



St Margarets Academy

I hope everybody is settling in well to the new academic year. There is a great atmosphere in school, in classes and at play, with lots of happy little people (and big ones). I shall soon be starting tours for potential new parents. If you would like to join one of these you are very welcome. They are a good opportunity to see the school in action. Please look out for the dates and book in at the office.

Final Farewell to Frazer



On Tuesday several staff attended the funeral service for Frazer Wilton at the Church of St Marychurch. As you can imagine, it was a very emotional and moving tribute to the little chap. Frazer has left us a legacy with his much-loved Stripey the Tiger. Stripey stays in Reception to help calm and support children who might have a wobble during their first year at St Margaret's. Thanks Frazer.

In memory of Frazer and to raise money for the Children's Hospice and Batten's Disease, the last day of this half term, Friday 21st October will be a non-uniform, 'Wear Yellow' day. Yellow was Frazer's favourite colour.

Myles Key - Thank You

Probably very few of you know Myles. Myles has been a very long-serving governor / trustee, since 2004, when his youngest child joined our school before it was even an academy. Myles also performed the role of Chair of Governors for a number of years. After 18 years of voluntary work, he is now sadly retiring from the role. The role of a school trustee involves giving up significant amounts of time and bringing an expert eye to the work of the school, which Myles has done in abundance.

Myles comments, "I'm sad to finally cut my family's links with St Margaret's but it's been a real honour to be part of such a great school."

Our current Chair of Trustees, James Bennet, wrote to thank Myles: *"I wanted to write to you to express not only my own thanks, but also to thank you on behalf of all of the governors/trustees, staff and, perhaps most importantly, the children you have served so well over the years in dedicating your time to help us continually improve. It is very difficult to find people willing to give up their time and the fact you have done so for 18 years is incredible - we are all very grateful for*

this. I am proud to be continuing your hard work in my role as Chair and wish you all the best for the future."



PTA AGM - 13.10.22

This will be held on Thursday, 13th October at 3.30pm in Year 3 Rowan Class opposite the sloped gate. There will be a crèche run by Miss Cullen in the Year 3 Birch Class next door to help with your little ones. It would be really excellent if you could attend to show your support to our dedicated PTA team. Thank you.

Curriculum News

At the start of each year, the teaching teams spend time updating and agreeing our approach to the curriculum, teaching and learning. A draft copy of our [Curriculum Policy](#) can now be found for your information on the website under 'Curriculum Information'. It is an extensive document that sets out our entire approach. There's a useful contents on the first page if you are looking for something in particular. Trustees will be reviewing this on Thursday next week so a final copy will be published after this.

The 'Curriculum Information' page on the website is your go-to place for information about the learning in your child's class. Individual year group folders are always being updated for the year and term ahead – so keep an eye out – you will have received the key information at the parent meetings and introductory letter already though.

The 'Curriculum in Action' page includes all the subject blogs so you can see what the children have been achieving in their classes. These are a celebration of their work.

Have a look in the [Arts Blog](#) to see Year 4 Hazel's Lily of the Valley water colours in honour of Queen Elizabeth as this was her favourite flower.

In the [Science Blog](#) you can see how Y3 Rowan scientists have been investigating the properties of rocks.

Building Works Disruption

The significant building works to extend the front of school and improve our safeguarding are starting a week earlier than planned. Fencing will be erected on Monday 17th October and the works are scheduled to last until March 2023. There will be changes to how you can access the site which I will share with you soon. Please look out for this information.

School Harvest Festival

Our school Harvest Festival is on Friday 7th October. We will be collecting food items such as tins and packets as we will be donating these to the Riviera Life Storehouse in Torquay. If you have an item for our festival please send it in with your child on Friday morning. We appreciate any items you can spare.



Help with Rising Costs - Reminders

- Martin Lewis: <https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/>
- CAP (Christians Against Poverty) is offering a free course on money. These are taking place at St Matthias Church Lounge at 7.00pm on 12th, 19th and 26th October 2022.
- 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>

Torbay Community Support - Reminders

The new community hub for Torbay is open at Paignton library next to the bus station, 9.30am – 1.30pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. You can just walk in and chat to somebody for advice on any of the following areas:

- Health and social care
- Caring for family and friends
- Access to local groups and activities
- Practical and IT support
- Finance and welfare benefits
- Housing
- Emotional wellbeing including bereavement and isolation
- Domestic abuse and sexual violence
- Other areas already supported via the Torbay Community Helpline (e.g. befriending)

0 to 19 Health Advice - Reminders

- On our website under 'Wellbeing for Families' – 'Resources for Parents' you can find an excellent document which signposts you to all the resources and help you can access for you and your family from aged 0 to 19; direct [link here](#).
- Top parenting tips: <https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>

Happy weekend.



Tim Hughes (Headteacher)



Beech	Lily is an absolute superstar. She brightens up every day with her lovely smiley face. Such a helpful, kind and aspirational member of Beech Class - thankyou Lily.
Pine	Amelia has really impressed me this week with her creativity and perseverance when making her cat costume. She worked so hard on it and kept coming over to ask for support to improve it. Well done!
Oak	Shahriyar- for always showing respect by being polite and listening to others well. He has also been trying his best in phonics this week. Well done Shahriyar!
Apple	Ella has been a-maz-ing since the start of term! Not only has she designed and made her own solar system, she is responsible for her learning, always joining in and demonstrating kindness to everyone in Team Apple.
Birch	Darcy - for being an amazing listener and actively engaging so much in lessons - you are going to have a truly fantastic year if you keep this up!
Rowan	Kristina - for her responsible attitude towards her place value work in maths and her kindness when supporting other children with their learning
Cherry	Madeline - For her wonderful attitude to learning. She has impressed us with her aspirational writing during our write stuff lessons and makes wonderful contributions in class. Well done Madeline.
Hazel	Summer - You have settled in extremely well in Hazel class and have been working incredibly hard in every subject. Very aspirational, Summer! Well done.
Willow	Willow's star this week is Pheonix. Pheonix has shown great resilience to challenges and maturity this week. She has worked so hard on her presentation this week and has made a real difference. We are so proud, Pheonix - keep it up!
Holly	Ethan is the star of Holly Class this week! He is always showing respect and kindness to everyone around him. He has also worked so incredibly hard to learn the routines of year 5. We're so proud of you Ethan, keep up the incredible work.
Maple	Our star of the week this week is Ella for always showing kindness and respect. She has made a fantastic start to Year 6 and is always thoughtful and polite. What a great role model! Keep it up Ella.
Hawthorn	Ruby - for giving reasoned opinions in science and having aspiration in all she does. She wrote an excellent introduction to her text about Mount Everest. You are a fabulous role model of aspiration Ruby - well done!



Diary Dates

23rd September	Year 3 trip to Kents Cavern
W/C 26th September	Book Fair 3.15pm in the school Hall
7th October	Harvest Festival
13th October	PTA AGM 3.30pm
14th October	PTA funded Anti-Bullying workshops
21st October	Non Uniform Day - Wear Yellow in honour of Frazer
24 th -28 th October	Half Term
1st November	Flu Vaccinations
3rd November	Year 4 trip to Torquay Museum
W/C 14th November	Parents Evening Week
16th November	Deadline for Computing homework project
21st November	School Photos (individual and sibling)