



St Margarets Academy

As we leave the lovely summer behind and get into autumn, we've noticed a rise in seasonal colds and bugs as we all mix more closely. We are keeping up with our enhanced approach to personal hygiene to try to help but it looks like we might be seeing more of this as we head through the autumn and into winter. Public Health England is appealing to adults to take up the flu and covid vaccines when offered and we have the flu clinic booked in school for all children on 1st November. Stay well and healthy everybody.



Diary Dates

**Please see the updated
'dates for your diary' at the
end of the newsletter**



PTA AGM - 13.10.22

This will be held on Thursday, 13th October at 3.30pm in Year 3 Rowan Class opposite the sloped gate. There will be a crèche run by Miss Cullen in the Year 3

Birch Class next door to help with your little ones. It would be really excellent if you could attend to show your support to our dedicated PTA team. Thank you.

Curriculum News

The *Curriculum Information* section to the school website is now up to date with anything curriculum related for 2022-2023. This is your go-to place to find out what your child is learning and to see how you can best support at home. You will find our Curriculum Policy with a contents page so you can quickly find useful information, like homework.

There is a tab for each year group under *Curriculum Information* where you can find out what's happening each term. In here you will find the **Collectables** for this term. They are designed to help you and your child understand the key expectations for each subject; to help your child collect the knowledge and skills in different topics. They are child friendly and might be useful to print and discuss at home.

There is a tab for *Subject Specific Information*. In here you can find out the detail to each subject we teach in school such as when it is taught and what the expectations are for each year group.

We also have our *Curriculum in Action* section which is full of the subject blogs and is more frequently shared with you so you can see what's been taking place in each year, and maybe see a picture of your child at work / play, having fun.

We marked European Languages Day on Monday this week. Have a look in the [SMSC Blog](#) (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) to see how Year 1 found out about their friends who speak other languages and their celebratory flags.

In the [Science Blog](#) you can see how Year 3 enjoyed learning about the permeability of rocks on their trip to Kent's Cavern last week.



This term St Margaret's Hearing Support Team is hosting a weekly Forest School in our orchard for deaf children and their families in Torbay. Have a look in the Hearing Support Centre [Latest News](#) Blog to see and read more.

Building Works Disruption

Extensive building work at the front of school starts on Monday 17th October. As a result there will be no access to the main school office from the car park side of school. This disruption is due to last until March 2023.

Reception children will still be able to be dropped and collected as normal via the car park but access will be from the second set of large double gates; not the ones with the barrier.

All other children and parents will access school via the back gate or slope gate only.

If you need to visit the school office at drop-off or collection, a member of the office staff will be based in the library which you can access via the back gate or slope gate, passing through the courtyard at the rear of my office.

If you need to attend school during the school day, you will need to go to the slope gate. There will be an intercom here and a member of staff will come to you.

Access to Breakfast and After School Club will be via the car park double gates without the barrier.

If you can keep most of your enquiries to phone or email, this will help.

Thank you for your understanding during this time. It's all for the benefit of your children. Once the building work is complete, we will have a more secure school entrance and increased room space for offices and teaching.

School Harvest Festival

Our school Harvest Festival is on Friday 7th October. We will be collecting food items such as tins and packets as we will be donating these to the Riviera Life Storehouse in Torquay. If you have an item for our festival, please send it in with your child on Friday morning. We appreciate any items you can spare.



Help with School Uniform Costs

The PTA has lots of good quality school uniform which you are very welcome to have for a small donation. Do see their Facebook page for more information.

Help with Rising Costs - Reminders

- Martin Lewis: <https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/>
- CAP (Christians Against Poverty) is offering a free course on money. These are taking place at St Matthias Church Lounge at 7.00pm on 12th, 19th and 26th October 2022.
- Free uniform and help with rising costs: <https://www.punkagainstopoverty.org/>
- Try here for cheaper broadband: <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/phones-telecoms-and-internet/advice-for-consumers/costs-and-billing/social-tariffs>

As a school we are very conscious of the cost-of-living crisis and are aware there are many events and fundraisers taking place during the autumn term. Because of this please do not feel you are obligated to make donations/contributions to all events.

