



St Margaret's  
Academy

ST MARGARETS ACADEMY

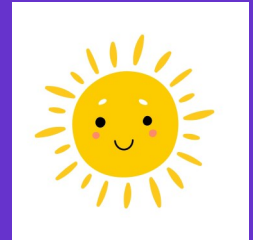
Summer Newsletter #27  
8th May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come together for another exciting and busy week at school, it is wonderful to reflect on the many achievements and enriching experiences our pupils have enjoyed. We wish our Year 6 children the very best of luck as they begin their SATs week on Monday 11th May, continuing through to Thursday 14th May, we are incredibly proud of their hard work and resilience.

Alongside this, we celebrate the fantastic sporting successes of our Year 2 pupils at the recent multi-schools events and the joyful energy of the Colour Run. Our curriculum continues to come alive through memorable experiences, from the immersive Viking and Saxon Day to hands-on learning in Year 1, where pupils engaged with our RE curriculum by making traditional Jewish bread and sampling its delicious flavours.

We are also grateful for the continued dedication of our PTA, who are busily organising a World Cup-themed dress-down day on Friday 12th June. This newsletter is jam-packed with important information, updates, and highlights from across the school thank you, as always, for your ongoing support.



## KS2 SATs Week—A Message from St Margaret's Academy

As we approach KS2 SATs week, we are reminded of what truly matters at St Margaret's Academy: strong relationships, a sense of belonging, and ensuring every child feels known, valued, and supported. We understand that this week can bring a mix of emotions for our children. With our relational approach at the heart of all we do, we are here to help them feel calm, confident, and ready.

While SATs are an important milestone, they are only one part of a much bigger picture. We are proud to nurture well-rounded children who grow in confidence, kindness, creativity, and resilience. To our Year 6 pupils: we are incredibly proud of you. Believe in yourselves and remember that success is about far more than test results.

To our parents and carers: thank you for your continued support; it makes a real difference. A quick reminder that our Year 6 pupils are invited to arrive a little earlier, where they can enjoy a bacon or sausage bap, kindly provided by Bernie and the catering team. We hope this gives them a great start to the day, ensuring they are refreshed, energised and settled.



## Y2 Multi-Skills and Colour Run

On Thursday 30th April, some Year 2 children from Apple and Oak class went to a multi-skills and colour run event at St Cuthbert Mayne School. The festival involved an hour of multi-skills activities on the field followed by a Colour Run which comprised of a run/jog/walk of 2 laps of the field. They had a fun time trying out different activities, testing their agility, balance and co-ordination.



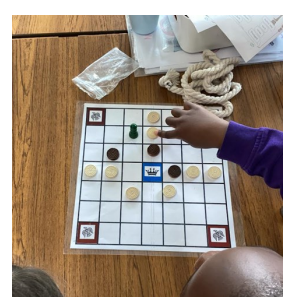
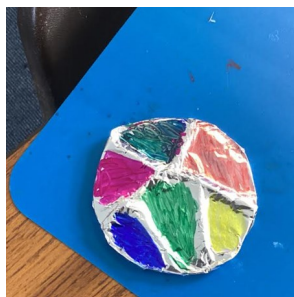
The multi-skills stations were organised by the sports leaders at the secondary school and they were great at encouraging the children to have a go and do their best. They made them extra fun too! If that wasn't enough movement, following that they took part in the colour run. Two fun laps of the field whilst being showered with coloured powder at stations along the course. They loved it so much, some ran 3-4 laps and would probably still be running now if we hadn't stopped them!



## Year 4 Viking and Saxon Experience Day

Year 4 had an amazing day on Tuesday as they launched their new Saxon and Viking topic. The children took part in a range of exciting activities, including archery, traditional board games, and creating their own brooches. They also enjoyed learning about Viking longships and had the opportunity to dress up.

A huge thank you to Devon History Workshops for providing such a fantastic and engaging experience for the children.



## Year 1 RE in Action

This week in RE, our Year 1 children explored Jewish traditions by making traditional challah bread. Challah is a special, slightly sweet bread that is often braided and traditionally eaten during Jewish celebrations, particularly on the Sabbath (Shabbat) and festivals. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed measuring and mixing the ingredients, and they were delighted to taste their freshly baked bread. It was a wonderful hands-on experience that brought their learning to life!



## World Cup Dress Down Day

We are delighted to announce an exciting World Cup Dress Down Day taking place on Friday 12th June! All classes (including non-class-based staff) have been entered into a *lucky dip spinning draw* and have each been allocated to a different country. Pupils and staff are invited to come to school dressed in colours that represent their class country – the brighter and more creative, the better!

