



ST MARGARETS ACADEMY

21st June 2024

Summer Newsletter #9

Dear Parents,

This week has been National Sports Week which has been a fitting time to have our Sports Days. Thank you to Mr Mayling for organising the professional KS1 and KS2 events. Thank you to parents for your lovely feedback. We managed to have a laugh while also giving the children that important opportunity to experience a competition. I will have to keep an eye out for sneaky staff helping in the KS2 tug of war next year.



Transition Plans for New September Classes

Children find change tricky (adults as well, often) because it comes with excitement and loss. Therefore, we have quite an extensive plan to help prepare your child (and you) as best as possible across the final 4 weeks of this year.

Today your child was told who their new teacher will be next year. You should also have received a letter from your new teacher introducing themselves to you.

From Monday, teachers will begin informal types of transition such as occasionally popping into your child's current class, saying hello in the corridor and chatting at play.

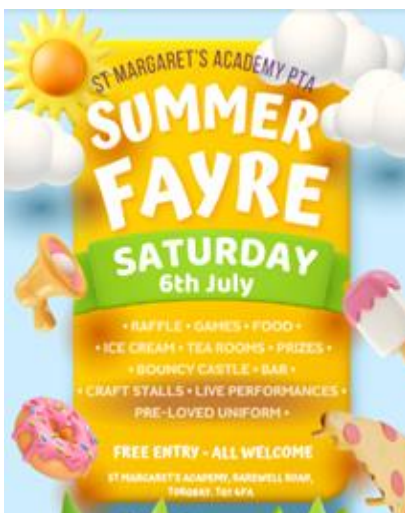
Then we have 3 more formal transition events planned when your child will spend an afternoon in their new classroom being taught by their new teacher. On the third one of these, you are invited to collect your child from their new classroom at the end of the day and to pop into the class to meet the staff, see some of their work and get an information leaflet to take away. This will help you know where to drop off and collect from. **This is a date for your diary: Thursday 18th July at 3.15pm.** *Ahead of this, you might want to ask around to find out the location of the classroom.*

For a very small group of children, there will be enhanced transition which will involve additional time meeting their new teacher and a meeting with parents. If this is relevant to your child, you will receive an invite.

For your information, teachers also spend considerable time liaising with your child's current teacher to ensure there is a comprehensive transfer over of information.

Free Holiday and Food Activity Clubs

If your child is entitled to free school meals you can book on to a range of summer holiday clubs for free. These are hosted across the Bay. What a great opportunity to shelve that device and get active. Book via this link: [Holiday Activity and Food Programme - Torbay Council](#)





Language that Cares – A message from Torbay Council's Children's Services

Have you or your child ever been in a meeting with staff from Children's Services and not always understood everything that's being said? Perhaps the professionals are using words or phrases you've never heard of and they don't explain what they mean.

That's what some of the feedback has been from young people and parents we've spoken to. This has prompted us to agree a new Language that Cares policy so that all staff know they need to use words and phrases that are easy to understand, compassionate and non-judgemental.

You should soon start to see changes in the assessments, reports and plans we write about your child. If you have any questions about this, please email rebecca.rushton@torbay.gov.uk. Read more about Language that Cares – [Language that cares - Torbay Council](#)

Help with Rising Cost- 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->

Recent Reminders

- If you have any spare clothes you are happy to donate in case of accidents in school, please do pass to your child's teacher. Thank you.
- SEND workshops for parents are still available for booking: 2nd July ([Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing](#)), 4th July ([Anger and Challenging Behaviour](#)), 9th July ([Healthy Relationships](#)) and 11th July ([Online Safety and Exploitation](#))
- Remember to apply sun cream and send your child with plenty of water to drink each day
- Free Park Yoga: running from now until September, there are free weekly yoga sessions on Torre Abbey Green at 9.30am every Sunday. Just turn up; no need to book.
- Summer Fayre, Saturday 6th July. The Fayre can only go ahead with the support of parents and teachers: <https://volunteersignup.org/BK9RQ>
- Lilli's Australian adventure: if you would like to help <https://gofund.me/45b9e4d9>
- Our Amazon Book Wish List: https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/FOD16NCSLQOX?ref=wl_share

Happy Weekend.

Tim Hughes (Headteacher)





Diary Dates

4 th July 2024	Non-Uniform Day – Bring a Bottle for the PTA Summer Fayre
6 th July 2024	PTA Summer Fayre
W/C 8 th July 2024	Reports Home to Parents
9 th July 2024	Y4 Water Confidence @ Goodrington
10 th July 2024	Y6 Show 2pm & 6pm showing
11 th July 2024	Rock Steady performance (time TBC)
11 th July 2024	Year 6 Show 6pm
16 th July 2024	Y3 Water Confidence @ Goodrington
16 th July 2024	3.15- 3.45 Opportunity for parents to meet their child's new teacher
17 th July 2024	Picnic on the field (Current Reception and New Starters) 3.30-4.30
18 th July 2024	Collect children from new September class at end of school day
18 th July 2024	Year 6 Leavers Disco ? TBC
22 nd July 2024	Year 6 Leavers Assembly 9.30am Leavers BBQ
22 nd July 2024	Final Day of School

Beech	Lily is our star of the week for being truly fabulous every day. You put 100% into everything you do and love love love to learn! You are a pleasure to have in our class.
Pine	Willow is our star of the week for being kind and caring and for always trying her best.
Oak	Esmail is our star this week as she has shown great aspiration when completing her reading paper this week. She really focused and took her time. Esmail has also got stuck in with our DT trolley project this week, showing her amazing creative skills. Super effort Esmail!
Apple	Iris is our star this week for writing a lovely letter to her penpal and getting top marks in her reading paper. But more importantly for being a kind and respectful person, thank you Iris 😊.
Holly	Florence is our star of the week. She's shown great aspiration in her work and a new focus within lessons. She's always kind to others and respectful. She's been particularly helpful to the adults this week, too. Well done, Flo!
Willow	Arya B is the star of the week in Willow class. She shows great responsibility for her learning as each morning she comes into class and settles down to complete her early morning task straight away. Well done Arya.
Cherry	Olivia is our star for her amazing DT work. She has shown great resilience and perseverance making a wonderfully sewn bookmark. Well done!
Hazel	The star of the week in Hazel is Hughie! He has matured and grown so much over year 4 and is really doing his absolutely best in all areas of his learning. He has his hand up so much and is always wanting to share his ideas. Well done!
Birch	Star of the week in Birch class is Jack! Jack really impressed me this week with the maturity and responsibility he showed on sports day. He is always so willing to help and show kindness to others and he was no different this week. Jack's team struggled to find enough participants so he did a fab job of representing his team in nearly every race. You did a fantastic job! Well done, Jack.
Rowan	Rowan's star has shown such perseverance and responsibility in their learning recently. They have had a good go at any challenge put their way and settled into the class brilliantly. It feels like they have always been a part of our team. Keep being brilliant Layla!
Maple	Maple's star of the week goes to Pepe! Each morning, Pepe settles himself quietly and does the right thing. He has also been so aspirational in food technology this week. He has carefully considered his pizza creation and designed a fantastic brand. Keep up the hard word Pepe!
Hawthorn	Poppy is our Star of the Week for her consistent good behaviour, hard work and lovely manners. She always tries her best, listens well and shows respect to others. Well done Poppy - you are such a terrific role model!