenade side of the Princess Theatre (between the theatre and the harbour) from 8pm to join our mini lantern parade down to the beach. At 8.30pm the festoon lighting will turn off to reveal our recreation of the Earth Hour Torbay logo from candles in jars (made with the help of the Sandyman) and live unplugged entertainment.



Collection for Ukrainian Refugees

Thank you to everybody for your kind donations to help the refugees fleeing the war in Ukraine. £530.26 was collected. We have chosen to donate to the following charity working in Moldova. The PTA has a contact on the ground who will be recording a video with a special thanks to St Margaret's from the border on Ukraine. Have a look on their website to find out more:

<https://www.hope4love/donateukraine>.



Another huge thank you to families for your donations to Red Nose Day today; just over £230 was raised thanks to your kindness.

Here are some ways you can get involved:

- Turn off your lights at home or at your business between 8.30pm and 9.30pm
- Come along on the night and bring some friends/family
- Share the event far and wide. We have included some suggested social media posts below and have attached a few event graphics and a digital poster.
- Make some lanterns to bring on the mini lantern parade. You can find instructions here: www.toniccreatives.co.uk/our-work/earth-hour-torbay (and pdf versions attached below)
- If you fancy volunteering, we'd love to hear from you. We are especially going to need help boxing up all of the jars at the end before the tide comes in!

Finally, we have commissioned a photographer on the night, so will also appreciate your help sharing the pictures over the following days.

[Visit here](#) to see the press release for the event, which includes lots more information, including Torbay Council's £1 million Carbon Neutral Action Plan and Policy, which will be considered later this month.

Wishing you a calm and fulfilling weekend.



Tim Hughes (Headteacher)



Beech	Arya B is our star of the week for showing great improvements in her writing and phonics. She asked me if she could be the first to do her writing - super Aspirational Arya!
Pine	Lydia- for being a general superstar and always trying her best. Lydia has really impressed me over the last few days while she has been creating a book all about her party!
Oak	Charlie- for excellent participation in his learning and always asking questions to find out more. For also trying really hard to consistently use finger spaces when writing and making sure that he writes his letters neatly and clearly. Amazing effort Charlie- well done!
Apple	Michael G is our Apple star this week as we can always rely on him to make the right choices in his learning and setting the perfect example in the classroom. You are a fantastic member of the team Michael!
Birch	Ludo - for a consistently positive attitude in all he does and for trying his best in everything. Amazing work Ludo!
Rowan	Willow is our star of the week for always being a kind and respectful member of Rowan class. She is always offering to do jobs around the class and helping other children. Willow has also produced some fantastic writing this week. Well done!
Cherry	Oliver L is the star of Cherry class this week. He has been working really hard during our writing lessons and is always challenging himself to include a variety of skills at each plot point. We are really looking forward to reading his Lost Thing story. Great aspiration Oliver.
Hazel	Anton is our star of the week during science week because you have been so motivated by our topic 'Animals and their habitats' and your interest and enthusiasm for science is infectious! Well done.
Willow	Willow's star of the week this week is Josh. Josh has shown great resilience with his Maths this week and has also made efforts to challenge himself. Keep it up, Josh! We are so proud of you!
Holly	James is the star in Holly Class this week. He has been a real 'Kindness Kevin' this week. Keeping our classroom tidy and doing odd jobs without always being asked. What a lovely characteristic from a thoughtful young man. Thank you.
Maple	Poppy is Maple Class's star this week. Poppy has shown real responsibility in her maths whilst also showing resilience and perseverance when faced with a challenge! Well done Poppy, we are so proud!
Hawthorn	Logan - for making positive steps this week to take more responsibility for his behaviour and show greater aspiration in his learning. Keep up this great start Logan!