

Tel:01803 327090 Email:admin@st-margarets.torbay.sch.uk Website:<u>www.stmargaretstorbay.org.uk</u> Twitter <u>@stmargaretstq</u>

Autumn Term Newsletter No.8 (8.11.19)

On Friday last week, we had a visit from our School Improvement Partner, Deb Wring. We buy in Deb's skills to help us continue to improve and to support us with advice and challenge. I thought you might like to know that it was a very successful visit. The children were engaged in their learning and spoke about being happy at school. Deb will be back in March to look again at the improvements we're making.

As part of our continual improvement we very much value your views about what's working well and suggestions for improvement. Getting the partnership right between home and school is so important. If you haven't yet returned your child's parent questionnaire, please send them in and post them in the red post box in the foyer. You should have been given a hard copy by your child's teacher. If you can't find it, you can download a copy from our website: at the bottom of the page under 'Parent Partnership' or by <u>following this</u> <u>link</u>. Thank you for your views.

On Thursday this week, we had a review of our Hearing Support Centre (HSC) by the lead for SEN in the bay, Dorothy Hadley. I'm really please to report that Dorothy will be recommending that funding continues for this specialist enhanced provision. Thank you to Jo Saunders who leads this unit. It is very clear that our HSC provides a vital facility for children with a hearing impairment in our school and through the outreach that staff do elsewhere. It also plays a wider role across our school in broadening the experience of all children to each other's unique differences that are so interesting to celebrate and find out about. If you would like to read more about the HSC work, Mrs Saunders has recently updated our local offer which you can find on our website under '<u>Hearing Support Centre'</u>.

This week we've topically been thinking about another British value, *democracy* to build on last week's work around *tolerance*. Mr Tullier delivered a very engaging assembly on Monday morning to mark the start of UK Parliament Week. He helped the children understand how democracy works in practice with examples of topics that the children voted on such as wearing uniform and should we make it compulsory to eat sprouts. He explained the work of the student council and how they were elected by their peers and as such have a responsibility to give something back to them and the community. Look in the <u>SMSC Blog</u> to read about today's visit from prospective MP Kevin Foster who spoke about his work and took questions from the children in Key Stage 2.

I hope you found this week's parents evenings useful and had a chance to see the progress your child is making and the work they are producing in their books.

The local history project homework fair is fast approaching on Wednesday 27th November. For more information, <u>please follow this</u> <u>link</u>. If you're enjoying Miss Wooldridge's weekly Maths puzzles, there are two more in the <u>Maths Blog</u> this week. See if you can solve the anagrams and triangular terror puzzle. Solutions should be taken to Hazel Class at playtime on Friday 15.11.19. You can also find some very useful advice on how to help with Maths at home for each year group, from Reception to Year 6.

Read our <u>Science Blog</u> to find out about some giant snails that took over Year 1 this week. Have a look under the PE section of our 'Curriculum Information' to find out about this year's new <u>Sports Leaders</u>. Read how Birch Class creatively replicated the Jewish festival of <u>Rosh Hashanah</u> this week on our new Religion Blog.

PTA News

A big thanks to Ella and her team for persevering in the rain last week with the <u>pumpkin picking and carving</u>. Read more and see the photos on the PTA part of our website.

Anti-bullying Week is Next Week

Please remember to see the office staff to book on to the parent workshop for Cyber Safety which takes place after school on Monday 11.11.19. With the rapidly changing world, this will help you keep up to speed with *fortnightly black holes*, computing trends and how to keep your little ones safe when they're out there on the world wide web. During Anti-Bullying Week we will be joined by *Bullies Out* which is a charity that run various workshops for all ages. We are making **Tuesday 12.11.19 'Odd Socks Day'** to raise the profile of celebrating differences and would be very grateful for any donation that will go to *Bullies Out* so they can continue their work in other schools and with other groups. *Breeze Radio* will also be joining us at some point.

Polite Prompt for Polite Parking Please

Please can I again ask for your help with parking around school. Local residents regularly write to me with concerns about their drives being blocked and access for emergency vehicles being restricted. It must be very frustrating for them. Please can I appeal to you again for your consideration about this. Thank you.

KINDNESS

RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY



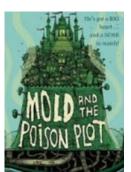
Miss Palfrey and the Reading Ambassadors' Weekly Book Choices



KINDNESS

Suitable for older readers: *Mold and the Poison Plot* by Lorraine Gregory

Suitable for younger readers: *What do you do if your house is a zoo?* by John Kelly



Weekly Attendance Award

Congratulations to Birch and Pine Class for winning the School Attendance Award with 99.3% attendance. School target: 96% The whole school achieved 95.7% last week

	\star Stars of the Week \star 🔸
Beech	Dylan is one of the kindest and most thoughtful members of our class. He is so polite and respectful to everyone. In addi- tion to this his number work this week has been Aspirational!!
Pine	Jasmin shows great responsibility for her learning. She is always ready to learn, actively participates in lessons and concen- trates on tasks brilliantly. Well done Jasmin.
Oak	Pheonix- great effort to improve her choices both in school and at home. Well done for putting your hand up to share your ideas and your kindness Pheonix!
Apple	Bella - an amazing effort in all of her work and she has recently produced a wonderful piece of artwork about the Sea- sons. Great aaaaaaaaspiration Bella!
Birch	Oliver - For demonstrating an amazing talent this week - your singing! Miss Pritchard and Mr Hopkins were so impressed. We can't wait to see you musical talents blossom this year!
Rowan	Maisie H, for always being the first to sit, listen and look. She is always paying attention which means that she is making amazing progress.
Cherry	Karolina has shown aspiration in her maths learning this week, making links with what she already knows to new learning and explaining her ideas clearly to others. Super work Karolina!
Maple	Eva- For a fantastic effort in all of our lessons this week. It has been great to see your involvement and enthusiasm during lessons.
Willow	Ella - for an excellent learning attitude and consistently being so kind and thoughtful, setting such an excellent example to others. Well done Ella!
Holly	Eleanor - for excellent effort and contributions in maths and writing this week. Well done!
Hazel	Jayden - for excellent active participation in all lessons and brilliant self-motivation to produce your best work. I'm so im- pressed with your attitude to learning and the great choices you've been making. Well done!
Haw- thorn	Alfie C- for making an excellent start to the half-term. We are all hugely impressed with your superb attitude and focus- keep up the great work!

Diary Dates

Mon 11.11.19	Cyber Safety workshop for parents 3.10—4.10pm (please let the office know if you would like to book on)
Tue 12.11.19	'Odd Socks Day' - suggested donation of £1 to raise money for the charity, <i>Bullies Out</i> who are providing free workshops for our children and run free events across the school. <i>Breeze Radio</i> will be supporting our anti-bullying week.
Fri 15.11.19	Non-uniform day for <i>Children in Need</i> —suggested donation of £1
Wed 27.11.19	<u>Local History homework project competition</u> —please bring entries in on this day. More information can be found under 'homework' under 'curriculum information' on the website.
Fri 6.12.19	Christmas school dinner day—yum! Plus, Wear a Christmas Jumper Day—in aid of Save the Children—suggested donation of £1 PTA Christmas Fair after school
Tue 17.12.19	6.00pm KS2 Carol Concert at Upton Vale Baptist Church

RESPONSIBILITY

ASPIRATION

RESPECT