

ST MARGARETS ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER # 11

24th November 2023

We started this week with a drumming experience for the children; a different way of celebrating differences and helping open children's eyes to new experiences.

Thank a Teacher

If you feel minded to thank your teacher, please do drop them a note: [Thank a Teacher Form - Thank a Teacher](#)

Curriculum News

In the History Blog, more photos and information has been added to the page about the Year 3 trip to [Kents Cavern](#) for you to enjoy. You can also see how Year 3 teachers



have been making the learning fun by using biscuits to make models of [Stone Henge](#). In our PSHE Blog, do have a read of some beautiful [anti-bullying poems](#) that children in Year 4 Hazel Class wrote; they'll give you a tingle down your spine.

Roaring Lionesses

Check out Mrs Scaife's [latest match report](#) on the Sport Blog to find out how the girls have shot to the top of the league. If you'd like to see them in action, their next match is on Monday after school at home to Babbacombe.

Survey- 'The Big Ambition'

The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, is asking that this survey is promoted with all parents for children to complete, giving the chance to tell key policymakers what is important to you ahead of the general election and ensure your needs are reflected in the decisions that will affect you in years to come. Take part here: [About this survey : The Big Ambition - Have your say! \(smartsurvey.co.uk\)](#)

Train to be a Teacher - Locally

Would you like to train to be a teacher? Or do you know someone who would like to? If so, read on. We are partnering with SWIFT (South West Institute for Teaching) Teacher Training to help train the next generation of teachers. St Margaret's is part of SWIFT Teacher Training's Torbay Campus. This means you can train close to home and St Margaret's can be one of your placement schools. SWIFT Teacher Training courses have been designed by expert teachers from across the area and backed by the University of Nottingham. Adults will be able to train close to home to help work around other commitments like childcare. To find out more please visit www.swiftteachertraining.org.uk or email Nicky or Abby via info@swiftteachertraining.org.uk. You can also read more detail on [our website](#) under 'Useful Resources for Parents'.

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.

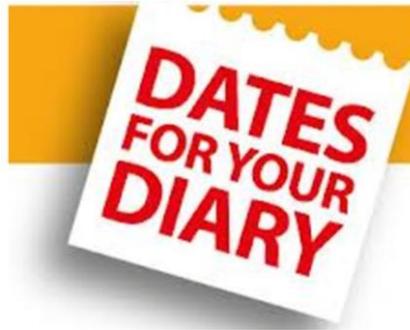


Tim Hughes (Headteacher)



Star of the week

Beech	Olivia is our star of the week for her amazing aspirational efforts in our writing lessons. Olivia has also been singing all of the show songs at home and knows the words better than all of us! Well done Olivia.
Pine	Junior is our star. He has had such a productive week. He has worked really hard and been helpful and kind to others. Well done Junior!
Oak	Samuel has worked super hard this week to catch up on his learning, particularly in maths and writing. He has also put great effort into learning his lines for the Christmas play. Well done Samuel, you are a star!
Apple	Our star this week has been trying so hard in all of her learning. Her writing has been so creative and, in her maths, learning she is becoming so much more responsible by listening and joining in. Not only all of this but she has undertaken the main role in our Christmas nativity and is a one of Mrs Posey's Forest School warriors! Well done Sophia - amazing.
Holly	Our star of the week is Lexy for her fabulous effort in French this week. She's also made an extra effort in her independent writing - showing fantastic aspiration! Well done Lexy.
Willow	Daisy is the star of the week for being an active thinker. She always uses her listening skills to help her to understand and learn new things. This was especially demonstrated during our Bushcraft activities when she was able to complete the tasks she was set successfully. Well done Daisy.
Cherry	Emelia for amazing listening and learning behaviours! Keep it up, you've done brilliantly!
Hazel	Star of the week in Hazel is Vincent for writing a fantastic 'Anti Bullying' poem this week. You are a poet and you didn't even know it!
Birch	Freddie is Birch's star this week. Freddie has been working really hard on his responsibility and respect this week and it is really paying off. He has had an excellent week, showing great manners, putting in 100% effort into his Writing and being the first person to volunteer to help when needed. We are so impressed with your efforts, Fred. Keep it up
Rowan	Our star is Ava. She has been incredible this week, showing such aspiration in her maths and writing. We are so proud of you. Keep up the amazing work!
Maple	Maple's star of the week is Ines! Every week, Ines works hard and upholds all four of the school's core values but this week, she has particularly impressed us with her aspirational writing. Ines has tried really hard to include lots of ambitious vocabulary and year 6 spellings. Keep it up Ines!
Hawthorn	Hugo is our Star of the Week for his aspiration. He has been working very hard on practising his reading and spelling at school and at home. We have also been impressed by the great effort he has put into writing his battle speech independently this week. Well done Hugo



DATE	EVENT
29 th November	Dunboyne Court Writing competition deadline
1 st December	Year 4 Trip to Torquay Museum
1 st December	KS1 Christmas Nativity
4 th December	Year 5 & 6 Christmas Dinner (Only Pack lunch bag option available for all other year groups)
5 th December	Year 3 & 4 Christmas Dinner (Only Pack lunch bag option available for all other year groups)
5 th December	Foundation Stage Craft Event from 2pm
6 th December	Reception Christmas Dinner (Only Pack lunch bag option available for all other year groups)
6 th December	PTA Cinema Trip Y2-Y6
7 th December	Year 1 & 2 Christmas Dinner (Only Pack lunch bag option available for all other year groups)
7 th December	Rocksteady performance
8 th December	Special Visitor in school (PTA event)
8 th December	Class Christmas Tree competition winner announced
8 th December	PTA after school sale of hot chocolate and cookies, carol singing, view class Christmas Trees and Raffle
11 th December	KS2 Christmas Concert at Upton Vale Baptist Church
12 th December	Foundation Stage Singing assembly 2.30pm