



St Margaret's Academy

ST MARGARETS ACADEMY

Autumn Newsletter #9

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another busy week draws to a close; from 'Odd Socks Day' to class quizzes during our termly assessments, and finishing with Pudsey Bear challenges on Friday, the week has flown by! We are now gearing up for lots of exciting whole-school events and festive celebrations.

Please note: Parents' Evening booking slots will open on Monday 17th at 4:00pm and close on Sunday 23rd. Each child is allocated one appointment. If you feel you would benefit from an additional appointment, please contact the school office and we will be happy to support you.



New dessert choices for Reception Pupils

We're introducing healthy dessert options after school dinners, following Early Years statutory guidance for schools. Pupils can choose **fruit, yoghurt, or breadsticks** each day. Supporting balanced, nutritious meals for happy learners!

Children in Need—Thank You!

A huge thank you to everyone for supporting Children in Need today! The children looked fantastic in their sporty and comfy clothing, Pudsey accessories, and bright smiles. Your generous donations will make a real difference to this important cause. We will send out the total raised in next week's edition.

The pupils thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the range of activities on offer and even joined Joe Wicks for a fun fitness session! It was wonderful to see everyone getting involved and showing such enthusiasm.

Thank you again for helping us make this day so special!



Odd Sock Day—Celebrating the Power of Good

This week, our school embraced Anti-Bullying Awareness by taking part in Odd Socks Day. It was wonderful to see everyone wearing their mismatched socks to celebrate individuality and kindness!

Throughout the week, pupils joined in meaningful circle time discussions, supported our whole-school pledge, and explored ways we can continue to support each other moving forward. This important awareness week reminds us that together, we can make a positive difference.

Thank you to everyone for your enthusiasm and commitment to promoting kindness and respect in our school community!



In this photo, Year 2 have been sharing stories about why it's okay to be different. They've been exploring ways to show kindness and ensure everyone in our school community feels welcome and cared for. Together, we have the *Power for Good!*

The Importance of Attendance and Punctuality

We are currently experiencing a high number of children and families arriving late in the mornings, after the gate closes at 8.50am. We completely understand that, at times, delays cannot be avoided and circumstances may be out of your control. However, it's important to recognise the negative impact that arriving late can have on your child's day.



When a child enters a settled classroom after lessons have begun, it can cause feelings of anxiety and disrupt their learning. They may miss valuable teaching time and opportunities to interact with their peers, which are essential for both academic progress and social development.

As a school, we have been looking closely at how we can support families with this challenge and have put a number of initiatives in place. If you are struggling with punctuality, please reach out to us. We are here to help and will work with you to find solutions that make mornings less stressful for everyone.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring that every child has the best possible start to their school day.

ACTIVE THINKING

RESILIENCE



Trustee Link Day—Focus on Education and Standards

On Thursday, we were delighted to welcome our supportive Trustees for a link day focused on education and standards across the school. It was a highly beneficial opportunity to review our school priorities, celebrate what is working well, and identify next steps for further improvement and clarity. It was wonderful to see the positive impact our writing curriculum is having on pupils' interests, enthusiasm and progress.

As part of the day, we explored the recent wellbeing surveys and discussed actions to address any areas highlighted. In next week's edition, we will be sharing our **"You Said... We Did..."** feedback to show how your voices are shaping positive changes in our school community.

Take time to relax and enjoy the rest with family and friends. Weekend kindness challenge following our 'Power for Good Assembly':

Do one small act of kindness this weekend! It could be:

- Saying something kind to someone
- Helping a family member with a chore
- Writing a thank-you note
- Sharing a smile with a friend or neighbour

Let's spread kindness and make a positive difference together!

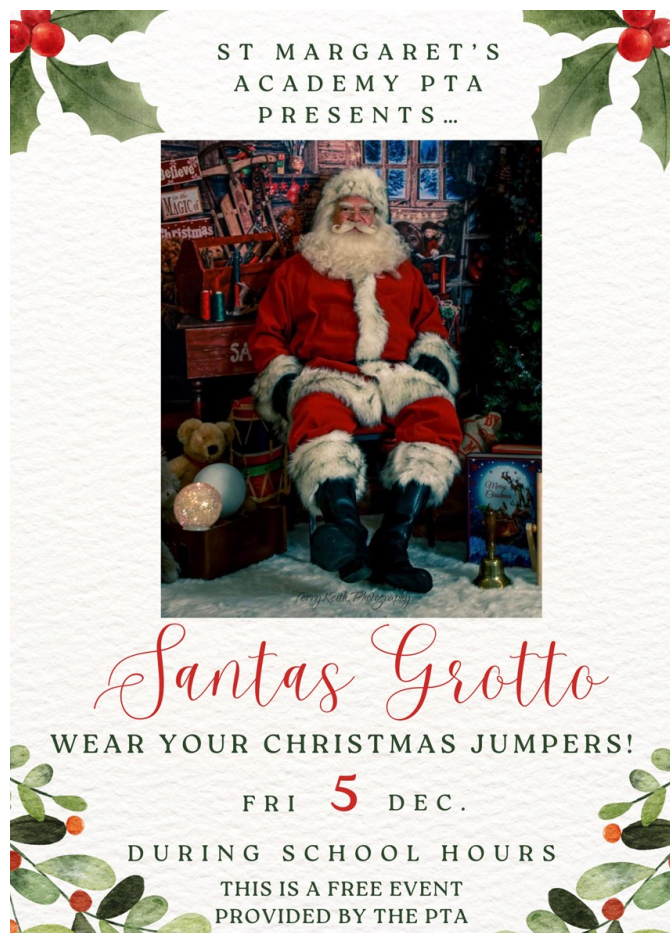
Take care and enjoy.

