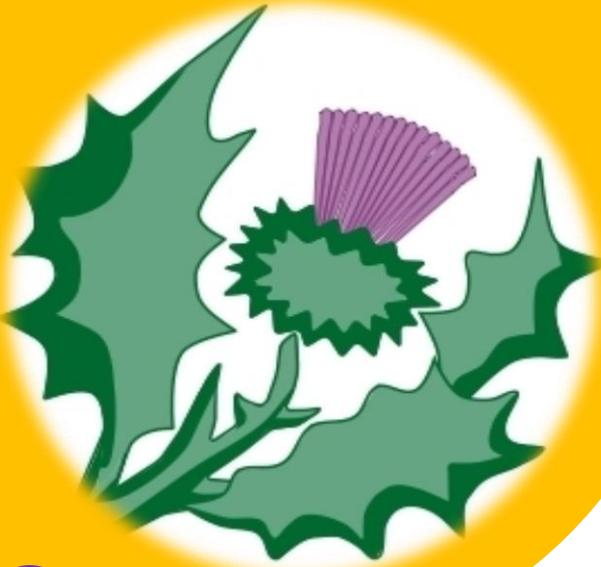


ST MARGARETS ACADEMY NEWSLETTER # 9 17th November 2023



Bumper Curriculum News

Have a look in the Computing Blog to see how [Year 3](#) have been getting on with their coding. In the Writing Blog, you can see how [Year 6](#) hit the big time with their stories on Twitter (X) with 2630 views (and rising) by 14th November. In the DT Blog you can see how [Year 2](#) enjoyed making bread, 17th Century style – for Charles II. In the Sports Blog you can see how adventurous [Year 3](#) enjoyed their climbing experience last week.

There is lots of History learning going on in school currently. Have a browse in the History Blog to see what your child has been up to. [Year 4](#) have been using technology to help with their enquiry into the Ancient Egyptians. Grandparents of [Year 1](#) came in to share their childhood toys. [Year 3](#) used their visit to Kents Cavern to help understand some changes from the Stone Age to the Iron Age.

In the Forest School Blog, you can find some awesome photos of [Year 1 Beech](#) Class finding spiders and worms in the mud last Friday. Children are really loving Forest School. One parent commented about their child, "He spoke non-stop about his session, even as he went to bed tonight and we were reading a story, he stopped me to say 'Mum I just really love Forest School'".

This week we've been exploring the importance of celebrating differences. In Monday's assembly we shared one child's recent pilgrimage to Mecca and used the Remembrance Day as a reminder how we need to learn to live together in peace to help grow a better world; to celebrate differences rather than use differences to blame others. In the PSHE Blog you can find a nice photo showing how [Year 5](#) created ribbons to fight racism. In the SMSC Blog you can see our [school councillors](#) at the cenotaph with Mr Tullier and see how [Year 1](#) learnt about the meaning behind the memorial wreaths.



Christmas Events-Coming Soon

See the dates below and a big thank to the PTA for all the extra fun festive events they are putting on too.

KS2 Christmas Concert

Key Stage 2 are holding a Christmas concert at Upton Vale Baptist Church on Monday 11th December 2023 at 5.30pm. We would love the children in Key Stage 2 to attend and bring along their parents and grandparents so that we can really and truly get us into the festive spirit.



Let's Talk Primary

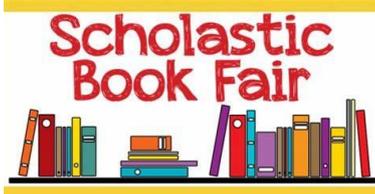
The South Devon Community team is hosting two sessions aimed at parents and carers of children aged 5-9 to hear about the challenges young people face in this ever-changing world and to hear about the tools and techniques you can use to support your children. The topics covered will be as follows:

Session 1 - Tuesday 14th November (click this [link](#) to sign up):

- Development
- Anxiety Landscape
- Family life
- Ever changing risks and world
- The online world

Session 2 - Tuesday 21st November (click this [link](#) to sign up):

- Relationships
- Gender stereotypes
- Positive body image
- Mental health



Book Fair

There will be a Book Fair every day after school, week beginning Monday 20th November. This will be held in Rowan Class (opposite the gate at the top of the slope) from 3.15-3.45. This could be a great opportunity to buy books some early Christmas presents for other people as well as books you might want to read with your children. We get a percentage and will use this to restock our library. You can pay for books on the day either by cash or via your phone with a QR code we have. You can also order the books via the website and pay online. We really appreciate you supporting us with this and look forward to seeing you if you can make it.

