

# St Margaret's Academy

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

Dear Parents,

Another entertaining week draws to a close. There is never a dull moment in education. Each day is rich, diverse, wonderful, sometimes strange and almost always rewarding as we all work hard to do the best job we can for your children.

## Curriculum News

Even with the staffing challenges, the amazing teaching staff here continue to provide a rich curriculum. Have a look in the [Science Blog](#) to see Year 4 Hazel dissecting plants. Look in the [Writing Blog](#) to see how Year 4 received a Zoom call from an animal expert in preparation for their balanced arguments about whether to feed animals at national parks or not.

Also in the [Writing Blog](#) you can see a lovely example of how children build sentences in our new scheme, *The Write Stuff*. The example is taken from Y1 Beech Class but each class has their own similar wall that evolves over the unit taught. Check out the amazing vocabulary Year 1 are playing with.

**Safer Internet Day 2022** | **Tuesday**  
8 February

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

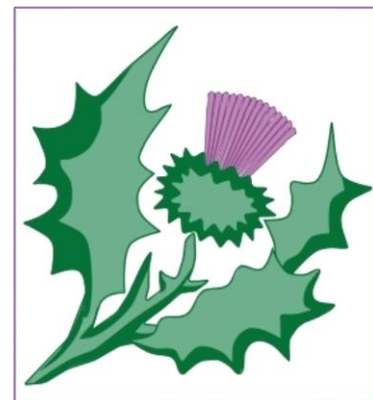


By Bethany



By Jake

With National Safer Internet Day approaching next week, Miss Pritchard's digital leaders met this week to raise the profile of this important subject. Have a look in 'Curriculum in Action' under the 'Pupil Voice' blog under 'Digital Leaders' to see their posters. Quick link [here](#) and here's a screen shot taster. See below for more information for how you can help your child.



**This week's  
class attendance star  
goes  
to  
Apple Class with  
96%  
Well done!**

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**Despite the absence with Covid we are still managing to have an overall attendance level slightly higher than the national average. The national figure for the end of last week is 89.1% in primary schools while ours is 91.4%. Thank you again for working with us on this.**

## How to help your child at Home

Just a reminder that the Curriculum Information page on our website is a really useful place to find out everything you need to know about what your child is learning this term. In each year group page you can find the termly overviews and the year group collectables. The collectables show you clearly what is expected by the end of year in different subjects.

If your child is in Year 1, you can find another collectable added this week – it's for Maths Geometry. Have a look as it's a useful quick overview of what children are expected to know by the end of the year. Quick link [here](#).

### Big Garden Bird Watch PSPB Appeal

Help the RSPB. Watch the bird in your garden and report what you see by 20<sup>th</sup> February. [Big Garden Birdwatch | The RSPB](#)

### Safer Internet Day– 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022 - Parent Support

As we approach this international day, please find some trusted links that you might find useful in helping support your child at home:

- Worried about sexual abuse?  
<https://stopabusettogether.campaign.gov.uk/>
- Visit the Children Commissioner's website for a [parents' guide](#) to online sexual harassment
- Here are some trusted games for 8-10 year olds all about online safety: [https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8\\_10/](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/)

### Covid Update

The first half of the week saw a further increase in staff absence as a result of covid while the number of cases in children started to drop, and more returned to school. This put a particular strain on staff in school and I'm once again hugely grateful to them for their dedication to your children and the support they give to colleagues. I firmly believe your children get a great deal at St Margaret's on so many levels and I'm very proud to work here.

Thankfully by the end of the week we have seen a proper drop in cases in both staff and pupils. We expect this to continue next week as more staff return and hopefully the number of cases continue to fall. Today we have 32 people in total who are currently isolating which is roughly where we were 2 weeks ago. All year groups now have only 4 or less active cases except Year 6 where there are 11, which is still falling each day. There are zero cases in Year 1 Beech, Year 2 Oak, Year 4 Cherry and Year 4 Hazel.



## Upcoming PTA Events

**Valentines Cake Sale**  
**14/02/22**

After School cake sale  
(Cash Only)

**PTA Meeting Via Zoom**  
**16/02/22**

(contact PTA for more info)

## Other Dates for the Diary

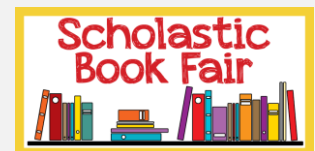


**School Photos are  
being taken on the 17<sup>th</sup>  
February**

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**The book fair is  
coming again**

**W/C 28<sup>th</sup> February**



Here's a message from Professor Tim Spector, lead scientist at the ZOE COVID Study, which is interesting to share:

*"The bounce back in case numbers just as we lift restrictions has come sooner than expected. But it's not surprising given that, throughout the pandemic, we've seen the end of school holidays repeatedly usher in a rapid rise in cases among children, which then cross over into parents and school staff. It's crucial that we're responsible with our new freedoms and help prevent the virus reaching the more vulnerable groups," [Prof Spector told the BBC.](#)*

Wishing you all a super weekend with your families and maybe a bit of Winter Olympic viewing.



Tim Hughes

(Head teacher)



|                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Beech</b>    | Erin is our star of the week for always being so responsible, kind, helpful and hardworking. It is a pleasure to have you in Beech Class.                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Pine</b>     | Tom- for his super duper description of the wings in our story ;Perfectly Norman'. You amazed us Tom!                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Oak</b>      | Kaiden- for having an amazing attitude to his learning, particularly in writing this week. I loved seeing your enthusiasm Kaiden. Also for always showing kindness and respect to others. Well done Kaiden!                                                |
| <b>Apple</b>    | Lola is the Apple star this week as she consistently demonstrates the school values: Kind and respectful to others and showing responsible, aspirational qualities in her learning. Well done Lola!                                                        |
| <b>Birch</b>    | Lily Fl is our star of the week for showing aspiration, kindness and participating lots in class this week! Well done Lily!                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Rowan</b>    | Archie is our star of the week for always having a positive attitude towards his learning and showing aspiration by trying his best. Archie always presents his work neatly and has even gained his pen license! Well done Archie!                         |
| <b>Cherry</b>   | Lincoln - for working really hard on his Great Chocoplot story and his homework. Well done Lincoln.                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Hazel</b>    | Alexa is our star of the week this week for trying extremely hard with her maths. She has been very resilient and hasn't given up - Well done!                                                                                                             |
| <b>Willow</b>   | Maisie is our star this week for consistently showing all four of our class values, particularly kindness! Maisie could have star of the week every week, but this week we have been extremely impressed with her kindness and maturity. Well done Maisie! |
| <b>Holly</b>    | Aleen only joined our class a few weeks ago but she has settled in so well and has quickly shown all of school values. She is kind, hard-working and also shows responsibility for her learning by asking for help when she needs it. Well done Aleen!     |
| <b>Maple</b>    | Ethan is the star this week due to his incredible focus in class recently and how he has shown the school value of aspiration. Well done Ethan and keep up the great work!                                                                                 |
| <b>Hawthorn</b> | Charlie - for his aspiration and the effort that he puts into all of his work. He has really impressed us in particular with the quality of his writing this week and the improvement in its descriptive content.                                          |