

St Margarets Academy

Hands-Face-Space-Fresh Air- Act as if you've got it

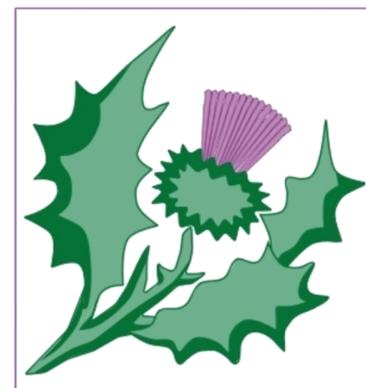
Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the start of another adventure. It was lovely to see your children arrive back at school again on Wednesday, bubbling with excitement (and a few nerves). We started the new school year with face to face assemblies in the hall (just 4 classes at a time, spaced out). For the older children it was a distant memory the last time they had done this. For children in Year 1 and Year 2 it was a brand new experience. Our new Reception children joined us for part of the days this week, ready to start their full adventure next week.

I hope your children might have managed to tell you about our new arrangements for morning and lunchtime plays. Our wonderful teaching assistants, led by Jenny Price; spent our training days in July and this week, working out a new system to make playtimes even better. With the ending of bubbles, we are now able to take advantage of our whole school outdoor site and are offering a wide range of activities for playtimes.

Parent Voice and Improvement Plans for this Academic Year

Last academic year we launched a *Parent Voice* group to help improve communication between home and school so that we can better work in partnership in the best interests of your children. Initially we had representative parents from each class and we met via *Google Meet*. Now with the easing of restrictions, I'm planning to do this face to face in the school hall at 6.00pm on Wednesday 22nd September with an open invite to any parents. We will limit the numbers however so that we can maintain social distancing while in the hall. If you would like to hear about our improvement plans for this year and to have a chance to share your views, please do come along. Please complete the google booking form which will be sent out via email.



Upcoming Events

September 22

Parent Voice Meeting

September 27

Book Fair

Book Fair on Monday 27.9.21

One of our improvement priorities this year is to further improve reading and develop our school library. To support with this, we have a Book Fair on Monday 27th September, a percentage of the takings going towards resourcing more books for the library. Look out for more details about the fair which the children always love.

Celebrating our World Festival

Back in July, we enjoyed a wonderful week at the end of term with a [Celebrating our World Festival](#). Please have a look in the SMSC Blog to see the lovely photos and activities.

Entry and Exit via the Back Gate

Now that we are using the back gate again, please do remember to consider the residents in St Margaret's Close. This is a private close and no vehicular access is allowed without permission. The only right of way is pedestrian access. Previously there were difficulties for residents being blocked in by parent cars so please do not park in St Margaret's Close. Thank you for your understanding.

Snacks, Drinks, Nuts and School Dinners



We are encouraging you to please send your child into school with fresh fruit, vegetables or plain dried fruit snacks. This is to help support a healthy diet as so many foods can contain hidden sugars and to help reduce waste as many processed snacks come in non-recyclable packaging.

We are also encouraging you to send your child in with only water as a drink to have between meals.

This is a reminder that we are a "nut aware school" and we ask you to please consider the children in our school who have nut allergies and to therefore please not provide nuts as snacks or in packed lunches.

With school dinners fully operational again now, we hope you might encourage our child to take up the offer. We have an award with the Soil Association for our food and dinners are carefully planned using local produce and advice from farm to food, Growing Minds.

Looking After our own Mental Health

While we spend time looking out for the children, at home and at school, it's also really important to look after ourselves in this often demanding world. In school we use the below image to help children and staff. We reminded ourselves about this in Wednesday's assembly. Ask your child if they can tell you more. It's '5-a-day' for mental health. If you're looking for a little bit more support for yourself, you can try 'Renew Barton'. Every Tuesday between 9.30 and 11.30, Barton Baptist Church is offering a quiet free space with tea and coffee. It is not a religious activity and is titled '5 ways to wellbeing'.

You can find out more on our website under [Wellbeing for Families](#) or contact the church directly on bartonbaptistchurch@gmail.com



H I F L K



Christmas PTA News

The PTA is coming back together post lockdown, with new members. More news about this soon but in the meantime, please do have a look on the PTA webpage and book in for the Christmas panto at the Princess Theatre.

PE Timetable

Below is a PE timetable. Could children please attend school in their PE Kits on the days they have PE.
 Many Thanks Mr. Mayling

Monday	Beech, Pine, Maple
Tuesday	Birch, Rowan, Hazel, Cherry
Wednesday	Willow, Maple, Holly, Apple, Oak, Hawthorn
Thursday	Hazel, Cherry, Birch, Rowan
Friday	Willow, Hawthorn, Oak, Beech, Apple, Pine

Wishing you all a lovely weekend

Tim Hughes (Headteacher)