



St Margarets Academy

Hands-Face-Space- FRESH AIR-Act as if you've got it



Dear Parents,

I hope you, your children and families are managing to stay healthy during this new covid challenge. As you know, we have recently had a significant amount of pupil and staff absence due to covid and non-covid viruses and bugs sweeping through school. I've also been quite unwell myself with covid but thankfully am coming through the other side now and improving every day.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our amazing staff who have gone above and beyond to make sure we kept school open to help you continue working and to keep educating your child. It has not been easy and I am so appreciative of every single staff member from every school department who have supported each other and your children during very difficult and anxious times. As always, you should be very reassured that your child is well-looked after in the capable and caring hands of our staff. I would like to say a personal thank you to Mrs Pike for stepping into my shoes during the last few days, carrying out the Head Teacher role while still doing her massive job of leading on safeguarding, pastoral and SEN.

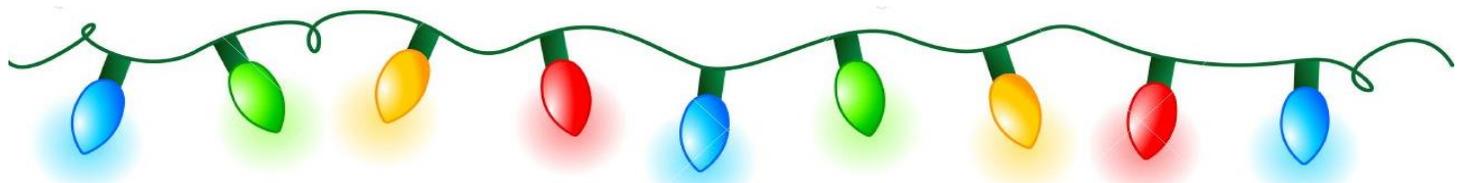
What a difference 14 weeks can make. From warm summer days to the onset of winter and from normal life back to further covid uncertainty. Sadly it feels like Deja vu as we finish the autumn term and think ahead to the new spring term. If you recall the start of January 2021 we were given 12 hours' notice of a new lockdown before your children were due to return to school. Hopefully this year, we will have more certainty and timely notice. At the time of writing this, it appears very unlikely there will be a new lockdown unless demands on the NHS become too stretched I guess.

We are currently planning to open as normal for your child's return on Wednesday 5th January. However, we are consulting with staff and will be monitoring the government's plans and guidance. If we do need to make any changes, I will be in touch with you at the earliest possible opportunity to inform you.



**This week's
class attendance star
goes
to
Birch Class with 92 %
You have been awarded
a Non-Uniform day on
Wednesday 5th January
2022!**

Well Done!



Breakfast Club and After School Club

This provision to help working families before and after school will restart again on Wednesday 5th January.

Curriculum in Action

Have a look in the [Geography Blog](#) to find out how Year 1 got on investigating why penguins don't need to fly.

Christmas Activities

Have a look under PTA to see some lovely photos of [Christmas wreath making](#) that took place last Thursday evening.

Watch this space...Check out the **music blog** over the Christmas period to see some videos of the children in KS2 singing some Christmas songs to get everyone in the festive mood!

Looking Christmas gift ideas? Check out this website for age appropriate book ideas [Christmas gifts - book ideas](#)

School Dinners in the Spring Term

The new menu for the spring term is now on the website under 'Information for Parents' – [School Meals](#)'. Please remember to book your child's meals in advance.

Clubs in the Spring Term

Bookings for clubs in the spring term will open on Tuesday 7th January 2022. Clubs start in the week beginning Monday 10th January. Please see the letter on the website for further information. It can be found under 'Information for Parents' – [Wider Opportunity Clubs](#)'

Guidance for Parents about Online Sexual Harassment and Keeping Children Safe Online

The Children's Commissioner has asked that I share a link to you to this [guidance](#). Feedback from teenagers is that parents should start these challenging conversations with their children when they are aged 9 and 10.

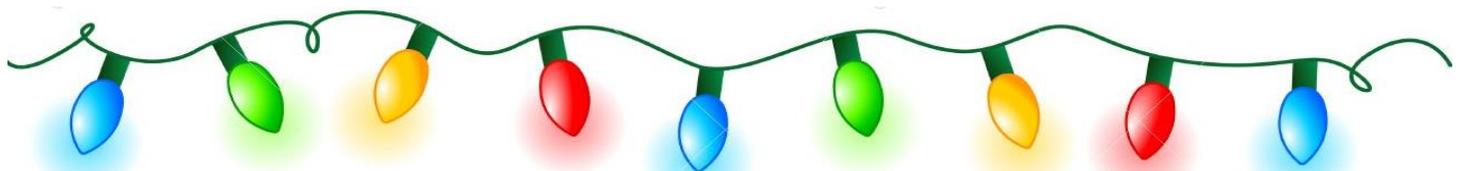
Disruption to Torbay Roads from January Onwards

Unfortunately there seem to be a lot of road works planned for early 2022 across Torbay. For full information about this to help you plan ahead please download the letter, '[Torbay Road Closures in Spring Term 2022](#)' from our website under 'Information for Parents' – 'Traffic Concerns'.

Wishing you all a restful and healthy Christmas.



Tim Hughes (Headteacher)





Beech	Isabella you have had a fabulous week. It has been wonderful to see you joining in with all our class activities and listening to the grown ups around you so well. Well done Issy - keep it up!
Pine	Rayaan-for being an absolute superstar this term. He sets such a good example to the whole class. He is always doing the right thing and it is a pleasure to have him in Pine class. Well done Rayaan!
Oak	Lola- for always showing the school values and kindness towards others. It has been lovely to see Lola's enthusiasm and effort in our Nativity this year. You read your lines and sang the songs really well Lola! Well done
Apple	Niamh saved the day and showed great responsibility when she stepped up at the last minute to be the leading part in the Year 2 nativity. Thank you Niamh and you did a great job!
Birch	Esmae for her dedication and determination to improve in all subjects. You are so enthusiastic and have made very good progress in reading, writing and maths! We are so proud of you!
Rowan	Finley Walton is our star of the week for taking responsibility for his learning. Finley has started to ask for help when he needs it and has had an excellent attitude towards his learning in this last week. I am especially proud of his writing! Well done.
Cherry	Darcey for her attitude towards learning in the Autumn term. She has worked hard on all her learning tasks. Well done Darcey
Hazel	Charlie - For a fantastic Autumn term and always demonstrating all four of our core values. You should be very proud of yourself!
Willow	Larisa - for her amazing kindness and responsibility this week. Larisa is always first to put her hand up to help the adults and truly cares about her friends. She has particularly impressed us this week with her responsibility when ensuring our classroom is spotless and ready for the next day. Well done!
Holly	George - for an increased effort in all of his work over the last few weeks. He is really working on his presentation and finishing the tasks in all of our lessons - sometimes even doing extra challenges too! Well done George.
Maple	Jameson for showing the school value of kindness this term. He is always first to offer to help both adults and children. Thank you Jameson for being so kind and helpful!
Hawthorn	TJ - for having a positive approach to his learning this week and facing any challenges with his work with determination and a smile! Well done TJ.