Torbay Community Support - Reminders

The new community hub for Torbay is open at Paignton library next to the bus station, 9.30am – 1.30pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. You can just walk in and chat to somebody for advice on any of the following areas:

- Health and social care
- Caring for family and friends
- Access to local groups and activities
- Practical and IT support
- Finance and welfare benefits
- Housing
- Emotional wellbeing including bereavement and isolation
- Domestic abuse and sexual violence
- Other areas already supported via the Torbay Community Helpline (e.g. befriending)

0 to 19 Health Advice - Reminders

- On our website under 'Wellbeing for Families' – 'Resources for Parents' you can find an excellent document which signposts you to all the resources and help you can access for you and your family from aged 0 to 19; direct [link here](#).
- Top parenting tips: <https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>

Wrap up warm and have a lovely weekend.



Tim Hughes (Headteacher)



Beech	Esmal has worked so hard this week. She has shown wonderful enthusiasm for all of her learning and shared her books from home with us each day with a beaming smile on her face - thankyou Esmal!
Pine	Athena is our star this week because she is such an enthusiastic learner. She gets stuck in with whatever we are doing and always has her hand up ready to answer questions.
Oak	Violet is our star for her amazing effort and concentration when writing some instructions this week. She also inspired some of the class to create their own maths questions and maths books during her busy time. Well done Violet!
Apple	Kai is our star this week in team Apple. He always shows all 4 school values to a high standard and is an absolute pleasure to have in the class. Thank you Kai, you are fab!
Birch	Raya - for demonstrating all our core values and showing fantastic learning behaviour. You are a role model for the rest of the class!
Rowan	Archie is our star of the week for his amazing hard work and considerate attitude towards others. He always tries his best even when things can be challenging. He showed a fantastic aspirational attitude this week during our flexible partitioning in Maths. Awesome
Cherry	Freddie is the star of the week in Cherry class for showing fantastic listening skills this week. He has demonstrated our school value of responsibility by completing all work tasks with focus and determination. Well done Freddie.
Hazel	Lily D - For demonstrating all of our school values this week, especially kindness. You have been filling my 'bucket' every day with your smile that lights up the room. Well done!
Willow	The star in Willow this week is Sophia Hou. Her aspirational attitude and her responsibility for her reading has been superb! We are all proud of you!
Holly	Wictor is Holly's star of the week as he can always be seen showing all of the school values. He has shown aspiration in particular this week as his hand has constantly been up answering questions and his presentation in books has been amazing. Well done Wictor, keep up the great work!
Maple	Charlie H is our star of the week for showing all the school's core values. In particular, he has shown respect to the adults working in Year 6 and is always doing the right thing. Charlie has also shown fantastic aspiration; he has made an excellent start to his non-chronological report on living things and their habitats. Well done Charlie!
Hawthorn	Hollie - for making frequent, excellent contributions to class discussions and lessons this week. She has also shown particular aspiration in her maths work.



Diary Dates

DATE	EVENT
19th September	Bank Holiday
W/C 26th September	Book Fair 3.15pm in the school Hall
22nd September	Year 2 SATs information talk 3.15pm
23rd September	Year 3 trip to Kents Cavern
7th October	Harvest Festival
7th October	PTA Uniform Sale 2.30-3.30pm
13th October	PTA AGM 3.30pm
14th October	PTA funded Anti-Bullying workshops
19th October	PTA Meeting via zoom 8pm
21st October	Non-Uniform Day - Wear Yellow in honour of Frazer
24th-28th October	Half Term
1st November	Flu Vaccinations
1st November	PTA Halloween Disco - Time TBC
3rd November	Year 4 trip to Torquay Museum
W/C 14th November	Parents Evening Week
16th November	Deadline for Computing homework project
18th November	Mufti- Children in Need
21st November	School Photos (individual and sibling)
21st November	PTA World Cup Football Cake Sale
6th December	Christmas Disco - Times TBC
9 th December	Rowcroft Rudolf Run
13th December	Upton Vale Concert