



St Margaret's
Academy

ST MARGARETS ACADEMY

Autumn Newsletter #11
29th November 2024

Dear Parents,

I hope you've all been wrapping up warm and keeping well.

Positive Vibes for Mrs Price

Very recently Mrs Price has been unexpectedly diagnosed with cancer and will be starting treatment for this on Monday. Consequently, we don't expect her to return until sometime in the next academic year. I know you will all join me in wishing her the very best – and sending positive vibes - for a speedy recovery. St Margaret's Academy staff and pupils all look forward to her re-joining the school when she is well again.

Thank You and Good Luck to Mrs Christie

On Wednesday we said farewell to Mrs Christie who worked in Reception. Over the past 14 years Mrs Christie has worked with children in Reception, as well as throughout the school and she will be missed by everyone. The children gave a huge 3 cheers and wished her well as she finished her last shift. We did not say goodbye as she has said she would volunteer and maybe come back and see us, so for now we say farewell and good luck in all she plans to do.

Free Christmas Holiday Activities

There are several free Christmas holiday activities available for families who are entitled to Free School Meals. Click on the link to find out more and how to book on: [Holiday Activity and Food Programme - Torbay Council](#)

Curriculum News

In the History Blog you can see how [Year 3](#) have been creating their own timelines and how they have been making Stone Age [necklaces](#) from sour dough. All very exciting learning.

In the PSHE Blog you can see how Year 3 enjoyed their [Mini First Aid](#) thanks to our PTA.

ACTIVE THINKING



RESILIENCE



MOTIVATION



Snapchat Horror

Ahead of our planned parent events about the dangers of social media, check out this useful advice about [Snapchat](#) under our 'Useful Resources

Parent Consultation Service

This is a reminder that Torbay Educational Psychologist Service provides a free non-judgemental Q&A type of support for parents where you can get some suggestions for all sorts of areas. Look on our 'Useful Resources for



Train to be a Teacher

Are you interested in becoming a teacher and training locally? If so, check out this link for more information: [Events - SWIFT Teacher Training](#)

Traditional Festivities

If you're looking for some traditional festivities over Christmas, Torbay United Church with the Reverend Nathan Kiyaga are offering the following:

- Wednesday 18th December – Afternoon and Evening Carol Concerts at the Riviera Centre, Torquay 3:00–5:00 pm and again at 7:00–9:00 pm
- Thursday 19th December – Worship Night at Christ Church, Paignton, 7.00-9.00pm

Our Amazon Book Wish List

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://](https://helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk/)

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>

Enjoy your weekend. Advent countdown starts soon.

Tim Hughes (Headteacher)





Diary Dates

6th December 2024	PTA Santa Visit
9th December 2024	Reception Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day
10th December 2024	Y1/2 Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day
10th December 2024	13.45—15.00 Reception Christmas Craft for Parents
10th December 2024	14.30—15.15 KS2 Carol Concert at St Mary the Virgin in St Marychurch
11th December 2024	Y3/4 Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day
12th December 2024	Y5/6 Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day
13th December 2024	KS1 Nativity at Babbacombe Theatre (Doors open at 14.00)
18th December 2024	13.15—13.45 School Choir performing at St Marychurch Precinct
19th December 2024	13.30—15.00 Reception Christmas show for Parents
20th December 2024	Book look for parents after school—Open Class
20th December 2024	Curriculum Event for Parents (During day—Times TBC)
W/C 23rd December 2024	Christmas Holidays
7th January 2025	First day back for children
W/C 17th February 2025	Half Term
24th February 2025	First day back for children
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



Beech	Our star in Beech Class this week is Alice. She has come into school every day with such enthusiasm for learning and she blew me away with the effort she put into her writing, getting on so independently! Well done Alice!
Pine	Riley is the star in Pine Class this week, he has shown great motivation in his phonic lessons this week, learning new special friends and applying them in his oral blending. You are also always so kind and polite in class, Well done Riley!
Oak	Willow is our star as she always tries her best and she acts upon feedback given. She is also very kind and responsible, helping others in her class. Well done Willow, you are a star!
Apple	Poppy is our star of the week for her resilience in maths. We have been learning some new strategies and she has concentrated so hard and produced some beautifully presented work. She also got stuck in during her first Forest School session this week at short notice. Well done Poppy!
Holly	Harley has been so resilient over the last few weeks with his writing. Remembering his finger spaces and handwriting and as a result he has just produced his best yet final published piece. Hard work does pay off Harley, well done.
Willow	Lylah is the star in Willow class this week. She has worked really hard on her story about time travel and used her active thinking to include lots of the ideas we tried out during our sentence stacking lessons. Well done Lylah.
Cherry	Cherries star of the week goes to Evelyn for her active thinking particularly in her writing lessons. She is constantly thinking of (and sharing!) more exciting vocabulary and developing on the class model. Keep up the great work Evelyn!
Hazel	Ossie is our star this week! He has shown real motivation in all he does and been so amazing during our History lessons!
Birch	Our star this week is Zane for showing great resilience in his writing. Zane has listened to feedback carefully and made thoughtful edits to improve his work. Super job, Zane!
Rowan	This week's star is Lois for showing motivation in her writing. Lois has gained such confidence, now sharing lots of lovely vocabulary ideas with the class and showing aspiration in her writing. Keep up the amazing work, we're so proud!
Maple	Our star this week goes to Frankie for his fantastic learning behaviours! Frankie has shown that he is an excellent active thinker and used his prior knowledge in Mathis this week to help him when he was stuck. Keep it up Frankie!
Hawthorn	Flo is our star this week for super resilience and motivation in her DT project. She has worked carefully and steadily to create the design she has chosen and we have been proud at how independent she has been when applying her creativity! Well done Florence!

ACTIVE THINKING

RESILIENCE



MOTIVATION