



ST MARGARETS ACADEMY

Summer Newsletter #3  
9th May 2025



Dear Families,

This week we have been celebrating [Deaf Awareness Week](#). On Tuesday our BSL Club performed a whole school assembly. Pupils from Year 3 upwards demonstrated BSL signs and conversation phrases they have been practising at their Wednesday lunchtime club, and then they gave other pupils in the assembly a chance to practise themselves. Also, this week our Teacher of the Deaf, Mrs Saunders went into classes and delivered sessions on BSL, deafness and how to be deaf aware. Ask your child to show you some signs and see what they can remember!

### Year 6 SATs Breakfast (Monday 12th—Thursday 15th May)

Breakfast baps (including vegetarian option) and fruit juice will be made available to all Year 6 pupils in the school hall from 8.40am to set them up for the day in case they don't feel like breakfast before leaving home.

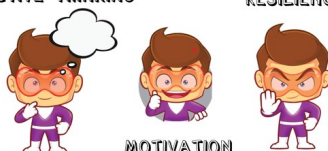
### Message to Year 6 Pupils from Staff

From Monday, you will all be taking your SATs tests in Grammar & Punctuation & Spelling, Reading and Mathematics. We know that some of you may be feeling a little anxious, so we would like to remind you all of a few important things...

The SATs papers that you will be completing do not define you as a person. They do not test your personality. They do not test your sense of humour. They do not test your kindness, or your ability to help others. It is important too to remember that the examiners that make (and mark) your papers have no idea about you either. They do not know you like your parents and family do. They do not know you like we do here at St Margaret's. Some of you enjoy playing many sports outside of school, with great enjoyment and success. Others play an instrument or two. Some pupils can speak another language, which is such an amazing and valuable skill to have. Some of you look after younger brothers and sisters showing how mature and caring you are. You all have the ability to make your friends feel better when they are feeling low. All of you have unique hobbies and interests that make you, YOU. Remember this - your SATs score will tell you something - a scaled score of 80 to 120. So, let us tell you something - that number will not tell the whole story about you, so do not worry. You have all worked so hard this year and we could not be prouder of you. Smile, be brave, try your best and just be yourself.

ACTIVE THINKING

RESILIENCE



## St Margaret marked VE Day 80th anniversary

On Thursday we commemorated the 80th anniversary of VE Day. We acknowledged the end of World War II in Europe through various activities, including learning about the history of VE Day, making decorations to take home, celebrating with friends over lunch, and engaging in activities that honour the sacrifices made during that time. We encouraged all pupils to join in these commemorations and learn about this important chapter in history. Thank you all for your participation and thoughtfulness.



## Bikeability – Level 1

Last week pupils from Y3 and Y4 have been awarded the nationally recognised and certificated qualification – Bikeability Level 1. Bikeability is the new cycle training scheme for the 21<sup>st</sup> century designed to give the next generation the skills and confidence to ride their bikes on today's roads. Level 1 taught the children basic bike handling skills to build their confidence in a controlled environment on the large playground away from roads with qualified instructors. This course will equip them for the more intensive Bikeability Level 2 course, which will be available to them in Year 5.



It has been lovely to see the children bring their bikes to school and learning about staying safe when out and about on their bikes. They enjoyed practising different skills, such as braking without skidding and manoeuvring around obstacles with increasing confidence.

There will be further Bikeability lessons for Y5 later this year where they head out on to the roads!



ACTIVE THINKING

RESILIENCE



MOTIVATION



**TORBAY ON THE MOVE**  
More people, more active, more often

**TORBAY COUNCIL**





## The Trophy is on it's Way!

Last week saw KS1 & KS2 children enjoy taking part in the 2025 TCS Mini London Marathon and the children were encouraged to run, jog, or walk 2.6 miles in the school grounds.

The children completed their 2.6 miles on our all-weather Golden Mile running track or by running laps around the playground. The children were allowed to break up the distance over two runs and do it as part of their PE lessons. We want to say a HUGE CONGRATULATIONS to the children who completed the event. Mr Mayling and the TA's helped organise this challenge and record their laps. More than 450,000 people entered the two-mile challenge this year, which is incredible!

We hope that taking part in challenges like this will inspire them to be active every day.



## Music at St. Margarets

Piano, Violin and Singing lessons now available.

**Blossoms**  
Music @  
St Margaret's

Lessons take place during the school day.

1-2-1 lessons:  
20 minutes £12.50  
30 minutes £18.25

Group singing lessons from £6.25

for more details contact:  
Laura @ Blossomsmusic.co.uk  
07515 805 812

A black grand piano is shown with a microphone on a stand in front of it. A violin and bow are also visible next to the piano.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend, enjoy the rest and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Best Wishes,

Mrs Nikki O'Dwyer

Headteacher





## News and Events for Parents and Carers

Please check out the below posters for events in the community coming up.



