



Dear parents,

A big welcome to Y4! We hope that you have all enjoyed the lovely summer holidays and the recent, wonderful sunshine.

We have a busy year ahead and very exciting topics for this term – Forces and Magnets, Jungles and Deserts, Ancient Egyptians and Canopic Jars! We have also planned engaging lessons in maths, English, computing, French, PSHE and RE. Please see the curriculum overview and subject collectables attached for a more complete picture of your child's learning.

The main points to help us begin the school year smoothly are summarised below:

PE

In the first half term we will be doing dodgeball and dance and in the second half of the term we will be doing tag rugby and gymnastics.

Hazel PE days are **Monday** and **Tuesday**

Cherry PE days are **Tuesday** and **Wednesday**

Please keep PE kits at home and send your child in wearing their kit on PE days.

Polite reminder: If your child has their ears pierced, please remove earring/s or cover earring/s with tape before school on PE days.

Reading and Homework

The children will bring home a reading book from our school library and then quiz these books once they have completed them. This helps us to ensure the books they are reading are the appropriate level for them. We encourage children to read at least 4 times a week at home and record this in their reading diaries. Reading diaries should be brought into school on **Mondays**.

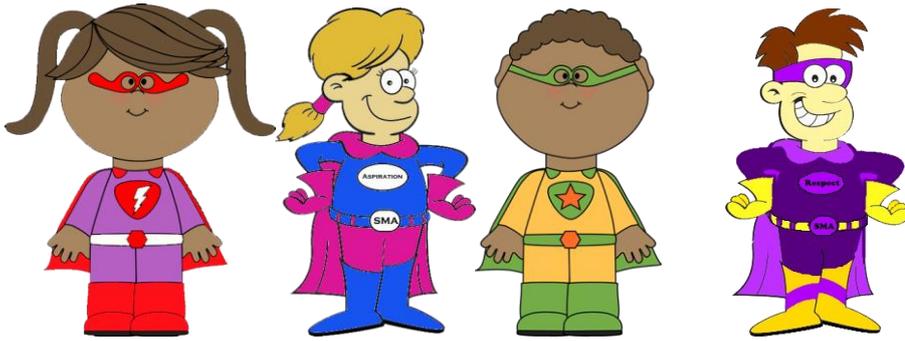
In Year 4, homework focuses on learning spellings and times tables. We also set an additional optional task each week.

Behaviour

At St Margaret's Academy we adopt a relational approach to behaviour management. This means we put relationships with the children at the forefront of our practice. We know that secure, safe and happy children are in the best place for learning.

We recognise that children who are presenting with undesired behaviours are often in a state of distress rather than wilfully choosing to misbehave. Therefore, they need our support and connection. We use a restorative approach following an incident such as reflecting on the incident with a member of staff and making an apology. We use our school values to reinforce desired behaviour. This is always done sensitively and privately to avoid shaming the child. Restorative practices provide teaching opportunities to help children manage big emotions, rather than

following an approach based on punishment which can be detrimental to long term emotional development and the child's mental health.



Responsibility

Aspiration

Kindness

Respect

We work closely with parents and value your support in modelling and reinforcing our school values. We always inform parents about an incident involving their child. Parents, if you have any queries or uncertainties about how an incident has been handled, please come and talk to us. We want to work as a team with our families and always value feedback. More information can be found in our short *Policy for Behaviour and Relationships* which can be found on our website.

<https://www.stmargaretstorbay.org.uk/website/policies/248513>

Parental Consents

When your child starts at St Margaret's Academy we seek consent for:

- Use of images
- Marketing
- Trips
- ICT user
- Medical

Each year we will inform you of your consent preferences with the annual data collection. You have the right to withdraw your consent at any time. If you would like to withdraw or change your consent, you must submit your request in writing to Adminteam@st-margarets.torbay.sch.uk

Good News

Miss Pritchard has announced that she will be having a baby in February 2024! More information to come about this early in the new year...

Contact

In terms of contacting us, in the first instance contact hazel@st-margarets.torbay.sch.uk or cherry@st-margarets.torbay.sch.uk. You can also contact the school office on adminteam@st-margarets.torbay.sch.uk with more general enquiries. It is important to note that we cannot discuss incidents related to other children via email.

Remember we are on the classroom door at the beginning and end of each day most of the time.

FYI - If you would like to speak to your class teacher about any of the above, there will be a short meeting in Hazel class on Tuesday 12th September, 3.20-3.40 in which we will go over the above information.

Again, we are looking forward to the year ahead 😊

Miss Pritchard, Mr Tullier and the year 4 team.