To support our upcoming Summer Fair, we kindly ask if you are able to donate any items that match your child's allocated team colours. These will be used to create our fantastic Rainbow Raffle Hampers. We greatly appreciate your continued support and generosity, and we're looking forward to a fun and colourful day for everyone! Please see the poster, along with the Country Colour & Class Allocation Grid, below for full details.

COUNTRY	COLOUR	CLASS
Argentina	Blue	Apple
Australia	Yellow	Cherry
Brazil	Yellow	Beech
England	White	Willow
France	Blue	Oak
Germany	Black	Holly
Japan	Blue	Maple
Mexico	Green	Pine
Netherlands	Orange	Birch
Potugal	Red	Elm
Saudi arabia	Green	Hawthorn
Scotland	Blue	Rowan
Spain	Red	School Staff
Sweden	Green	Hazel
USA	Blue	Ash

ST MARGARET'S ACADEMY PTA

# WORLD CUP

## DRESS DOWN DAY!

### FRIDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

Each class will be allocated a different country and you can come dressed in that country's **COLOUR** or **THEME!**

**PLEASE DONATE** an item of your country's **COLOUR** that will be used in our **RAINBOW RAFFLE HAMPERS** at the **SUMMER FAYRE!**

Let's fill our hampers with lots of colour!

**f** WE WILL ANNOUNCE THE CLASSES' COUNTRIES/COLOURS ON FACEBOOK ON **FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY** (INFO WILL ALSO BE SENT HOME WITH THE CHILDREN)

**★ WHO WILL TAKE THE CUP? ★**  
 The class that we deem to have gone to the **MOST EFFORT** in their outfits will win a **WHOLE CLASS TREAT** COURTESY OF THE PTA!

Let's celebrate the World Cup in style!  
 We can't wait to see your amazing outfits!

## Safeguarding Alert: Viral Trend Causing Severe Burns to Children

We are issuing an urgent safeguarding alert regarding a dangerous viral trend currently circulating online.

Children and young people have been microwaving squishy silicone toys after seeing videos that suggest this will make them softer and more flexible. However, when these heated toys are squeezed, they can burst and spray extremely hot material, causing serious burns to the hands and face.

This trend has already resulted in significant injuries to children in both the UK and the US. Most recently, a child was seriously harmed in May 2026 in Bristol.

### What we need you to do:

- Please speak to children and young people about the dangers of heating toys or other objects in microwaves.
- Remind them not to copy online trends without understanding the risks.
- Supervise younger children when using kitchen appliances where possible.

**Important advice for adults:** We ask that parents, carers, school staff, and professionals **do not search for this challenge directly online**, as doing so can increase the visibility of harmful content through platform algorithms. Instead, please refer to trusted safeguarding guidance for more information.

Further information and advice can be found via: <https://ineqe.com/2026/05/07/safeguarding-alert-viral-trend-causing-burns/>

As we come to the end of another busy and rewarding week, we wish you all a wonderful, relaxing, and sun-filled weekend. We look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready on Monday.

Have a fantastic weekend, everyone!

Mrs Nikki O'Dwyer

Headteacher



St Margaret's Academy PTA

# Summer Fayre

4th July 2026

11am - 2pm

Free  
Entry

All  
Welcome



Raffle · Games · Food · Bar · Ice Cream · Tea  
Rooms · Bouncy Castle · Giant Inflatable Assault  
Course · Live Performances · Craft Stalls ·

Preloved Uniform

St Margaret's Academy, Barewell Road, Torquay, TQ1 4PA

**SIRONA**  
Therapeutic  
Horsemanship  
Registered Charity No: 1169709

## OPEN DAY

Saturday 25th July

• 2026 •

11am - 3pm

Dartington Estate

Come to our centre on the Dartington Estate to meet the team, the horses and other animals.

Pony Demo with Young People

Raffle | Bric a Brac | Plant Stall  
Games | Children's Art Activities

Refreshments | Cakes | Tea & Coffee

Entry by Donation - No Dogs Please



RAFFLE

PRIZES

GAMES

Help us make a difference!

