



St Margaret's  
Academy

ST MARGARETS ACADEMY

Autumn Newsletter #1  
13<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents,

I hope you've all been enjoying the lovely weather and your child is settling into their new class routines.

### Dates for your Diary

To help you plan ahead, the key dates we know are listed at the bottom of this newsletter each week. Plus, keep an eye on the school website [calendar](#). For those looking further ahead to know when terms start and end, you can find the annual calendars via the home page (long term dates for 25/26 will be published here once they have been agreed across Torbay).

### School Tours

Even though the year has just started, we are already thinking ahead to September 2025. It's the time of year when new parents start to look for their child's first school. To help them make this important decision, we run tours across this term.

If you know anyone interested, please do let them know and direct them to the office to book on. If you fancy a nosy yourself to see the school and your child in action, you are also very welcome to book on. It's always nice to be an on the wall.

The dates for tours are on the home page of our website: Thursday 26/9/24 9.30am, Monday 30/9/24 2.00pm, Monday 7/10/24 9.30am, Thursday 17/10/24 2.00pm, Tuesday 22/10/24 9.30am, Tuesday 5/11/24 9.30am, Thursday 14/11/24 2.00pm, Monday 18/11/24 9.30am and Thursday 28/11/24 9.30am

### Torbay Services for Children with Additional Needs

A consultation is open for proposed changes to Torbay services for children with additional needs. You can have your say here: [Survey on proposals to improve education services for children with additional needs \(ntropydata.co.uk\)](https://ntropydata.co.uk)

## Curriculum News

[Year 3](#) kicked off their creative Monday morning learning with some beautiful pebble art this week. Look in the Creative Learning Blog to enjoy these.

In the Science Blog you can see how [Year 4](#) have been enjoying learning about forces in the sunshine.

This year's student councillors have been voted in by their peers as class representatives. Mrs Wills and Mrs Hollis are supporting them this year. On Wednesday they got together for their first activity: a meeting with a member of the House of Lords to help them better understand how our democratic political system works. They will be feeding back to the classes about their learning. You can see and read more on our [School Council Blog](#) under Pupil Voice.

## Considering a Career in Teaching?

Watch this short animation to learn more about the rewards of training to become a teacher. Train locally with the South West Institute for Teaching (SWIFT) and gain experience through placements and training across our local area. Further details here: <https://www.swiftteachertraining.org.uk/>

There is an online information event about this at 3.30pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> October. [Click here](#) to sign up.

## Asda PTA App

If you shop at Asda please download the Asda rewards app and select St Margaret's (be sure to enter the postcode TQ1 4PA). Every time you shop, our PTA will get a donation. And even if you don't shop at Asda, just for downloading the app and selecting St Margaret's, our PTA gets £1. If all our families do that, that's an instant £400+ for no effort. Thank you.



## Supporting a Child with ADHD




Challenge the stereotypes and get practical help

**Tuesday 24th Sept** (7pm to 9pm) £24

Available to book now  
[facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)



 <b>SEP/OCT TIMETABLE</b> Talks are delivered online via zoom 7pm to 9pm £24 each Book online at <a href="http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk">facefamilyadvice.co.uk</a>	
<b>FREE SESSIONS</b> Supporting Kids with School Anxiety Introduction to Facing Defiance	<b>26 SEP</b> <b>24 OCT</b>
Understanding Anger	23 SEP
Supporting a Child with ADHD	24 SEP
Understanding the Teenage Brain	7 OCT
Raising Self-Esteem	8 OCT
Decreasing Depression	15 OCT
Anxiety Explained	17 OCT
Understanding Anger	21 OCT
Drug Awareness for Parents	22 OCT
Autism: Improving Communication	28 OCT
Introduction to OCD	29 OCT
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	31 OCT
Improving Family Communication	4 NOV
Raising Self-Esteem	5 NOV

[facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

[info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk](mailto:info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

## Our Amazon Book Wish List

[https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/FOD16NCSLQOX?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/FOD16NCSLQOX?ref=wl_share)

## Help with Rising Costs - Reminders

Riviera Life Church Food and Baby Bank – [link here](#). We can make a referral for you or phone 07486 402493

**Household Support Fund** – if you are on a welfare benefit / tax credit or have a disposable income of less than £50 per week:

[Household Support Fund - Torbay Council](#)

Do you need help with child care? If so, try this website: <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

Help for households – very useful government website: <https://>

[helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk/](https://helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk/)

This community kitchen has some very affordable meal options and is well worth a look:

<https://www.turningheads.org.uk/community-kitchen/>

The PTA has lots of quality school uniform for a small donation – see their FB page

Martin Lewis: <https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/>

Free uniform and help with rising costs: <https://www.punkagainstopoverty.org/>

Try here for cheaper broadband: <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/phones-telecoms-and-internet/advice-for-consumers/costs-and-billing/social-tariffs>

Happy weekend.



Tim Hughes (Headteacher)



4th October 2024	PTA Meeting to plan the Christmas Events
9th October 2024	Reading Meeting for Y1 Parents in Beech Class
23rd October 2024	PTA Disco ( Times TBC)
25th October 2024	Book Look for Parents after school—Open Class
25th October 2024	Curriculum Event for Parents (During day— Times TBC)
W/C 28th October 2024	Half Term



Beech	Our star this week is Nellie. She has tried so hard with all her learning and particularly showed aspiration in her handwriting. She was so excited to see each letter she wrote getting better each time she practised. Well done Nellie!
Pine	Esmee is our star for showing SO much kindness. She has looked after so many other children this week and she always has a super smile on her
Oak	Rory is our star this week as he has shown great responsibility and aspiration. He has worked really hard in phonics and he is an incredibly kind
Apple	Ryley is our star of the week for starting off in year 2 with a great attitude to learning. He has worked really hard in all areas and given everything a really good go. You have even started to put your hand up a little bit more! Well done and keep it up!
Holly	Our star this week has made a super start to Year 3. She is making a great effort in remembering her writing targets and it is definitely paying off! She is one of the first who is ready to learn and happy to help anyone. You certainly are a star Chanel!
Willow	Cain is the star of the week in Willow class. He has been showing aspiration in all his learning tasks. He has been answering questions, explaining his thinking and working independently to show his understanding especially in Science and Maths. Well done Cain.
Cherry	Quinn is our star of the week! I could have given this to him last week. He has settled into life at St Margaret's and shows great aspiration with all of his learning. He also shows respect to his classmates, teachers and all adults in the school, and is responsible. Well done Quinn!
Hazel	Rayyan is the star of the week ! He has really shone this week and is sharing his incredible ideas in his writing and reading out his work to the class,
Birch	Oscar is our star this week! Oscar has shown real aspiration in his learning. He has tried his very best and listened to the adults when they have given him feedback about how to improve. On top of all of this, he has been a super role model to his peers, always ready to listen and learn! Well done, Oscar.
Rowan	Aoife is our star of the week as she has been so aspirational in her learning. She has worked so hard in maths, putting her hand up during class inputs and completing her work independently - we're so proud and well done!
Maple	Evie B is our star this week because of her aspiration and excellent active thinking! Evie is always ready for her learning and tries her best in lessons. I have been so impressed with her determination in Maths this week. Well done Evie B!
Hawthorn	Genevieve is our star this week, she has shown us that she can respond to our marking to improve her handwriting and she has put her hand up more in class to answer questions and share her writing with us. Excellent active learning!