

St Margaret's Academy

Hands-Face-Space- Fresh Air- Act as if you've got it



Being a writer is great because my mind explodes and the people in it jump onto my page," says Noah in Year 3.

Dear Parents,

We started this week with an assembly led by Mr Tullier on the theme of growth to mark National Planting Day and the start of the spring season. Mr Tullier launched a sunflower growing competition after sharing a story and discussing this special solo tree with the road built around it.



On Monday afternoon, our top scientists from Year 1 to Year 6 visited Dunboyne Court to share their projects and experiments. See the [Science Blog](#) for photos and more information.

Wednesday was *World Maths Day*. Children got stuck into all sorts of fun and challenging activities. Mrs Chivers posed the following question to Holly Class: *which job does not need Maths?* Lots of discussion followed. Some of our top mathematicians in Years 3 and 4 attended a special Maths challenge with other children from other schools at Shiphay Learning Academy. Have a look in the [Maths Blog](#) to find out all the news and see the photos.



**This week's
class attendance star
goes
to
Pine Class with
96.7%
Well done!**



Have a look in the [Religion Blog](#) to find out about the Reverend Nathan's visit to share the Holy Communion to Year 4 as part of the study of Christianity.

This week, we returned to competitive sporting events which had been on hold because of the pandemic. Congratulations to the Year 4 Dodgeball teams who both came top of their groups to win a tournament against local schools. Thank you to Mr Mayling for the training and helping make this happen. See the [Sports Blog](#) for pictures and more detail.



Last week we had a problem uploading some videos to the school *Curriculum in Action* page. This is all fixed now. I really recommend you take a look at Year 4's time lapse video for origami virus growth in the [Science Blog](#).

One of our school improvement priorities this year is writing. We started the year with a new scheme called *The Write Stuff*. On Thursday this week, senior leaders spent the day exploring the impact of this work in the outcomes in books and the engagement of your children with being a writer. It was a really positive day and we can see how your children are making lots of progress. Have a look in their books yourselves next week when you join us for Parents Evenings. Some of our school trustees also joined us for the day to help them understand our practice. I think the success of the writing is best captured by the quote at the top from Noah: *"Being a writer is great because my mind explodes and the people in it jump onto my page."*

Snacks – polite reminder to please send your child with a healthy snack for morning play and ideally to have water in their drinks bottle. Thank you.

As you may know, many schools have a reading pet with whom the children can share books. As we are developing our love of books with all of the children and encouraging them to read as much as possible, we felt this was something we would like to introduce. Research has shown that reading to a pet 'slows the heart rate, which in turn eases tension in the muscles and helps the reader to feel calmer and more relaxed'. With this in mind we have bought 2 guinea pigs. They are 1 year old brothers called **Roald** and **Dahl**. They were bought from a breeder and are 'Teddy Guinea Pigs'.



Please see the separate email with the Google form which needs completing to give your child permission, or not, to handle the Guinea Pigs. Please note we are unable to let your child handle the Guinea Pigs unless we have permission. Many Thanks in Advance Mrs Turner & Mrs Tandy

Have a lovely spring weekend.

Tim Hughes (Headteacher)



Beech	April for making a beautiful Mother's day card and following her design really carefully. You persevered even though your original design got accidentally damaged.
Pine	Jazzy- for her fabulous maths this week, she always works super hard and it is really paying off! It has also been so wonderful to see her becoming so creative in her busy time this week, well done Jazz.
Oak	Austin- for his fantastic effort and concentration in maths and writing this week. Great understanding of money and resilience shown when writing. Well done Austin!
Apple	William is our star this week as he has shown a real effort in his responsibility towards his learning. This was demonstrated in his final write about George and the Dragon, well done William, keep it up!
Birch	Alife T - for wonderful work in writing, a massive improvement in handwriting and good progress in our maths measuring unit. You have also been thoroughly engaged with our class novel. Well done!
Rowan	Maisie is our star of the week for showing great responsibility! Although she sometimes finds this tricky, Maisie has listened carefully and taken responsibility for her learning this week and therefore also shown aspiration. Well done Maisie!
Cherry	Lokklyn is the star of the week in Cherry class. He has worked with fabulous concentration to write his 'Lost Thing' story and we really enjoyed reading it. Well done Lokklyn.
Hazel	Isaac - For your fantastic sportsmanship in all sports and especially in yesterday's dodgeball tournament. You were a great team player and showed lots of respect for the other team. Well done!
Willow	Willow's Star this week is Aleks who joined Willow class this week. Aleks has fitted in seamlessly to our team, shown great bravery and we are so pleased to have him with us. Well done Aleks!
Holly	Michal always participates well in lessons and especially stands out in PE where he listens well and can explain the different skills we are learning. We are also really pleased with the improvement in effort with his home learning.
Maple	Ruby is this week's star in Maple Class. She has worked so hard on her recent science project and in her writing, Ruby's recent newspaper report was a brilliantly entertaining read! Well done Ruby.
Hawthorn	Lyla has impressed us with her responsible attitude and her aspiration to do well with her learning. She has worked very hard to act upon advice within lessons in order to make good progress. Well done Lyla!