



St Margaret's
Academy

ST MARGARETS ACADEMY

Autumn Newsletter #4
4th October 2024

Dear Parents,

It's a bumper week for curriculum news. Enjoy the write-ups and photos.

Curriculum News

The first lesson on a Monday morning each week this year is all about something extra-specially creative for the children, as they plan towards their end of half term curriculum celebration for you to come and see.

Look in our Creative Blog to see how [Year 1](#) enjoyed exploring what happens when things get wet (some great pictures,) while [Year 3](#) got stuck into making rock collages.

In our Writing Blog you can read a beautiful poem written in [Year 3](#) describing the colours, without sight.

In the Science Blog you can see how [Year 2](#) enjoyed their close encounters with animals as part of their learning about habitats.

In our Student Council Blog under Pupil Voice you can see how our [student councillors](#) enjoyed their meeting, with local MP Steve Darling on Thursday (you find this on our Facebook page too).

In the Sports Blog you can read about the stunning wins our [Year 4](#) dodgeball teams achieved last week.

Torbay's SEND Newsletter

Did you know there is a special newsletter for parents and carers of children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)?

It's sent out electronically just before the end of every half term and is packed with updates about SEND services, training, resources and events, both online and face-to-face. If you'd like to read previous copies or subscribe, head to: <https://www.torbay.gov.uk/send-newsletters/>


Looking for Help with Challenges at Home

The Torbay Education Psychology team has just launched a new service. If you are experiencing difficulties with your child at home (e.g. struggling to get them out of bed, general worries over their wellbeing and emotional development), you can self-refer to this service and get a direct 1:1 consultation with an Educational Psychologist.

You can read more on our website under 'Parents' – 'Useful Resources for Parents' (quick link [here](#)). If you need any support with this referral, Mrs Essam, our SENCO is more than happy to assist; just give the school a call.

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)



SEP/OCT TIMETABLE

Talks are delivered online via zoom 7pm to 9pm £24 each
Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

FREE SESSIONS	
Supporting Kids with School Anxiety	26 SEP
Introduction to Facing Defiance	24 OCT
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 info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Claire's Law (Domestic Abuse)

Are you looking for help? A breakdown of how you might use Clare's Law can be found on our website under the 'Useful Resources for Parents'. Quick link [here](#).

Breakfast Club Gate

Please can we ask that if you are exiting from the top playground you close the gate behind you. Thank you.

Our Amazon Book Wish List

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/>

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>

Enjoy your weekend.



Tim Hughes (Headteacher)



Diary Dates

4th October 2024	PTA Meeting to plan the Christmas Events
7th October 2024	Harvest Festival Assembly—Donations for the
9th October 2024	Reading Meeting for Y1 Parents in Beech Class
24th October 2024	PTA Disco Reception— Y3 17.00– 18.15, Years 4– Year 6 18.30– 20.00
25th October 2024	Book Look for Parents after school—Open Class
25th October 2024	Curriculum Event for Parents (During day—
W/C 28th October	Half Term



Beech	Alfie is our star in Beech Class. He has been so helpful to everyone this week and even gave up his busy time to help the other children with the computers. He also tries his best with everything he does. Well done Alfie!
Pine	Oscar is our star this week. He has worked hard at joining in more when we are sat on the carpet and has been focussing on his listening skills. Well done Oscar!
Oak	Finlay is our star as he showed resilience in his forest school session this week and he has amazed me with his participation and effort in the maths lessons this week. Super effort Finlay, well done!
Apple	Lola is our star of the week for her amazing improvements in her writing. Super sentences and ideas this week - you are developing into a wonderfully creative writer Lola - well done!
Holly	Archie is the star this week. He consistently demonstrates all of our school values and is a role model of what an aspirational student looks like. Archie has particularly impressed the adults in Holly since the start of the term and has taken Year 3 in his stride. Well done!
Willow	Ollie C is the star of the week in Willow class. He has shown great motivation and aspiration this week during our sentence stacking lessons and written some lovely paragraphs about the 'Blue Umbrella.' Well done Ollie I have really enjoyed reading your work this week.
Cherry	Kai is our star of the week in Cherry class. He is always kind, respectful and responsible. This week, especially in our reading lessons, his hand has always gone up with a thoughtful answer, or piece of information to share with the class. He also did some great homework on Hinduism and was keen to share his knowledge with everyone. Well done Kai!
Hazel	Amira is our star this week for her resilience in her Maths. She has worked so hard and has constantly put her hand up to offer up her ideas and answers.
Birch	Lily is star this week for showing real aspiration in her learning. I have been particularly impressed by Lily's engagement during maths and writing lessons where she has shown a determination to use new skills. Well done Lily!
Rowan	Felix is this week's star for his aspiration in writing. Everyday this week, he has been doing a little bit more and taking such incredible responsibility for his work. He has blown us all away this week and we are so proud of him! Keep up the amazing work!
Maple	Our star this week goes to someone who is always motivated in our lessons. Jasmin - you are always ready for your learning, participating in our class discussions and showing excellent "active thinking". Well done!
Hawthorn	Our star in Hawthorn is for Max for excellent motivation to learn. Max always completes tasks to the highest standard as can be seen in his writing and science books. He contributes to all lessons by putting his hand up to share his ideas. He checks and edits his work as he goes, always striving for it to be his best! Well done Max!