

Barewell Road  
Torquay  
Devon TQ1 4PA  
[admin@st-margarets.torbay.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-margarets.torbay.sch.uk)  
01803 327090



**HANDS – FACE – SPACE – FRESH AIR ----- ACT AS IF YOU'VE GOT IT**

## **16<sup>th</sup> July 2021 – End of Week 12 - Summer Newsletter #12**

Dear Parents,

I'm sure you have heard the very sad news that we have had positive Covid-19 cases in school that have been in close contact with pupils and staff. In the interests of clarity, I can confirm we have had two confirmed cases at the time of writing (a member of staff in Year 1 and one pupil in Year 5). There is also a presumed positive case pupil in Year 6. There has been no transmission between the three cases in school. We have worked out who have been in close contact and all these people have been informed that they must isolate for 10 days after being in contact.

Cases in the Bay have significantly soared recently and are continuing to do so, especially in those aged 18-29. Please see the letter from Public Health that came out to you yesterday for more information about this. We had done so well at St Margaret's up to now and we are all really upset that we didn't manage to make it through to the summer holidays. We are all particularly saddened for our Year 6 children who have been working hard in rehearsals for their end of year performance which was almost ready to be filmed for a lasting memory. Fingers crossed the case here is not confirmed so they don't miss out on the barbeque and disco as well. There were many tears when they learnt the news yesterday.

I met with the local authority Public Health team and Head Teachers from all schools in Torbay today. We are all facing the same very challenging situation and have agreed a common approach for the final few days in school. From Monday 19<sup>th</sup>, if we have a confirmed case, we will notify you all and ask any close contacts not to attend. We will be continuing with all our safety measures for the final 3 days, in line with advice from the Public Health team. With the surge in cases, please do continue to help us by maintaining social distancing yourselves and wearing masks on school premises.

For your information and clarification, the current 10 day isolation measures remain in place nationally until 16<sup>th</sup> August, after which anybody under 18 or double vaccinated will not have to isolate if they are identified as a close contact.

We await guidance about September but we are still anticipating a return to normal working, prior to the pandemic i.e. no bubbles and no staggered starts and finishes. I will inform you as soon as possible about the arrangements.

A reminder that the government has updated the guidance for what parents need to know. Here is a [link](#) to it for your reference.

### **Walk in Vaccination clinic – 17 July**

Walk-in COVID-19 vaccinations available at The Riviera Centre in Torquay on Saturday 17 July between 9am-3pm. There is plenty of parking.

General Practices in Torbay are offering the vaccine to anyone who:

- Is aged over 18 and who has not had their first dose
- Received their first dose of the Pfizer vaccine on or before 22 May and have yet to have their second dose.

If you would like to attend, please note:

- Be aware that there are some booked appointments so you may need to wait
- Queues may form during times of high demand and we ask for you to be patient
- Check social media for the latest information e.g. if the service needs close early due to demand
- Dress appropriately for the weather and bring a drink with you
- After 3pm is appointment only; and walk-ins may be turned away
- Registration with a GP is not essential
- We do require a contact telephone number

### **Some Upbeat News**

Have a look in the Sports Blog to see the news and photos from the [KS2 Sports Day](#).

### **Information for New Parents**

This section on our school website now has further information and documents for your information and reading ahead of September. Quick link [here](#).

### **School Uniform for September – Heads Up**

Information about [buying school uniform](#) in the summer holiday can be found under 'Parents and Carers' – 'Information for New Starters'

Advance notice: we will continue to ask children to attend in PE kit on PE days as this has worked really well during the pandemic.

### **School Governors**

We are looking to recruit some more school governors. If you might be interested in this, please can you contact Karen Colmer, our Clerk to Governors and Business Manager. You can either phone the school office or email her directly on [kcolmer@st-margarets.torbay.sch.uk](mailto:kcolmer@st-margarets.torbay.sch.uk). You are also very welcome to chat to me on the gate or over the phone.

## **Summer Holiday Activities and Opportunities**

There are a range of events available in the Bay to you and your children. The full list of all the [free clubs in the summer holidays](#) along with all the details can be found in our 'Supporting Families' page under 'Wellbeing in Action'.

In addition, here are a few more events to note:

*Go wild for reading with the Summer Reading Challenge!*

Wild World Heroes launches on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July and runs until Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021. You find out more in our [Reading Blog](#) and here [Devon Libraries](#) or here [Torbay Libraries](#).

*Midsummer August Music*

Has your child always wanted to play a musical instrument? Torquay Boys Grammar is hosting 3 experience days in August for any children aged 8-18. If you are interested you can find out more and book by clicking the link:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeHuw6LmvKQudXmuFEeDCfW80QaX1gux\\_ON2WyyvAKiF1D5YBA/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeHuw6LmvKQudXmuFEeDCfW80QaX1gux_ON2WyyvAKiF1D5YBA/viewform)

Have a safe weekend.



Tim Hughes (Headteacher)