



St Margaret's Academy

ST MARGARETS ACADEMY

Summer Newsletter #28 15th May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are incredibly proud to celebrate and extend our warmest congratulations to our Year 6 children and the entire St Margaret's family for their fantastic support in ensuring this week's Key Stage 2 SATs ran so smoothly. Our children should feel immensely proud of themselves - they have shown resilience, determination, and real teamwork, lifting one another up every step of the way. A huge well done to everyone involved in creating such a calm and positive experience.

In this week's newsletter, we're excited to share key information about upcoming assessments, including the Year 1 Phonics Check and the Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check, alongside some wonderful celebrations. We're especially thrilled to announce that all of our Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 football teams have successfully made it through to the finals next week—an incredible achievement and a testament to their hard work,



Forest School Parent/Carer Day—Monday 1st July (Forest School Children Only)

We are excited to invite parents and carers of our Forest School children to a special Parent/Carer Day on Monday 1st July. This is a wonderful opportunity for your child to share their Forest School experiences with you.

For **Group A (morning group)**, please arrive at the school office by **10.10am** to join us from **10.15am–11.15am**.

For **Group B (afternoon group)**, please arrive by **12.25pm** to join us from **12.30pm–1.30pm**.

Please note that this session is **only for children currently attending Forest School and their families**. We hope you can join us for this special event!



ACTIVE THINKING



RESILIENCE



MOTIVATION



We are excited to be taking part in Torquay Reads: The Great Book Escape - a fantastic opportunity to celebrate reading across our school community! We will soon begin collecting pre-loved books, so over the May half term we encourage all parents, carers and children to have a good sort-out at home.

When we return to school, please send in any books you are happy to donate. We will then schedule special Torquay Reads promotion days, where children can swap their donated book for another pre-loved one to take home and enjoy over the summer holidays. It's a fun, free way to refresh bookshelves and inspire a lifelong love of reading.

Please note that books donated will not be returned, but your child will leave with a new book to enjoy—so only bring books you are happy to give away!

Have your Say: The Big Future Survey

The Children's Commissioner is asking all young people to take part in *The Big Future* survey — a national opportunity to share your views and shape the future.

Building on the Children Act 2004, this important work ensures that children's voices are heard and included in the decisions that affect their lives. The survey helps the Children's Commissioner understand what is working well for young people, what could be better, and what changes are needed going forward.

Your opinions matter. By taking a few minutes to complete the survey, you can help influence real change and ensure that key decisions reflect the experiences and needs of young people.



Take the survey here: <http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture>.
Find out more and view FAQs: <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/>



Phonics Screening Check Information for Year 1 Parents

The Phonics Screening Check is a nationally required assessment for all Year 1 children and will take place during the week beginning Monday 8th June 2026. This short, one-to-one check is completed with a familiar adult in a quiet and supportive environment, helping children feel relaxed and confident. During the check, children will read 40 words, including both real words and "alien" (nonsense) words, designed to assess their ability to use phonics skills independently rather than relying on memory. The purpose of the check is to help us understand how well your child is progressing with early reading and to identify if any additional support is needed.

For more information, please visit the following website or talk to your child's class teacher: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/phonics-screening-check-information-for-parents>

Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)

The 2026 Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) for Year 4 pupils in England will take place between **Monday 1 June and Friday 12 June 2026**.

This statutory, on-screen assessment checks whether pupils can fluently recall their times tables up to 12×12 . The check consists of 25 questions, with each question having a 6-second time limit.

The purpose of the MTC is to ensure that children have a secure understanding of their multiplication facts, which supports their learning in mathematics as they move into secondary school.

We encourage children to continue practising their times tables regularly at home to build confidence and fluency. For more information click on the [link](#).



Football Fever—Finals Here We Come!

The Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 boys' football teams have both qualified for the finals at Plainmoor on Wednesday 20th May -an outstanding achievement! The matches will take place during the school day, with each team having a different start time. Mrs Scaife and Will Mayling will accompany the teams.

We wish all the players the very best of luck, play with pride, teamwork, and determination!



Whole-School Art Project—10th, 11th & 12th June

We are excited to share some fantastic news with you! On the 10th, 11th and 12th June, we will be welcoming local artist Nic George into school to lead a whole-school art project.

Working together, every class will contribute to creating 14 MDF boards, which will be displayed proudly on the front of the school. Each board will feature a unique piece of artwork inspired by our class trees, linking beautifully to our school theme.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to collaborate creatively and leave a lasting legacy for our school community. We cannot wait to see the incredible artwork take shape and share the finished pieces with you. Watch this space for updates and final outcomes!



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World Cup Dress Down Day (Reminder)

We are delighted to announce an exciting World Cup Dress Down Day taking place on Friday 12th June! All classes (including non-class-based staff) have been entered into a *lucky dip spinning draw* and have each been allocated to a different country. Pupils and staff are invited to come to school dressed in colours that represent their class country – the brighter and more creative, the better!

To support our upcoming Summer Fair, we kindly ask if you are able to donate any items that match your child's allocated team colours. These will be used to create our fantastic Rainbow Raffle Hampers. We greatly appreciate your continued support and generosity, and we're looking forward to a fun and colourful day for everyone! Please see the poster, along with the Country Colour & Class Allocation Grid, below for full details.



COUNTRY	COLOUR	CLASS
Argentina	Blue	Apple
Australia	Yellow	Cherry
Brazil	Yellow	Beech
England	White	Willow
France	Blue	Oak
Germany	Black	Holly
Japan	Blue	Maple
Mexico	Green	Pine
Netherlands	Orange	Birch
Portugal	Red	Elm
Saudi arabia	Green	Hawthorn
Scotland	Blue	Rowan
Spain	Red	School Staff
Sweden	Green	Hazel
USA	Blue	Ash

As we come to the end of another busy and successful week at St. Margaret's Academy, we would like to wish all members of our community a wonderful weekend. We hope you are able to take time to rest, recharge, and enjoy precious moments with family and friends.

