



St Margaret's Academy

ST MARGARETS ACADEMY

Summer Newsletter #31 12th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

A huge thank you to our wonderful school community!

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who wholeheartedly embraced our "*Wear the Colours of Your Country*" Day, which took place today, Friday 12th June. It was fantastic to come together to celebrate the World Cup, with all of the children proudly wearing their own clothes and representing the different countries taking part.

Thank you also for the very kind donations. These will be used to support our upcoming summer fayre, helping us raise funds that go directly back into enriching opportunities and experiences for our young people.

A special thank you goes to our amazing PTA for organising the day and for coordinating the collection of all the generous donations from classes. Your ongoing support is truly appreciated.

Once again, thank you to everyone for getting involved. We hope you are all enjoying the excitement of the World Cup whether you're watching matches or simply having fun playing football!



Phonics Check and Multiplication Timestable Check

We would like to say a huge congratulations to all of the children who have taken part in the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check, as well as those who completed phonics re-checks. The children have been absolutely tremendous and have worked incredibly hard alongside staff delivering the checks this week.

A special mention also goes to our Year 4 pupils, who have taken part in the Multiplication Tables Check this week building on their skills and fluency.

Both of these are statutory assessments and have been carried out with trusted adults in a calm and supportive environment, allowing the children to do their very best.

We look forward to sharing the outcomes of these assessments with you in the annual reports, which will be published in July.

ACTIVE THINKING



RESILIENCE



MOTIVATION



Bikeability—Level 2

This week it was lovely to see so many bikes parked in our bike storage and the return of Bikeability in school. Pupils from Y5 and Y6 have been awarded the nationally recognised and certificated qualification – Bikeability Level 2.



This was a 6 hour course spread over 3 days and it was quite intensive. Level two taught the children to cycle planned routes on minor roads near the school - offering real cycling experience.

The course involved 3 comprehensive sessions, where National Standards Instructors taught the children bike handling skills, developed their confidence and helped them get prepared for riding their bikes on today's roads. Congratulations to all the children who passed the course.



Supporting Your Child's Wellbeing

After a busy week, it's natural for children and young people to sometimes feel unsettled or overwhelmed. If you have any concerns about your child's wellbeing; whether linked to anxiety, friendships, school attendance, online activity, or more there is helpful guidance available.

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/>

This resource offers practical advice and support across a wide range of areas and can help you feel more confident in supporting your child.

As always, please do reach out to the school if you would like any further support, we are here to help.

ACTIVE THINKING



RESILIENCE



Summer Fayre

To make our Summer Fayre on Saturday 4th July a fantastic success, we need as many helpers as possible.

Whether you can spare a little time or a bit more, every contribution really makes a difference. Please take a moment to sign up for a slot that works for you.

We would also really appreciate you sharing this with other parents so we can gather as much support as possible.

Sign up here:

<https://volunteersignup.org/WEK8Q>



Forest School Update & Curriculum Developments

This week, our children have been incredibly busy at Forest School, working extremely hard and showing fantastic engagement in their learning. They have been developing and adding to their steps and rail system, and every group involved has been outstanding.

Throughout the project, the children have:

- Strengthened their communication skills
- Demonstrated excellent reasoning
- Grown in confidence when explaining their ideas
- Worked collaboratively to produce a high-quality final structure

We are very proud of what they have achieved and are excited to see how this project continues to develop. Well done to everyone involved!



ACTIVE THINKING



RESILIENCE



MOTIVATION



Looking Ahead: Exciting Curriculum Developments

Alongside our Forest School work, we are thrilled to share some exciting plans for the upcoming academic year:

- Weekly Forest School / skills and orchard sessions will be introduced for all children in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2
- Regular sessions throughout the year will be provided for all Key Stage 2 classes

These sessions are designed to build on this valuable learning experience, giving children opportunities to:

- Collaborate with others
- Communicate effectively
- Learn through hands-on experiences in our local environment

We look forward to sharing more details with you as we prepare for the new academic year.

Donations Request

To support this growing provision, we would greatly appreciate any donations of:

- Puddle suits
- Waterproof clothing
- Wellies

If you have any items at home that your children have outgrown, we would be very grateful for your support. These donations will help ensure that all children have access to appropriate equipment so they can fully participate in outdoor learning.



Celebrating Creativity at St Margaret's Academy

We are incredibly proud to celebrate a truly special whole-school art project that has brought our community together in the most inspiring way.

Working alongside talented local artist Nic George, our children have been exploring the theme of trees, developing their skills in design, painting, texture, and learning about a range of styles. The creativity, enthusiasm and effort shown by every child has been fantastic to see.

What has made this project even more memorable is the wonderful support from our parents and families, who joined us and played an active role in creating these beautiful pieces. It has been a joy to see our school community working side by side.



