

Year 1 Spring Information 2024

Welcome to the Spring Term!

The children have all settled in now and are very familiar with their classrooms and the school grounds. We have another busy term planned for the children which will still involve lots of opportunities for them to explore their learning through play. As the weather improves we will try to deliver much of our teaching outside making use of our wonderful school grounds.

PE days

Beech Class PE will Wednesday and Thursday and Pine Class is Wednesday and Friday. Wednesday's PE will be outdoors and Thursday's and Friday's is indoors. Please ensure your child wears well fitting trainers or pumps on these days in addition to their PE kit. This should consist of black bottoms and a white or purple school t-shirt. Earrings should be removed before they come to school or plasters used to cover them if they cannot be taken out.

RWInc and Reading

- We will continue to follow the successful RWInc programme of phonics teaching. Please support your child by reading with them at home. Four reads per week at home make a big difference to a child's reading progress. Reading the same book more than once is ok as it builds up the child's fluency and increases the speed at which they read.

Certificates are awarded at 40 Reads—Bronze certificate, 80 Reads—Silver certificate, 120 reads—Gold certificate, 160 reads—Star certificate, 200 reads—Head teacher award, 240 reads—Governor award.

In addition to being awarded a certificate they will now be awarded a house point.

Please record these reads with the date and a brief description in their large purple book.

Playtimes and Lunchtimes

- The Year 1s are now able to choose where they play at break and lunchtimes. We do still have a designated Year 1 area on the top playground which is manned by familiar staff should they need this. Please encourage your child to use this space if they find the big playground a bit daunting.

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Writing

We have now started more structured writing sessions using a scheme called The Write Stuff. The children are getting used to this way of working and are responding well to it. It gives them the opportunity to experience a wide range of vocabulary and use this in their writing.

We still encourage a 'have a go' approach and celebrate their attempts at applying their phonic knowledge into their written work. At this stage we do not worry too much about them using the wrong spelling choice as long as the sound is correct e.g. turn / tirn.

Belongings

Please ensure that your child's belongings are clearly labelled using a permanent pen. Drinks bottles are hard to keep labelled but a Sharpie usually does the trick! If you would like us to do this for you please let us know on the door. ALL clothing needs a name including hats and scarves, shoes and trainers if possible.

Seven Skills of St Margaret's Academy



To encourage the pupils across the whole school to understand the skills they need to learn we have devised a simple set of 7 skills. We will be referring to these when teaching across the school. We want our children to be able speak about how they learn and the skills they use in different subjects. Over the course of the year all skills will have been introduced.

Thank you once again for your continued support. We are looking forward to the term ahead.

Mrs Tandy, Mrs Chivers and Mrs Posey.