Have a fantastic weekend, everyone!

Mrs Nikki O'Dwyer

Headteacher



St Margaret's Academy PTA

Summer Fayre

4th July 2026

11am - 2pm

Free
Entry

All
Welcome



Raffle · Games · Food · Bar · Ice Cream · Tea
Rooms · Bouncy Castle · Giant Inflatable Assault
Course · Live Performances · Craft Stalls ·

Preloved Uniform

St Margaret's Academy, Barewell Road, Torquay, TQ1 4PA



Registered Charity No: 1169709

OPEN DAY

Saturday 25th July

• 2026 •

11am - 3pm

Dartington Estate



Come to our centre on the Dartington Estate to meet the team, the horses and other animals.

Pony Demo with Young People

Raffle | Bric a Brac | Plant Stall
Games | Children's Art Activities

Refreshments | Cakes | Tea & Coffee

Entry by Donation - No Dogs Please



RAFFLE

PRIZES

GAMES

Help us make a difference!

Buckhams Stables,
Old School Farm, Dartington Hall,
Totnes, TQ9 6EB

info@sironaequine.org.uk www.sironaequine.org.uk

Follow
-US-



UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD



S O L I H U L L A P P R O A C H

10:30am – 12:30pm for 10 weeks at The Windmill Centre,
Pendennis Rd Torquay, TQ2 7QR

On the following Tuesdays 2026

21st April, 28th April / 5th May, 12th May, 19th May /

2nd June, 9th June, 16th June, 23rd June, 30th June

We cover many topics including

- Feelings
- Importance of Play
- Effective Communication



To book a place please contact
Andrew Wright or Gabrielle Dale on
andrew.wright@torbay.gov.uk

07776495028

gabrielle.dale@actionforchildren.org
.uk

07866 997870

Understanding your child is
a course for all parents,
grandparents and carers of
children ages 6 months to 6
years.

Familyhub
TORBAY

Diary Dates

18th May 2026	Cherry Class Swimming
21st May 2026	Year 5 & 6 Ultimate Frisbee
W/C 25th May 2026	Half Term Break
1st June 2026	Cherry Class Swimming First Day back to School
2nd June 2026	Bikeability Level 1
8th June 2026	Cherry Class Swimming Bikeability Level 2
10th, 11th & 12th June 2026	Whole School Art Project with Local Artist
11th June 2026	Class Photo Day
12th June 2026	World Cup PTA Event
15th June 2026	Hazel Class Swimming
18th June 2026	KS2 Primary Athletics
Friday 19th June 2026	INSET Day—School Closed to Pupils
22nd June 2026	Hazel Class Swimming Y3 Beach Water Confidence
29th June 2026	Hazel Class Swimming

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Ash	Louie	This week Louie wrote a super star sentence during drawing club - Spi d e man is on th bus! Fab phonics! Well done for keeping on trying even when it was tricky
Elm	Remi	For fantastic drawing club ideas. Miss Tolley is super proud of you.
Beech	Gregory	For excellent at listening, always trying his hardest in writing, creating a wonderful story, and making great progress in phonics.
Pine	Elowen	Elowen is our star of the week for her fabulous maths this week. She has also learned her lines for our music show brilliantly!
Apple	Skyla	Skyla has shown all of our values this week and is a true star in Apple Class. She has been so aspirational with her writing, concentrating hard on improving her presentation and is such a responsible member of the class, always doing the right thing. Amazing Skyla!
Oak	Fleur	Fleur has shown great responsibility this week, showing a positive and resilient attitude. She has been incredibly helpful in the maths lessons and she worked well with her partner to explore taking photographs. Well done Fleur, you are a star!
Willow	Arthur	A hung well done to Arthur for his resilience in his writing this week. The adults in Willow class have noticed your amazing work ethic and attitude towards your learning this week. It's been lovely to see your confidence bloom! Keep it up - we're all so proud of you.
Holly	Nellie	Nellie has been so aspirational with her maths and writing this week. She has worked really hard in these areas and it has been so lovely to see her share her wonderful ideas. Keep up the incredible work!
Cherry	Emerson	Emerson's presentation and aspirational work ethic has been exemplary! He takes such pride in his work, an all round superstar. Thank you as well for helping your peers with their mock soundcheck in TTRockstars.
Hazel	Martha	Martha is the star this week in Hazel class for her aspiration in her Maths. Martha is so resilient and never gives up on her work until she has that 'I get it!' moment. Well done, Martha - never stop trying your hardest. You're a star!
Rowan	Noah	Noah is the star of the week in Rowan class for his wonderful art work. He has worked super hard practising the different techniques used in collage and has used these to create a colourful volcano collage as his final piece. Well done Noah.
Birch	Olly R	Olly is Star of the Week for showing kindness! He has really made the adults in the classroom smile this week with his brilliant attitude and growing confidence. It has been wonderful to see Olly coming over to talk to adults, offering to help with tasks, and even joining in with class discussions. We are so proud of the fantastic social progress he is making. Well done, Olly!
Hawthorn	All of Hawthorn	YOU HAVE ALL WORKED EXCEPTIONALLY HARD THIS WEEK IN YOUR SATS TESTS WELL DONE!!
Maple	All of Maple	Well done to all of Maple for trying your hardest in each one of your SATs tests. You have shown such resilience and determination this week and we are very proud of you all.