Buckhams Stables,  
Old School Farm, Dartington Hall,  
Totnes, TQ9 6EB

info@sironaequine.org.uk www.sironaequine.org.uk

Follow  
-US-



## UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD



S O L I H U L L A P P R O A C H

10:30am – 12:30pm for 10 weeks at The Windmill Centre,  
Pendennis Rd Torquay, TQ2 7QR

On the following Tuesdays 2026

21<sup>st</sup> April, 28<sup>th</sup> April / 5<sup>th</sup> May, 12<sup>th</sup> May, 19<sup>th</sup> May /

2<sup>nd</sup> June, 9<sup>th</sup> June, 16<sup>th</sup> June, 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 30<sup>th</sup> June

*We cover many topics including*

- Feelings
- Importance of Play
- Effective Communication



To book a place please contact  
Andrew Wright or Gabrielle Dale on  
[andrew.wright@torbay.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.wright@torbay.gov.uk)

07776495028

[gabrielle.dale@actionforchildren.org](mailto:gabrielle.dale@actionforchildren.org)  
.uk

07866 997870

Understanding your child is  
a course for all parents,  
grandparents and carers of  
children ages 6 months to 6  
years.

Familyhub  
TORBAY

# Diary Dates

11th May 2026	Cherry Class Swimming
W/C 11th May 2026	Year 6 SATS Week
18th May 2026	Cherry Class Swimming
21st May 2026	Year 5 & 6 Ultimate Frisbee
W/C 25th May 2026	Half Term Break
1st June 2026	Cherry Class Swimming First Day back to School
2nd June 2026	Bikeability Level 1
8th June 2026	Cherry Class Swimming Bikeability Level 2
10th, 11th & 12th June 2026	Whole School Art Project with Local Artist
11th June 2026	Class Photo Day
12th June 2026	World Cup PTA Event
15th June 2026	Hazel Class Swimming
18th June 2026	KS2 Primary Athletics
Friday 19th June 2026	INSET Day—School Closed to Pupils
22nd June 2026	Hazel Class Swimming Y3 Beach Water Confidence

ACTIVE THINKING

RESILIENCE



MOTIVATION



Ash	Rafferty	WOW, Rafferty! Your incredible junk modelling creation completely amazed us all! You showed outstanding creativity, resilience, and imagination as you explored ideas, experimented with different designs, and kept improving your model until it became something truly spectacular. What a talented and inventive superstar you are. Well done, Rafferty!
Elm	Annie	This Week's Star of The Week is Annie. For fantastic work in phonics.
Beech	Freddie. M	Freddie. M is the star of the week for being kind and caring. You always show kindness and care to others, and this is something you do every day.
Pine	Kaleb	Our star is Kaleb because has so much to share and we love hearing him using his imagination. He really thinks about his answers and always has his hand up.
Apple	Bella	Bella has been so responsible for her learning this week. She has embraced our poetry writing and been really independent with producing the first draft of her poem, which was tricky to do. She has also shown us the most beautiful handwriting and has got involved with our History learning. Well done Bella
Oak	Halle-Mai	Halle is our star because she has put great effort into listening and joining in with the learning this week. She particularly impressed me in the phonics and maths lessons. Well done Halle, you are a star!
Willow	Willow Class	<p>A huge well done to Willow Class for being absolute superstars during tennis this week! It was impossible to choose just one Star of the Week because every single one of you showed such aspirational attitudes and gave 100% ! You all demonstrated fantastic determination, resilience, and enthusiasm as you explored lots of new techniques and tricks to help you become true tennis pros.</p> <p>We were so impressed with the way you challenged yourselves, stepped outside of your comfort zones, and kept trying even when things became tricky. You were brilliant team players, encouraging one another and showing such positive attitudes throughout. Well done, Willow Class!</p>
Holly	Oliver	The Holly class adults have all noticed that this child is always incredible at taking responsibility for their learning. He always has his hand up, ready to answer questions and has been particularly impressive in his maths learning. Keep up the incredible work Oliver!
Cherry	Oliver	For your fantastic contribution during our Anglo Saxon/Viking day. You were so helpful to our visitors and was top scoring at archery - demonstrating some fantastic skills! Well done.
Hazel	Cain	Cain is the star in Hazel class this week. Cain is a child that could easily get this award every week. He is truly a model pupil for all in Hazel class. We have been impressed this week with his respect and responsibility. He can be trusted and relied upon by all. Cain - well done. You are a super star!
Rowan	Violet	Violet is the star of the week in Rowan class because she is so responsible and kind all of the time. She is a real role model. Thank you Violet.
Birch	Arya P	Arya is star of the week for her fantastic work attitude and growing independence in the classroom. She has really impressed me with how hard she is trying to get on with her work confidently and independently, without relying on too much adult help. Keep up the great effort and determination!
Hawthorn	Amelia	Ameila is our star of the week for Aspiration for coming into school with an extremely bad knee and persevering with her SATs preparation.
Maple	Jake	Jake is our star of the week in recognition of his aspiration and the exceptional effort that he has put in this whole year in preparation for the SATs. He has listened attentively and applied