**HENDRIX FEST 2025**

17th MAY 2025  
1PM-LATE

TORBAY PARTY BARN,  
STANTOR BARTON FARM,  
STANTOR LANE,  
MARLDON,  
PAIGNTON,  
TQ3 1SU

RAISING MONEY FOR MARCHING ON WITH HENDRIX

FREE BOUNCY CASTLES | FOOD STALLS & BAR | SMALL BUSINESS MARKET | PIG RACING | FAMILY FUN FOR ALL AGES

LIVE MUSIC WITH 3 DAYS OF WONDER, PURE ABBA AND MORE

THE EVENT IS SPONSORED BY

Greenlight Mortgages giving you the go ahead

JB ELECTRICAL

RYALL STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS

Adult 16+ : £10  
Children 0-16: Free

BOOK NOW



**TORBAY LEISURE CENTRE**

**We are your local leisure centre**

Learn to Swim programme from 3 months to adults; Free public swim also included

For more info, visit our website or scan the QR code

LeisureCentre.com

Swim England | Water Safety Partner | LEX LEISURE | TORBAY COUNCIL

Full details of the below event can be found at <https://www.waterstones.com/events/an-evening-with-jacqueline-wilson/exeter-roman-gate-139485>



An evening with **JACQUELINE WILSON**

**THE SEASIDE SLEEPOVER**  
JACQUELINE WILSON

**WEDNESDAY 14 MAY, 6.30PM**  
at Exeter Corn Exchange, Market Street, Exeter EX1 1BW

Visit [waterstones.com/events](https://www.waterstones.com/events) for details

**WATERSTONES**

ACTIVE THINKING

RESILIENCE



MOTIVATION



# Diary Dates

12th May 2025	Y6 SATS—English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Paper
13th May 2025	Y6 SATS—Reading Paper
14th May 2025	Y6 SATS—Maths Paper 1 & 2
14th May 2025	09.00—11.00 Y4 & Y5 HSC Pupils to visit Spires
15th May 2025	Y6 SATS—Maths Paper 3
15th May 2025	14.00—15.00 Y6 to SDC to watch Addams Family
W/C 19th May 2025	Mental Health Awareness Week
20th May 2025	Y5 Kayaking
21st May 2025	Y5 Kayaking
21st May 2025	National Numeracy Day
22nd May 2025	Year 1 Music and History Show
W/C 26th May 2025	Half Term
Tuesday 3rd June 2025	First day back for children
W/C 3rd June 2025	Y4 MTC
5th June 2025	National Thank You Day
6th June 2025	National Fish & Chips Day
6th June 2025	Y1 & Y2 Recycling Workshops

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Beech	River is our star of the week, but she could easily earn this title every week. She is a kind and caring person to have in class, always striving to do her best in everything she does. Every adult consistently praises her for her achievements in learning. Well done, River!
Pine	Mrs Cosh has nominated Harley to be the star of the week. He has been trying so very hard in phonics and she has been really impressed with him. Well done Harley!
Oak	Rory is our star of the week in Oak class. He has been trying his absolute hardest in everything this week, especially in phonics, maths and music. His motivation towards all areas of learning is incredible, keep it up Rory!
Apple	Maddison is our Star of the Week for always having such an amazing attitude to her learning. She has the motivation to improve her work and quizzes carefully with great results.
Holly	James has been working hard and actively thinking about his maths learning recently. He is not afraid to put his hand up and share his ideas to the class. He is also reflecting this progress in his writing group. This is great to see James, well done and keep up your super motivation.
Willow	Ollie S is the star of the week in Willow Class because he has been demonstrating great active thinking and motivation. His hand has been up to answer questions and make valuable contributions to lessons. He has been challenging himself to use interesting vocabulary in his writing and he has been working hard to develop his understanding of money in maths. Well done Ollie.
Cherry	Cherries star of the week is Olly. I have been so impressed with his motivation and resilience across all of his learning. He has made some fantastic progress and it has been brilliant to see his confidence growing. Well done Olly.
Hazel	Violet is our star in Hazel this week. Violet could receive this each week! We have been super impressed with her effort in her MTC and her caring nature when looking after her friends in the class. She is a real sweetheart! Well done, Violet. We are very proud of you!
Birch	Darcy is our star this week. She is a respectful and kind young lady and is a star every week. We have been super impressed by your efforts in all aspects of your learning this week. Your kind heartedness has particularly shone this week. Well done and thank you for being a fab member of Birch Class.
Rowan	This week's star in Rowan class is Isaac. He is always showing motivation towards his learning and has shared such incredible animal knowledge recently when learning about penguins for our writing lessons. Well done and keep up the amazing work.
Maple	Archie is our star this week due to his fantastic aspiration! In the lead up to the SATs, Archie has been motivated to do the best he can and this has meant revising in his own time. Keep up the amazing learning behaviours Archie!
Hawthorn	Isaac has had a super week and has put lots of effort into his classwork showing improved motivation in both maths and reading practice- we are all very impressed with him - well done Isaac!

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