

ST MARGARETS ACADEMY

Spring Newsletter #8

1st March 2024

Happy March!

Some bumper curriculum news for you to catch up with today. Lots to see and read if your child is in Year 2, Year 5 or Year 6.

Curriculum News

Have a look in the Arts Blog to see the incredible collage produced by [Year 1](#) and inspired by Matisse and linked to their work in Geography.

In the Computing Blog you can see how [Year 5 Birch](#) Class have been getting on with their vector drawings and in the Geography Blog you can get an insight into their [map reading](#) skills. You can also see how they have been using illustrations to draw [inferences](#) in the Reading Blog.

Bumper news for Year 2. Definitely check out the egg cosies below! In the Maths Blog you can see their learning about [money](#), [pictograms](#), dance to [times tables](#) and the [calculations](#) they did at the parent workshop. In the Reading Blog you can see them in the [library](#). In the Writing Blog you can see them having fun with [conjunctions](#). In the DT Blog you will love their [egg cosies](#). In the Music Blog have a look at them using a [digital music](#) lab. In the Science Blog you can see their work on [animal life cycles](#).

Bumper news for Year 6 too. In the DT Blog you can see their clever free standing [structures](#) that they completed in the autumn term. In the Geography Blog you can see how they got on when they did their fieldwork on [Dartmoor](#) before Christmas. In the Music Blog, enjoy a short video of one of their [guitar](#) lessons. In the Science Blog you can see how they explored all about [light](#). In the Religion Blog you can see them wondering about the [marvels](#) of the world. In the Computing Blog you can see their 3D [modelling](#) and a video of their [programming](#) using variables. In the Sports Blog you can read an update from Mr Mayling about [volleyball](#) lessons and competitions.

In the Sports Blog you can read an update from Mr Mayling about the Y5/6 boys [football league](#).



Recent Reminders

- Increasing levels of measles, rise in respiratory infections, whooping cough, scarlet fever and chickenpox predicted this term. MMR info can be found on this [link](#). The [e-bug website](#) provides useful resources and ideas for how to help keep your child well.
- If you would like to donate to [Children with Cancer UK](#) in support of Miss Blackburn and Mrs Cosh's marathon fund raiser, you can do so via this [link](#).
- Riviera Life Church Food and Baby Bank – [link here](#). We can make a referral for you or phone 07486 402493
- World Book Day is 7th March – dress as a favourite book character
- Healthy snacks: [Healthier snacks - Food facts - Healthier Families - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)
- Pile in the Tesco Blue Tokens at Tesco: Barton Torquay, Torquay Fleet Street, Torquay Express (garage on Teignmouth Road), Paignton Victoria, Paignton Torquay Road, Torquay Lymington Road, Brixham Express and Torquay Babbacombe Road
- Dunboyne Diversity Competition deadline is 6th March
- Our Amazon Book Wish List: https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/FO D16NCSLQOX?ref=wl_share

Train to be a Teacher- Locally

For further details on the SWIFT Initial Teacher Training, look on our [website](#) under 'Parents' and / or the provider site:

<https://www.swiftteachertraining.org.uk/>

Help with Rising Costs – Reminders

- 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>

Have a lovely weekend



Tim Hughes (Headteacher)



Date	Event
4 th March 2024	Year 6 SATs information meeting for Maple class
5 th March 2024	Year 6 SATs information meeting for Hawthorn class
5 th March 2024	Year 5 Climbing and Orienteering @ Parkfield/Whitehill
6 th March 2024	Deadline for Dunboyne Diversity homework project
7 th March 2024	World Book Day- dress as your favourite book character
12 th March 2024	Year 5 Climbing and Orienteering @ Parkfield/Whitehill
15 th March 2024	Red Nose Day
18 th March 2024	Year 1 trip to St Mary's Church
21 st March 2024	Rock Steady Performance
26 th March-28 th March 2024	Year 6 Skern Lodge
26 th March 2024	Non-uniform day - Easter egg donation
26 th March 2024	PTA Easter Bingo
29 th March – 14 th April 2024	Easter Holidays



Beech	Alara is our star of the week for amazing improvements in her writing. You are writing so much more and having a really good go at using your sounds to Fred talk your words. Well done - keep it up!
Pine	Evelyn is our star this week for her fabulous effort with her writing this week. She put so much effort in and really listened to what we asked her to do. Well done Evelyn!
Oak	Grace is our star this week as she has been joining in really well with the writing lessons, offering lots of great ideas for her sentences and trying her best to record them on her own. Super effort Grace, well done!
Apple	It is unbelievable that this week's star hasn't been chosen before as he could quite easily be crowned every week! Alfie shows all of our school values every day, he is super helpful to everyone and we all learn so much from him. Thank you Alfie for being an amazing Apple.
Holly	Our star of the week is Finn. He's made leaps and bounds with his writing this year and he's impressed us this week with his effort to go above and beyond the task. He also always shows the utmost respect to adults around school and kindness to his peers. Well done, Finn.
Willow	Rosie is the star of the week in Willow Class. She has impressed us with her contributions in class. She demonstrates great listening and shares her understanding well with others. Well done Rosie.
Cherry	Our star of the week is Hayden who I have chosen for being aspirational in his learning this week. He doesn't give up, even if he finds things tricky. He can always be persuaded to keep going when work is frustrating him, and this has been particularly true in maths recently. Well done Hayden!
Hazel	Hazel's star this week is Jack! Jack is always eager to improve his learning and has shown fantastic effort in both his maths and his writing this week. Jack always contributes well to class discussions, explaining his answers and reasons fully. Well done Jack!
Birch	Birch's star this week is River. River has had an excellent week, taking responsibility in her learning, showing respect to all of her peers and being kind to all of her friends. We are so proud of your efforts, keep up the good work!
Rowan	This week's star is Kaja, she shows all the values consistently and is respectful to both adults and peers alike. She has shown such aspiration in her writing recently and is working so hard to include all her year 5 skills. We're so proud of you.
Maple	Maple's star of the week is Summer! Summer always shows kindness and empathy to those around her; this makes her a great friend to have as she will always look out for you! Keep it up Summer!
Hawthorn	James is our Star of the Week for showing aspiration and responsibility. He has been working very hard in maths to solve tricky percentage problems and in English to write his newspaper report. Well done, James - keep it up!