School Photos

Individual and sibling school photos are being taken on Monday 20th November. Please could all children wear full uniform and bring their PE kits if needed. Many Thanks



Train to be a Teacher - Locally

Would you like to train to be a teacher? Or do you know someone who would like to? If so, read on. We are partnering with SWIFT (South West Institute for Teaching) Teacher Training to help train the next generation of teachers. St Margaret's is part of SWIFT Teacher Training's Torbay Campus. This means you can train close to home and St Margaret's can be one of your placement schools. SWIFT Teacher Training courses have been designed by expert teachers from across the area and backed by the University of Nottingham. Adults will be able to train close to home to help work around other commitments like childcare. To find out more please visit www.swiftteachertraining.org.uk or email Nicky or Abby via info@swiftteachertraining.org.uk. You can also read more detail on [our website](#) under 'Useful Resources for Parents'.

Christmas Lunch

Christmas Lunches are now available to pre-order via the school gateway. Please only order a Christmas dinner on the day that it is available to your child's year group. Only a pack lunch option will be available for all other year groups during this week. Orders need to be in by Friday 24th November to enable the kitchen to place their food order. Many Thanks

Enjoy your weekend.

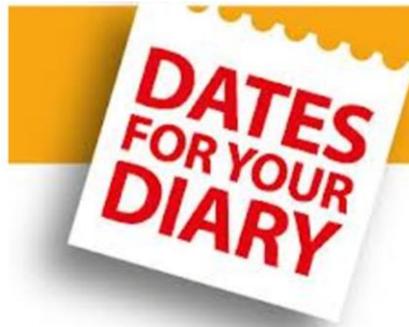
Tim Hughes (Headteacher)



Star of the week



Beech	Jude is our star this week for being such a respectful member of our class. He has been putting so much effort into all of his learning jobs and should be very proud of himself.
Pine	Kirsten is our star off the week for her continual effort when learning our Christmas nativity songs and dances. She sets a superb example to the rest of the class. Well done Kirsten!
Oak	Pippa is our star as she has been noticed by many adults for having an amazing attitude towards her learning. She is motivated to learn and really tries her best. She has also shone when rehearsing the Christmas play. Well done Pippa, you are a superstar!
Apple	We have had a new Apple join us this week and he has been amazing. He has been so brave as it can be very daunting starting a new school but he has taken it all in his stride. Well done to Apple class as well who have all looked after Issa in his first week. Welcome to the team Issa!
Holly	Our star of the week is Olly. He's growing in independence in his work and is always ready to listen and learn. He's extremely kind to others and respectful of adults, children and our school environment. Thank you for being you, Olly!
Willow	Logan is the star of the week in Willow class. During our trip to Kents Cavern, he participated enthusiastically. He demonstrated great listening and focus to learn as much as possible about the Stone Age. He was also a very responsible leader on our walk back to school. Well done Logan.
Cherry	Charlie for his amazing efforts and persistence in writing, maths and in our clay sculpting sessions. Also, your enthusiasm for our Egyptian topic is incredible! We're so proud of you!
Hazel	Hazel class star of the week is Theon for demonstrating fantastic pottery skills this week. You used techniques such as pinching and coiling brilliantly to make your canopic jar!
Birch	Lily-Summer is our star this week. Lily consistently shows all of the school values and is a real role model for the class. This week she particularly impressed us with her resilience and kindness in Maths. Lily worked so hard with her fractions and even wanted to help her friends, too! Lily, you are a superstar and we are so lucky to have you. Keep it up!
Rowan	Flo is our star of the week; she has worked so hard on her maths this week. She has shown such perseverance and determination in her learning by never giving up. We are so proud of you and keep up the hard work!
Maple	Our star of the week goes to a lovely, responsible young man: Charlie! Charlie is a pleasure to have in Maple class. He is so kind and caring towards everyone around him and is always asking how he can help. Keep it up Charlie, well done.
Hawthorn	Oscar is Hawthorn's Star of the Week for his fantastic enthusiasm for learning. He listens carefully in order to actively contribute ideas and answer questions. We've seen this in particular in our recent history lessons, where his reasoning and recall of facts has helped other children with their learning. It is great to see such aspiration, Oscar - well done!



DATE	EVENT
20 th November	Individual Photos
20 th -24 th November	Book Fair after school in Rowan Class
29 th November	Dunboyne Court Writing competition deadline
1 st December	Year 4 Trip to Torquay Museum
1 st December	KS1 Christmas Nativity
4 th December	Year 5 & 6 Christmas Dinner (Only Pack lunch bag option available for all other year groups)
5 th December	Year 3 & 4 Christmas Dinner (Only Pack lunch bag option available for all other year groups)
5 th December	Foundation Stage Craft Event from 2pm
6 th December	Reception Christmas Dinner (Only Pack lunch bag option available for all other year groups)
6 th December	PTA Cinema Trip Y2-Y6
7 th December	Year 1 & 2 Christmas Dinner (Only Pack lunch bag option available for all other year groups)
7 th December	Rocksteady performance
8 th December	Special Visitor in school (PTA event)
8 th December	Class Christmas Tree competition winner announced
8 th December	PTA after school sale of hot chocolate and cookies, carol singing, view class Christmas Trees and Raffle
11 th December	KS2 Christmas Concert at Upton Vale Baptist Church
12 th December	Foundation Stage Singing assembly 2.30pm