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<u>Autumn Term Newsletter No.5</u>

No Pens Day was a big hit with the children on Wednesday. The day is used to promote the importance of speaking and listening as in this busy, modern world we often do not pay enough attention to those around us. The children were encouraged to really look at and listen to each other when taking turns talking and they spent a great part of the day doing collaborative work. It was great to hear them discussing how to tackle problems and watch them working co-operatively throughout the day. There are a few more photos on our Twitter page which show all the excellent things they got up to on the day!



A huge **Thank You** for supporting the school by buying a book from the scholastic book fair. The school will receive £537 to spend on books thanks to your generosity as we receive a percentage of the takings.

Thank you also for sending your child in for a school dinner on Thursday. We had an excellent turn out and, whilst we won't receive the full 100% funding, we should receive approximately 94% for this term; an additional 14% over the guaranteed funding. The children were excited to be in with a chance of winning a Lucky Plate and three classes now have a treat chosen by the winners. The next Census Day is in January so we hope you will support the school in the same way again. It really does make a difference to our budget.

We are very proud of this week's Star Pupils!



Beech — Toby C has been making fantastic behaviour choices and being responsible.
Pine — Mason has shown superb effort in all lessons, being ready to learn and always joining in.
Apple — Jaya has made an excellent effort to learn her times tables at home and at school.
Oak — Linus is a great member of Oak class. He is amazing in every way; hard working, kind and polite
Birch — Mylee is always positive and hardworking, even when not feeling very well this week!
Rowan — Isabelle has made great progress in all subjects. She is also enjoying running club.
Cherry — Dan has been working extremely hard in 1:1 sessions and sharing really interesting ideas.
Maple — Dylan has had a fantastic week of learning which has resulted in some brilliant writing.
Holly — Keira has shown excellent aspiration in her learning and is well organised.
Willow — Charlie has had a great approach to his maths learning this week. Well done, Charlie!
Hawthorn — Jake has been aspirational in all areas of learning and improving his handwriting.
Hazel — Leon has shown excellent self motivation and there's been a big improvement in work load.

Diary Date Reminders:

Monday 8th October—PTA meeting at 2pm in school Monday 8th and Thursday 11th October—Y2 SATS parents meetings (Please see the website calendar or your eschools app calendar for times)

Wednesday 10th October—Y5 parents maths workshop at 3:15pm (addition and subtraction methods)

Friday 12th October—Y5and 6 Football Match vs Preston 3:30pm **Monday 15th October**—Harvest Festival. All food donations gratefully accepted for local people and foodbanks.

Bookings for Y1 – Y6 Parents' Meetings will go live on eSchools next week. Parents meetings are in the first week back after half term.

Attendance Award

Congratulations to Cherry Class for winning the School Attendance Award with 99.6% attendance.

The whole school achieved 97.5% attendance. Well done everyone! Keep it Up.

ATTENDANCE

WINNERS

It was great to see so many parents at the meeting last Tuesday and we are delighted that the PTA will continue to be part of St. Margaret's Academy. A new committee was voted in and we are sure they will build on the successes of the previous committee.

The staff and children would like to thank the previous committee for giving so much of their time and energy to raise money for the school through organising fun events. There is over £5,000 which can now be spent on equipment for the children and the new PTA have many more fund raising ideas which they hope will continue to generate income for the school. Their next meeting is in school on Monday 8th October at 2pm to discuss the organisation of the Christmas Fair and everyone is welcome to attend.

Letter from the new PTA Committee

We would like to thank everyone for not only attending the AGM this week and pledging their support going forward, but also for the support that we have already been provided with. We are all very excited to be working with both the teachers and parents/carers to bring you and the children lots of fun events throughout the year.

Please find us on Facebook and join our page so that you can be kept up-to-date of upcoming events. If you wish to join us on the PTA in organising or running events, please come along to the meetings, everyone is welcome.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank the previous PTA committee, in particular Sarah and Emma, for all their hard work over the last few years.

Ella (Chair) & Hilary (Vice Chair)

Y2 Gardening Afternoon. The summer has taken its toll on our school garden and the orchard is overgrown with weeds. Y2 have invited their families in on Wednesday afternoon from 1:00pm to help us restore the school grounds to their former glory. If you are able to come and give an hour or two to help us please come along! Please bring gardening gloves and wear suitable footwear as it can get a little muddy in parts of our orchard. We hope to clean out the greenhouse, clear the vegetable beds and possibly get around to emptying



compost bins and filling the veg beds. We also have a chicken coop somewhere under all the bind weed!

Beat the Street. We are still out in the lead! You have been getting active and totting up the points. This weekend there are triple points available (we don't know which boxes though) and there is a mini competition next week (please see the flyer sent with this email). The children are enjoying the challenge and hopefully they will sustain their enthusiasm until October 31st when the competition closes. Half term will be a great chance to get everyone out and active! Don't forget, adults can play too, so keep tapping those beat boxes as you walk the dog, go for a run or walk to work. Thank you!

Learning today to achieve our tomorrows.