



Wednesday 3rd September 2025

Dear Pupils, Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to the start of the new school year! We are so looking forward to seeing everyone back and welcoming our new families to the St Margaret's community. The school is buzzing with excitement and we can't wait to begin another year of learning, growth and achievement together. This letter serves as a helpful introduction and reminder as we prepare for the year ahead.

School Gate Opening Times

Morning: All three school gates (Early Years, Front, and Back) will open at 8:40am and close promptly at 8:50am to ensure registration is completed on time at 8.50am. Pupils arriving after this time must report to the school office and will be marked as 'Late' in line with our attendance policy.

Afternoon: Gates will reopen at 3:15pm, with pupils dismissed from class at 3:20pm. Members of the School Leadership Team (SLT) will be present at each gate and are happy to assist with any queries both morning and afterschool.

Class Timetables

Today, teachers will be sending home letters outlining class timetables, including PE days and other key information. Please keep an eye out for these.

Uniform and School Readiness

We place great importance on pupils being ready to learn, and wearing the correct school uniform is a key part of this. Please ensure your child returns in full school uniform. If you are experiencing any difficulties with uniform or school essentials, please contact us confidentially—we are here to help.

Breaktimes Revamped

This term, we're introducing a refreshed breaktime routine:

- Pupils will enjoy 15 minutes of physical activity and playtime games, followed by a return to class for a communal healthy snack and chill time.
- This initiative promotes physical health, wellbeing, and readiness to learn.

We kindly ask for your support in encouraging healthy snack choices and providing water or squash for breaktime. Please note that only water should be used in bottles during lesson time to help keep books neat and spillages easy to manage. See snacktember letter for more information and ideas.

Thank You for Your Feedback

Thank you to all parents and carers who completed our recent survey. Your feedback has helped shape our plans for the year. A **"You Said... We Did"** response will be sent home this week and published on our school website.

Communication and Partnership

We believe that strong home-school partnerships are essential for pupil success and wellbeing. We operate an open-door policy and encourage you to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Please look out for updates via:

- School Comms
- Our weekly newsletter
- A newly improved website, launching later this term to make accessing key information easier than ever.

Reading at home

Reading at home is one of the most powerful ways to support your child's learning. Just 10–15 minutes a day can make a big difference by:

- Building vocabulary and language skills
- Improving concentration and listening
- Developing imagination and creativity
- Strengthening emotional bonds
- Fostering a lifelong love of books

We encourage families to make reading part of their daily routine—whether it's a bedtime story, reading together after school, or discussing a book your child enjoys. If you need help choosing books or accessing reading materials, please speak to your child's teacher.

Introducing Class Dojo

We're thrilled to launch Class Dojo across all classes this term!

Class Dojo is a brilliant tool that helps us, celebrate pupil achievements, encourage positive behaviour and strengthen the home-school connection.

Staff will award Dojo points for:

- Great effort and attitude
- Kindness and teamwork
- Reading at home and completing home learning
- Being ready to learn
- Demonstrating our school values for life

Parents and carers will receive notifications when their child earns a Dojo point, helping you stay connected and celebrate their progress. All points will also contribute to House Team totals, with exciting termly rewards for the winning team!

Please note: While Class Dojo will notify you of points earned, it will not be used for messaging. For communication, please continue to use our usual channels to ensure nothing is missed.

If you haven't yet joined your child's class on Class Dojo, please look out for an invitation via the app or website. If you need help setting up, just contact your child's teacher—we're happy to assist.

Let's work together to make this a brilliant year of learning, growth, and joyful experiences. Thank you for your continued support—we look forward to all the exciting opportunities ahead!

Kind regards,

Mrs Nikki O'Dwyer

Headteacher