



St Margaret's  
Academy

ST MARGARETS ACADEMY

Spring Newsletter #8  
7<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Dear Parents,

Just a short newsletter this week. On Thursday and Friday this week, Mrs O'Dwyer (the new Head Teacher from the summer term) has been in school meeting with staff and children. I hope you managed to say hello on the gates and put a face to a name. It is a very bitter sweet process for myself but I feel really confident in handing over to Mrs O'Dwyer. I think she will be great for St Margaret's.

### Roblox—Advice and Tips for Parents

Under 'Parents' – 'Useful Resources for Parents', this week you can find some great tips to help you understand [Roblox](#). This covers online play risks, mature content, in-game spending, anonymous players, risk of addiction and scams.

### Curriculum News

Have a look in the [Geography Blog](#) to see how Year 2 have been using technology to study the weather in Brunei. In the [Maths Blog](#) you can see Year 2 learning about money.

### Music Lessons

If you would like to find out more about music lessons at St Margaret's, there is lots of updated information on our 'Music' page under 'Curriculum' – 'Subject Specific Information' – quick link [here](#). You can also find book piano and singing lessons with Blossoms. See below:

ACTIVE THINKING



RESILIENCE



MOTIVATION



Piano and Singing  
lessons now  
available.

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:

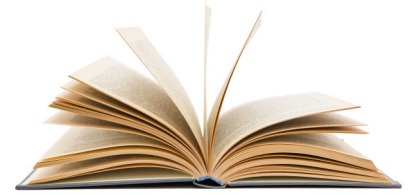
Laura @ Blossomsmusic.co.uk  
07515 805 812

**Blossoms**  
Music @  
St Margaret's



## Top Tips to Boost Reading

Under our 'Useful Resources for Parents', this week you can find tech tips to help our child to read that includes interactive reading programmes, audiobooks, text to voice, voice to text and much more. Click [here](#) to read more.



## Our Amazon Book Wish List

[https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/FOD16NCSLQOX?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/FOD16NCSLQOX?ref=wl_share)

## Help with Rising Costs - Reminders

- Riviera Life Church Food and Baby Bank – [link here](#). We can make a referral for you or phone 07486 402493
- **Household Support Fund** – if you are on a welfare benefit / tax credit or have a disposable income of less than £50 per week:
  - [Household Support Fund - Torbay Council](#)
  - Do you need help with child care? If so, try this website: <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>
  - Help for households – very useful government website: <https://helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk/>
  - This community kitchen has some very affordable meal options and is well worth a look: <https://www.turningheads.org.uk/community-kitchen/>
  - The PTA has lots of quality school uniform for a small donation – see their FB page
  - Martin Lewis: <https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/>
  - 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>

Have a lovely weekend

Tim Hughes (Headteacher)

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# Diary Dates

1st April 2025	Non Uniform Day to donate an Easter Egg for the Thursday Bingo
3rd April 2025	PTA Easter Bingo after school
W/C 7th April 2025	Easter Holidays
22nd April 2025	First day back for children
5th May 2025	Bank Holiday
W/C 26th May 2025	Half Term
3rd June 2025	First day back for children
24th July 2025	Final day for the children



Beech	Myles is our star of the week in Beech Class! He has impressed me greatly and caught several other adults' attention this week with his positive attitude toward learning and his motivation to improve. We are all proud of you, Myles—keep up the great work!
Pine	Harper is our star of the week. We are just amazed at her incredible ability to take responsibility for her hearing equipment. She is assertive and confident to tell us if it isn't working and she always remembers to ask for her microphone if she is moving into another room with a different teacher. Well done Harper!
Oak	Nellie is our star this week as she
Apple	Oliver A is our star for showing amazing resilience in his writing. He has moved to a new group and is rising to the challenge and impressing us all with his ability to write longer pieces of writing. Well done Oliver - keep it up!
Holly	Although Alfie consistently shows our school values, he has been chosen this week in particular for his kindness towards his peers on the playground. Other staff members have commented on how he helps others and is a great friend
Willow	Hugo is the star of the week in Willow Class. He has been a real active thinker this week as his hand has been constantly up to answer questions and make comments. He is also showing great resilience with his handwriting working hard during our bubble writing sessions on his letter sizes and joining. Well done Hugo.
Cherry	Cherries star of the week is Harvey. Harvey has shown a really high level of maturity during our class discussions. He has respectfully challenged other people's ideas and shared his own opinions. He has shown resilience when having his own ideas challenged too. Well done Harvey.
Hazel	Lennon is Hazel's star this week. Lennon has really shown amazing aspiration this week and tried extremely hard in all of his work. His Writing in particular has blown us away! Lennon is a great role model for the rest of the children in Hazel class, well done! Keep it up!
Birch	Amelia is our star of the week. She has shown such motivation and resilience in her maths this week and has done us proud! Well done Amelia!
Rowan	Michael D has shown incredible learning behaviours recently. He has impressed us with his perseverance and resilience in maths, never giving up and always trying his best. Keep up the amazing work!
Maple	Edith is our star of the week for showing super resilience with her maths learning. This week, we have been learning about finding areas of more complicated shapes; Edith has been motivated to do well in class and has contributed to class discussions. Well done!
Hawthorn	Livia has shown a big improvement in motivation towards her learning. She has worked super hard on her writing this week, especially editing it carefully to improve her ideas. Well done Livia!

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