Mrs Nikki O'Dwyer
Headteacher



Seasonal Events—Courtesy of Our Fabulous PTA

Please check out the poster below for all the exciting upcoming events that our amazing PTA has planned as we prepare for the season of joy, love, laughter, and Christmas!





17th November 2025	Y6 Maple Swim Session
17th November –21st November 2025	Book Fair in School Hall 15.00
18th November 2025	Y3/4 Football Vs Barton—Home
24th November 2025	Pupil Progress Meetings Y6 Maple Swim Session
26th November—28th November 2025	Pupil Progress Meetings
28th November 2025	Y3 Trip to Kent's Cavern
1st December 2025	Y6 Maple Swim Session
1st December—2nd December 2025	Pupil Progress Meetings
3rd December 2025	Year2—Year 6 PTA Cinema Trip
5th December 2025	PTA Santa's Grotto
8th December 2025	Y5 Birch Swim Session Y4 Trip to Torquay Museum Reception, Y1 & Y2 Christmas Dinner Day
9th December 2025	Y3 & Y4 Christmas Dinner Day
10th December 2025	Y5 & Y6 Christmas Dinner Day
11th December 2025	14.00—15.30 KS1 Christmas Nativity Play 15.15—16.15 Y3/4 Football Vs Sherwell Valley (Away)
15th December 2025	Y5 Birch Swim Session (Cancelled) 13.30—14.30 KS2 Carol Service at Church
19th December 2025	End of Term
20th December 2025—5th January 2026	Last Day of Holiday
Tuesday 6th January 2026	First Day Back for Children



Ash	Ohriah	Ohriah for being Mrs Harrison's happy helper and always helping others . Ohriah is also always ready to learn and used her Pudsey listening ears to spot the sounds with Fred . Well done Ohriah
Elm	Thomas	Thomas has been trying really hard to join in with all of our carpet time activities, and Thomas has been a super star helper this week. Well done Thomas - Miss Tolley is very proud of you!
Beech	Lottie	Lottie has worked so hard after moving up to her new phonics group and has settled in brilliantly. She's also a wonderful friend who looks out for others and helps them in class.
Pine	Myla	For making so many right choices this week. For working hard on her maths and participating in Forest School. She has also been a really kind friend to others in the class.
Apple	Lunafreya	Lunafreya shows all our school values but this week she has particularly been noticed for her aspiration and kindness. She always tries her best in everything she does, even if things are tricky and she has been so kind to others, helping them form their letters.
Oak	George W	George is Oak's star this week for bravely getting up in front of the class and singing. We are so proud of your confidence and courage!
Willow	Jude	Willow's star of the week is Jude. I have been so impressed with his kindness towards his peers. He has shown respect to everyone and has put a lot of effort into helping new children in our class settle in and feel welcome. Well done Jude!
Holly	Teddy	Holly's star of the week is Teddy. He is the first to volunteer himself to help out and look out for his friends. Well done Teddy, keep up the kindness!
Cherry	Amelia	For your fantastic Egyptian Canopic Jar design this week that was labelled in detail - we cannot wait to see it come to life when you make it next week. Well done Amelia.
Hazel	Philip	Philip has had a really good week, making the right choices and being a kind friend. He has worked hard in his quizzes, trying to be as aspirational as possible. Philip is also a great help to the adults in the room as he is always asking for jobs to do. Thank you for being such a responsible Hazel!
Rowan	Harriet	Harriet is the star of the week in Rowan class for her contributions in class especially during history and RE lessons. She is also showing great aspiration with her written responses to tasks making them as detailed as she can. Well done Harriet.
Birch	Jude	Jude is the star of the week for engaging brilliantly in lessons and showing enthusiasm, confidence, and pride during our computing lesson this week. Your positive attitude and hard work truly shone—well done! I was really impressed with the different filming techniques you used, as well as the different camera angles you tried out.
Hawthorn	Abi	Abi we were super impressed with your writing this week - you demonstrated that you have been listening to all of the mastery key teaching and you applied this brilliantly to your work this week showing super aspiration - well done!
Maple	Roman	Roman has been determined to do his very best this week, showing great maturity when tackling the quizzes, and aspiring to do his very best. He also shows his kindness and helpfulness in class on a regular basis.