



**St Margaret's  
Academy**

Tel: 01803 327090

Email: [admin@st-margarets.torbay.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-margarets.torbay.sch.uk)

Website: [www.stmargaretstorbay.org.uk](http://www.stmargaretstorbay.org.uk)

Twitter [@stmargaretstg](https://twitter.com/stmargaretstg)

## Autumn Term Newsletter No.2 (13.9.19)

Urgent request for help!—If anybody knows where the summer holidays have gone, please can you let the office know urgently. Last seen ages and ages ago.

It's been full steam ahead this week for staff and children as we've all got involved in the new adventure of the new academic year. We started the week with an assembly on 'feeling safe', looking at how we all have the right to be safe, looked after and not hurt by others. We explored how we can help others feel safe and what we can do if when we don't feel safe. This week also saw the launch of new and exciting curriculum projects. Years 5 and 6 came back buzzing from their trip to the beach to kick start their *Coast to Coast* topic. Years 3 and 4 loved their Survival Day outing to start their *Survival Deadly 60* topic. You can read more about both of these trips on our [Creative Learning Blog](#). Year 2 launched their Roald Dahl topic today with a great spread of colourful characters. Teachers will soon be sharing their curriculum plans for the term and year ahead so you will be better able to support at home. If you would like a bit of help with Maths, check out the [Maths Blog](#) to find some of Miss Wooldridge's whizzy tips and activities to try at home.

On our website you can also find a variety of information that might help you in the often tricky task of being a parent. The 'Supporting Families' page under the 'Well-being in Action' tab has a range of information. For example, if you think your child might be dyslexic there is information about a workshop for parents on Saturday 5th October. Follow [this link](#) to take you there directly. There is also information under 'Parents and Carers' where you can find out more about how to keep your child safe, for example with help on on-line safety. With the rapidly changing digital world, it's sometimes hard to keep up. Follow this link for some useful guidance about online gaming:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming-whats-appropriate-for-your-child/>

Have a look on our [Well-being in Action](#) tab to find out how James Bellamy and Charlie Pemberton in Year 6 volunteered to care for our local environment last weekend.

Teachers have been taking part in further training on our new PSHE scheme this week, looking at how we're going to teach Relationships and Sex Education (commonly referred to as RSE). The relationships education becomes a compulsory part of the primary school curriculum from September 2020 but we're getting going this academic year. The sex education part is not compulsory in primary schools but we believe it's important to cover this and are thus starting to plan to implement this alongside relationships education. Before we start though, we will consult with you and you will be able to opt your child out if you wish. In the meantime, if you want to read more, [click here](#) for a link to the DfE's guidance.

I've been at a briefing for Torbay Heads this week in which we've been told of the dire financial education deficits. Torbay has a £2.65m deficit budget for supporting schools with pupils who have high needs. This covers specialist provision for disabilities, medical, behaviour and learning difficulties for example. This deficit is projected to grow to £9m by 2021 while the DfE wants it cut to zero by this date. Each school is being asked to think very carefully about asking for support / money because where one of us takes it, another loses it. It's a very challenging landscape to work in for staff and pupils which is why our school work on attachment and nurture is even more important. This year thanks to Mr Mayling, we have some fantastic PLAY Active and STAY Active extra physical social skills sessions for children which helps enhance this important work around PSHE. We also have our Forest School and Eco Warriors who will help make a big difference alongside the excellent PSHE jigsaw scheme which has already started this week in some classes.

Getting lost in a great book is also wonderful for our mental health. Heads up that the Scholastic book fair is arriving on the 25th September and is leaving on the 2nd. It will be open after school from the 26th September to 1st October in the library. Thank you to Miss Palfrey and her Reading Ambassadors for organising this.

Enjoy the September sun!

KINDNESS

RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

ASPIRATION

## This Week's Star Pupils!

**Beech** — Maisie has shown EVERY school value this week. She has settled so quickly and adjusted to our routines wonderfully.

**Pine** — Ava has been an absolutely amazing friend this week, looking after others and making them feel safe and happy.

**Oak** — Lilly-Ella has shown all of the school values by showing exceptional listening, helping others and trying her best.

**Apple**— Ava has settled in to Apple Class really well and it is like she has been part of the school forever. Fantastic Ava it's lovely to have you!

**Birch** — Ruby-Lee For being a role model to the rest of the class this week! Well done Ruby-Lee.

**Rowan** — Oakley for amazing enthusiasm, wonderful contributions and excellent concentration

**Cherry** — Kally for an amazing start to Year 4 showing all our school values. Super effort Kally!

**Maple** - Harry H is an absolute delight to have in Year Four. He is always ready to learn and is already a fantastic role model in our class.

**Holly** — Zack has been a real driving force in class since returning to school. He is always ready to learn and is already great role model in our class. Well done!

**Willow** — Juliet has started the year brilliantly and has set a fabtastic example to everyone else in the class!

**Hazel**— Kayden shows such maturity and an impressive, aspirational attitude towards all areas of learning. What an excellent start to Year 6 Kayden - you are a fantastic role model!

**Hawthorn**—Tommy-Jack has made a wonderful start to the year showing great aspiration with superb contributions and effort in lessons. Well done!

## Diary Dates

Tuesday 17.9.19	3.15pm PTA meeting in Mr Tullier's class—all welcome
Thur 26.9.19, Fri 27.9.19, Mon 1.10.19	3.05pm Scholastic Book Fair in the library
Mon 14.10.19	Harvest Festival—any donations on this day much appreciated (more info to follow)
Wk beg 4.11.19	Parents Evenings this week—more detail to follow
Wk beg 11.11.19	Anti-bullying Week—look our for an E-safety parents workshop—more detail to follow and please do sign up

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