

# St Margarets Academy

**HANDS – FACE – SPACE – FRESH AIR ----- ACT AS IF YOU'VE GOT IT**

Dear Parents,

I hope your child has settled in well back to the new term. It's lovely to be back in the swing of things and there's a great buzz around the school. We are seeing excellent learning behaviours in lessons, children are loving the wide range of clubs that are running and playtimes are looking really good fun. You might have seen the two new *Activalls* outside the library area which are very popular at playtimes for some healthy competition; they're like giant *Simon Says* games.

By now you should have received all the welcome curriculum information from your child's teacher. This is also on our school website under [Curriculum Information](#). Here you will find information about each subject as well as routines and times.

## Collectables

Please do have a look at your year group's Collectables on the above part of our website. These capture the key learning outcomes for a subject for the age of your child and are designed by teachers to make them interesting and engaging to the children – hence making them collectable – there is at least one to collect for each subject by the end of the year. With statutory tests due to take place at the end of Year 2 and Year 6, if your child is in either of these years, the Maths Collectables could be particularly useful in helping you support at home. You might also be surprised at the expectations for each year which are set high in this national curriculum.

## Girls Football Kit

A huge thank you to *Riviera Insurance Services* for sponsoring a new football kit for the girls' football team!



## Upcoming Events

### 14<sup>th</sup> February

Year 3 Roman Workshop

### 17<sup>th</sup> February

School Photos



**This week's class  
attendance star goes to**

**HAZEL CLASS**

**97.9%**

**Well done!**

## Covid Update

This is a rapidly changing situation as I'm sure you've seen in the media. I had two different updates yesterday and another this morning. I'm trying to capture the most up to date information here to help keep you informed.

Thank you for your support with our on-site safety measures by wearing a mask and keeping to the one way system from the main sloped gate. While it will never be perfect, anything we can do will always help.

Unfortunately we have seen an outbreak of the virus in Year 3 Rowan Class this week when we reached the threshold designated by Public Health of 10% cases in a group that mix closely. I have spoken to Public Health to discuss any additional measures we can take. We already have a lot of extra measures in place while still trying to continue with face to face education. Parents in this class have received a separate more detailed letter and we have added two further room cleans for Rowan each day.

Public Health is very clear that transmission of this new variant is very high so we likely expect to see continued rises in cases across the school. It looks like we have to live with the virus and hope the experts are right when they say its effects will be much milder, especially for the fully vaccinated.

FYI, fully vaccinated means that you have been vaccinated with an MHRA approved COVID-19 vaccine in the UK, and at least 14 days have passed since you received the recommended doses of that vaccine (note this is currently under review and may be updated to include a booster dose in due course).

If you test positive for COVID-19 (*this is known as Day Zero*) you should self-isolate at home until you are well (48 hours fever free) and either:

- 10 full days have passed, or
- You have produced two negative LFD tests at least 24 hours apart, with the first taken no earlier than day 5. **This is the update that came through this morning. It means if your child (or staff or you) does not have a temperature and has had two negative LFDs (taken in the morning of day 5 and again on the morning of day 6), they can be back in school on day 6.**

**Note:** Lingering coughs and changes to smell/taste are *not* a sign of ongoing infectiousness, so children can return to school if they have ended their self-isolation period (see above).

Torbay saw a sharp rise in cases last week. The highest number of cases are in the 15-39 age group. The number of hospitalisations has increased across Devon but fortunately those requiring intensive care remains plateaued. Although there is some positive noise in the media about the pandemic, the far south west of England is expecting cases to still rise significantly in the short term. Public Health England and the NHS are making the following appeals.

## Public Health Appeal

- Take up the vaccine as soon as you're eligible – it's not too late to have your first, second or booster jab
- Test regularly with lateral flow device (LFD) tests if you have no symptoms, and take a PCR test if you do have symptoms
- Self-isolate if you have symptoms, and if you test positive
- If aged 11 and older, wear face coverings when indoors in crowded spaces, including on public transport and in shops
- Keep indoor spaces well ventilated
- Wash your hands properly and regularly

## NHS Appeal

Please report your and your child's test results every time you take an LFD test which means the NHS always gets the latest, most accurate information. This helps them to keep track of where the virus is spreading, provide support where it is needed and protect local communities across the country. Please report all test results (positive, negative and void) to NHS Test and Trace.

Wishing you an enjoyable weekend,



Tim Hughes (Headteacher)



Beech	Evie - for always being so polite, friendly and aspirational. Your maths and writing work has been wonderful this week. Your smile lights up the classroom - thank you Evie!
Pine	Anu- For being exceptional in all areas. He is extremely polite, always tries so hard. We have especially noticed his effort in his morning writing. Well done Anu, keep being fabulous!
Oak	Riley- for showing resilience and trying his best in his learning this week. We have been really impressed with your aspiration and attitude Riley. Well done!
Apple	Fletcher is our star this week in Apple simply because he is a joy to have in our classroom. He is kind to others, always willing to help and he is also being very aspirational in his learning recently. As well as having the most contagious smile! Well done Fletcher.
Birch	Alfie V - for fantastic listening all week resulting in fantastic work! I have really enjoyed marking your writing and maths and seeing your progress. We are so proud!
Rowan	Bethany is our star of the week for consistently showing aspiration. She has worked so hard on her handwriting and is now the proud owner of a pen license! Bethany's writing in English is also always so creative and she can use effective similes and metaphors. Well done!
Cherry	Theo has shown great responsibility for his learning this week. He has worked with focus and determination. It has been wonderful to see him sharing his understanding in maths and his wonderful ideas in writing with the class. Well done Theo.
Hazel	Myo -For being a fantastic mathematician this week. You have solved greater depth problems with a resilient mindset and also supported your friends with their maths! Thank you.
Willow	Bethany - for her fantastic enthusiasm and effort with keeping our classroom and her environment clean, tidy and organised. Bethany has shown great kindness to all this week, but particularly Miss Davies, who has been so impressed! Well done!
Holly	Rocco - He is working hard in class and has made a great improvement in maths recently. He is also participating well in lessons, especially in writing lessons with lots of great ideas
Maple	Oscar Pocknell- His kindness and support towards others in class and always willing to help them in their learning. He is such an amazing role model. Well Done Oscar!
Hawthorn	Zain - you have impressed us with the improvement in your focus and the effort you have put into completing your work this week, particularly your writing. You've shown great aspiration - well done and keep it up!