The artwork will soon be displayed on the outside of the school building, providing a lasting celebration of our pupils' creativity and collaboration. We cannot wait to share the finished pieces with you and showcase the journey behind them.

A heartfelt thank you to Miss Pritchard, our Art Lead, for organising such a fantastic opportunity for our children.



Have Your Child's Voice Heard—"The Big Future" Survey

We are encouraging all pupils to take part in the Children's Commissioner's national survey, "The Big Future."

So far, only a small number of our pupils have completed it, and we would love to see many more take part. This is a valuable opportunity for children to share their views, experiences and hopes for the future and help shape decisions that affect young people across the country.

Complete the survey here: <http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture>

Please take a few moments to support your child in completing the survey. Every response helps ensure children's voices are heard.

Thank you for your support.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend, take care.

Mrs Nikki O'Dwyer

Headteacher



SUN SAFETY



APPLY SUNSCREEN

Please apply sunscreen to children before school. Children can bring sunscreen into school to reapply throughout the day.



WEAR A HAT

Children to bring a hat into school. Remember to label it!



HYDRATE WITH WATER

Please ensure children bring a water bottle into school each day. Children can refill bottles in the classroom as and when.



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

Diary Dates

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
25th June 2026	Police Community Support Office Session with Y5/Y6
29th June 2026	Hazel Class Swimming
1st July 2026	Year 5 activities day at Torquay Academy
3rd July 2026	Year 4 Beach Water Confidence
Saturday 4th July 2026	PTA Summer Fayre
6th—12th July 2026	National School Sports Week
6th July 2026	09.30—12.00 KS1 (Year 1 & Year 2) Sports Day 13.30—15.00 EYFS (Reception) Sports Day Hazel Class Swimming
9th July 2026	Year 6 Rounders Event HSC Staff and KS2 Children at Egguckland
10th July 2026	Annual Reports Out
13th—14th July 2026	17.45—18.45 Year 6 Production

ACTIVE THINKING

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MOTIVATION



Ash	Everyone in Ash Class !	Well done, Ash Class! It was so difficult to choose just one person this week as you have all taken your learning to the next level! So you are all without doubt superstars! From super star writing and creating your very own hand written books to amazingly colourful paintings and wonderful creations. I am so very proud of each and every one of you—you should be proud of yourselves too! WELL DONE
Elm	Violet	For super listening during carpet times.
Beech	Alfie	Alfie for showing fantastic determination with their phonics. You have worked so hard, never given up, and kept on trying even when some sounds and words felt tricky. Your positive attitude and willingness to keep practising have helped you make great progress.
Pine	Millie	Millie is our star, for just being Millie. She is so very kind and is always looking out for her friends. She loves to cheer people up and to make them laugh. She is just wonderful
Apple	Isobel	Isobel has worked so hard this week. She has tried her best and concentrated really hard on her quizzes and made such an effort with her writing to try to vary her sentences. What a great week for you Isobel!
Oak	Fleur	Fleur is our star as she has shown great aspiration and resilience to catch up and complete the assessment that we have done this week. She put super effort into all and we were all really impressed with her positive attitude. Well done Fleur!
Willow	Finley	Willow's Star of the Week is Finley. We have been so impressed with his aspirational attitude towards his papers. He went above and beyond, giving all of them his best effort. Well done Finley.
Holly	Finley	Finley is Holly's star of the week for his aspirational attitude. Finley has tried so hard in all of his learning this week, including the use of an amazing range of vocabulary in his writing and participation in lessons. His attitude on our trip to Exeter museum was exemplary and continued to ask insightful questions for the whole day. Well done Finley, keep it up!
Cherry	Ella	Ella is this week's star in Cherry for her great effort in her writing recently. She has been really focused on including the mastery keys and her handwriting. Well done Ella, super effort!
Hazel	Freddie	Hazel's star this week is Freddie. Freddie has had an amazing week this week! He has worked exceptionally hard and been incredibly aspirational in his quizzes this week. The hard work has really paid off - he has made excellent progress and we are so proud of you! Well done, Freddie!
Rowan	Florence	Florence is the star of the week in Rowan class. She has shown great determination and resilience to complete her quizzes this week. Well done Florence.
Birch	Jack W	This week's Star of the Week is Jack for showing excellent responsibility and respect. Jack consistently keeps his learning space tidy and organised, taking responsibility for his own area without being reminded. By doing this, he shows great respect for our classroom and for the people around him, helping to create a positive environment where everyone can learn. Jack's mature attitude and thoughtful actions make him a fantastic role model for others. Well done, Jack!
Hawthorn	Archie	He has received star of the week for being aspirational during the practice of the play. Taking on new roles and showing great responsibility for learning his lines. Super Job Archie!
Maple	William	Well done for working so hard on your 'Long John Silver' - you have shown your confidence on the stage and we can't wait to see the character evolving.

