



St Margaret's
Academy

ST MARGARETS ACADEMY

Autumn Newsletter #10
22nd November 2024

Dear Parents,

I hope you found parents evenings informative this week (for Reception, that's next week) and were able to get a good understanding of the progress your child has made since returning to school in September. I have heard very positive feedback so far, thank you. Towards the end of term, I will be sending out a parent survey to make sure we fully understand what you think is working well and what we can do to further improve.

South Devon College

Thank you to South Devon College staff and students who joined us in school on Wednesday this week. We look forward to seeing them in school most Wednesdays as we continue with our excellent quid pro quo relationship. The students are gaining invaluable industry experience in the education sector while we get to use their skills leading games at play and helping with learning in class; supported by their tutors. Soon, we will once again be fortunate to have them delivering essential social media workshops and providing an innovative way of helping parents understand how you too can best support your child in this murky online world.

Curriculum News

Look in the History Blog to see how [Year 3](#) enjoyed their trip to Kents Cavern last Friday.

In the Creative Learning Blog you can see the fun [Year 3](#) had when creating Stone Henge out of biscuits (makes you want to be a child again – what fun).

In the History Blog you can see how [Year 4](#) enjoyed some Q&A research into Tutankhamun.

In the Sports Blog you can read how [Year 6](#) basketballers slam dunked it to victory in a local schools' competition.

Reception News

The latest wonderful [newsletter](#) for Reception can now be found on the school website. You can see some beautiful photos and read all about their light and dark topic. You can learn about the songs they have sung, the books they have read and the sounds you can help them read at home. There is also details about how they have been learning to write their name and count numbers. With news about parents evenings and all the plans for Christmas, it's jam packed. Enjoy.

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Festive School Events

Look out for the following events that are taking place towards the end of this term:

- Reception Christmas show (curriculum celebration) for families at 1.30pm - 3pm on Thursday 19.12.24
- Key Stage 1 Nativity at Babbacombe Theatre for families on Friday 13.12.24. Doors open at 2.00pm and the show starts promptly at 2.30pm
- Key Stage 2 Carol Concert for parents and families, taking place this year at St Mary the Virgin in St Marychurch at 2.30pm on Tuesday 10.12.24.
- **Christmas dinner and jumper days:**
 - Reception on Monday 9.12.24
 - Year 1 and Year 2 on Tuesday 10.12.24
 - Year 3 and Year 4 on Wednesday 11.12.24
 - Year 5 and Year 6 on Thursday 12.12.24
- Reception Christmas party in school for children on Tuesday 10.12.24
- Reception Christmas Craft event for parents at 1.45pm - 3pm on Tuesday 10.12.24
- On the final day of term (20.12.24) look out for an invite to your child's class to see their end of term curriculum celebration and have another opportunity to look in your child's books

Are you a Carer?

There is a brilliant event happening at Paignton Library on Saturday 23rd November to celebrate Carers Rights Day alongside their Christmas Market and there will be lots of information stands, free refreshments, activities for children, vaccinations for Carers, and much more!

Website: www.tsdfc.uk/Carers. Facebook: TorbayCarers. For information about the Carer support, phone 01803 666620

16 Days of Activism Carer?

16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence is a key international movement to call for an end to violence against women and girls (VAWG). It runs from 25th November (the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women) until 10th December, Human Rights Day. Violence against women happens in every country and culture, causing harm to millions of women and girls. Risks and challenges to access care increase even more for women and girls living in humanitarian emergencies. Around the world today, prolonged and intense conflicts have resulted in a continuous rise in of all forms of gender-based violence. [16 Days of Action 2024](#)

Our Amazon Book Wish List

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/FOD16NCSLQOX?ref=wl_share

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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>

Have a wintery weekend.



Tim Hughes (Headteacher)



Diary Dates

W/C 25th November 2024	Book Fair After School in the hall
6th December 2024	PTA Santa Visit
9th December 2024	Reception Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day
10th December 2024	Y1/2 Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day
10th December 2024	KS2 Carol Concert—St Mary the Virgin Church in St Marychurch 14.30—15.00
10th December 2024	Reception Christmas Party in School
10th December 2024	Reception Christmas Craft Event for parents 13.45—15.00
11th December 2024	Y3/4 Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day
12th December 2024	Y5/6 Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day
13th December 2024	KS1 Nativity at Babbacombe Theatre (Doors open at 14.00)
18th December 2024	13.15—13.45 School Choir performing at St Marychurch Precinct
19th December 2024	Reception Christmas Show for families 13.30—15.00
20th December 2024	Book look for parents after school—Open Class
20th December 2024	Curriculum Event for Parents (During day—Times TBC)
W/C 23rd December 2024	Christmas Holidays
7th January 2025	First day back for children
W/C 17th February 2025	Half Term
24th February 2025	First day back for children
W/C 7th April 2025	Easter Holidays
22nd April 2025	First day back for children



Beech	Matilda is our star this week. She is always so motivated to learn, trying her best in everything she does and is such a good role model to others. Well done Matilda!
Pine	Mirielle is our star this week for being awesome in so many ways! She is motivated to learn. She works hard and focuses on what she needs to do. She is kind and helpful and sets a great example to Pine class.
Oak	Amelia is our star for the amazing effort she has put into the maths and writing lessons this week. She has shown resilience and responsibility for moving her learning on. You are a star Amelia, well done!
Apple	Lexi is our star of the week for showing amazing resilience with her writing. We have seen great improvements in all aspects of her work. Well done Lexi.
Holly	Albie is definitely our star this week for showing so much resilience in his maths learning. He is trying so hard and his positive attitude really helps him. Well done for asking for extra guidance too Albie, a mature attitude for everyone to follow.
Willow	Lily is the star in Willow class. She has shown great resilience, determination and motivation in her maths learning this week working super hard to understand our written method for subtracting 3 digit numbers. Well done Lily.
Cherry	Alanna is Cherries star of the week. She has shown some fantastic motivation towards all of her learning, showing great focus and achieving all that she has needed to. Well done Alanna.
Hazel	Esmae is our star of the week ! She has shown real motivation with her writing and produced the most inspirational poem. We are so proud of you young lady!
Birch	Emily is our star this week! She has shown great resilience in Maths where we have been doing some tricky fractions work. It has been lovely to see her confidence grow and her succeed in this area. Well done Emily!
Rowan	This week's star is Ginny for showing such incredible resilience in maths. She has worked so hard, not giving up and had such a positive attitude towards her learning this week. Keep up the great work!
Maple	Our star this week is Finley W for his amazing learning behaviours. He has shown resilience with his reading this week and scored 100% on his quiz! Finley is also a great example of an active thinker - in his maths, he was able to use his prior knowledge to help with his fractions. Well done Finley!
Hawthorn	Zoe is our star of the week for showing great active thinking this week, taking on feedback and trying her hardest to put her hand up more during her learning. She has worked hard to listen to advice in all areas of learning and then act upon this - what a super learner!

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