



ST MARGARETS ACADEMY

Spring Newsletter #10
15th March 2024

This week has been British Science Week and we used the opportunity for children to revisit their past science learning in different interesting ways. We started on Monday with a quirky experiment showing how plastic is so flexible it can close over holes to stop water leaking from a plastic bag full of holes – how cool is that?!

Ice Cream Anyone?

Yesterday we said goodbye and farewell to Amy Heatley who has worked at St Margaret's for 8 years and has been coming here for 15 as her children attended. She has been a legend in the Foundation Stage team and will be much missed. We thank her for her good humour, energy, expertise and easy-going manner.

Amy and her family are starting a new adventure: starting an ice cream business. Look out for the *The Holiday Shop* on Belgrave Road which they hope to have open in time for the Easter holidays. Good luck Amy.

Big Twitter News

A huge well done to Amelia in Year 2 whose mashed up fairy tale has hit the big time on Twitter. At the time of writing her work has had over 6600 views and has been retweeted by Michael Rosen and Jane Considine. Amazing. Have a look for yourselves:

<https://twitter.com/StMargaretsTQ1/status/1768010469988549112>

You can also read other Year 2s' [traditional tales](#) in the Writing Blog and see the wonderful progress they have made as writers.




Dunboyne Court Diversity Homework

On Wednesday, our friends from Dunboyne visited us again to judge this term's homework project which was on celebrating diversity. There were once again some fantastic entries and our friends had another hugely tricky time choosing some winners. All the children who took part received a certificate and the winners will be visiting Dunboyne on Monday afternoon to share their projects with the residents who couldn't make it into school.

PTA Summer Fair- Help Needed

Advance notice: the fair is on Saturday 6th July. If you are able to help in anyway on the day or with preparation, please do let Laura or Felicity know. Or, you can let the office know and we can pass on your name.

In the meantime, you can also support by agreeing to have a HS Owen Estate Agents' sign in your garden advertising our fair. For every sign, HS Owen will donate £17 so the money raised could quickly add up, as well as having the benefit of advertising the fair. HS Owen will erect the board week beginning 29.4.24 and collect after the fair. If you are willing to help in this way, please do let Laura, Felicity or the office staff know by 25th March. Thank you.



Curriculum News

Congratulations to Sophia and Acai in Year 6 who have made it through to the Virtual Gymnastics Devon County Finals, taking place at the end of this month. Watch this space.

Have a look in the Sports Blogs to see how [Year 5 Birch](#) class enjoyed their climbing and archery last week.

In the Writing Blog you can see the latest article from our student writing group that has been [published](#) in the Babbacombe and St Marychurch Community Magazine. Well done to our budding journalists: Summer, Neave, Lilly and Charlie.

In the [Science](#) Blog you can see how Year 2 have been creative in British Science Week.

In the Arts Blog you can see some awesome [drawings](#) in the style of Quentin Blake by Year 2.

In the Maths Blog, have a look at how Year 2 have been learning about [money](#).

In the PSHE Blog have a look at the fantastic work [Year 5 Rowan](#) have been doing using technology to help children understand the effect of editing body images on line.



Scan the QR code to watch a short video recorded by children in Year 5 Rowan Class about their climbing adventure this week. Also see more of their climbing by clicking this [link](#) and their trampolining on this [link](#).

Parent Volunteers

If you are able to volunteer any time to help in school, we would love to hear from you. We have heard about the "2.30pm Club" in some schools when parents come in to listen to readers and help prepare some resources instead of sitting in their cars or waiting at the gate. If you think you might be able to help in anyway, please do have a chat with your child's class teacher. It's always good to have a chance to be a *fly on the wall* as a parent. Many thanks

Recent Reminders

- Increasing levels of measles, rise in respiratory infections, whooping cough, scarlet fever and chickenpox predicted this term. MMR info can be found on this [link](#). The [e-bug website](#) provides useful resources and ideas for how to help keep your child well.
- If you would like to donate to [Children with Cancer UK](#) in support of Miss Blackburn and Mrs Cosh's marathon fund raiser, you can do so via this [link](#).
- Riviera Life Church Food and Baby Bank – [link here](#). We can make a referral for you or phone 07486 402493
- World Book Day is 7th March – dress as a favourite book character
- Healthy snacks: [Healthier snacks - Food facts - Healthier Families - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)
- Pile in the Tesco Blue Tokens at Tesco: Barton Torquay, Torquay Fleet Street, Torquay Express (garage on Teignmouth Road), Paignton Victoria, Paignton Torquay Road, Torquay Lymington Road, Brixham Express and Torquay Babbacombe Road
- Dunboyne Diversity Competition deadline is 6th March
 - Our Amazon Book Wish List:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/FOD16NCSLQOX?ref=wl_share

Train to be a Teacher- Locally

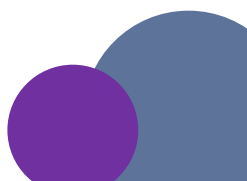
For further details on the SWIFT Initial Teacher Training, look on our [website](#) under 'Parents' and / or the provider site: <https://www.swiftteachertraining.org.uk/>

Happy weekend.

Tim Hughes
(Headteacher)



18 th March 2024	Year 1 trip to St Mary's Church
21 st March 2024	Rock Steady Performance
22 nd March 2024	Non-uniform day - Easter egg donation
26 th March-28 th March 2024	Year 6 Skern Lodge
26 th March 2024	PTA Easter Bingo
29 th March – 14 th April 2024	Easter Holidays
W/C 22 nd April 2024	Parents Evenings all week
17 th June 2024	Year 1 & 2 Sports Day 9.30-11.30 Reception Sports Day 1.15-3.15
20 th June 2024	Year 3-6 Sports Day 9.30-11.30
22 nd July 2024	Last day of term for Pupils





Beech	Chase is our star of the week for his wonderful improvements in writing. Not only that but he has been working really well with his partner in his phonics lessons and trying hard to join in with the lessons. Keep it up Chase!
Pine	Nellie is our star this week. She always works so incredibly hard, is focussed and super helpful. Nellie is really kind and is always looking out for her friends. A wonderful member of Pine class.
Oak	Leah is our star as she always shows all of the school values, especially respect. She has shone this week when writing her own version of a traditional tale. Super effort and concentration with your story writing Leah. You are a star- well done!
Apple	Parker is our star this week as he has made great progress in his phonics. Parker has moved up a group and is excelling already! He is also showing more focus in lessons and is always keen to join in. Well done, keep up the responsible learning.
Holly	Alice could honestly be our star every week. She shows so much kindness and consideration for others, always - so much so, that she's officially our class 'buddy'! Well done, Alice. We're lucky to have you in Holly.
Willow	Erin is the star of the week in Willow class. She has worked really hard this week on her story about a paint brushing eating woman and we loved reading it. Erin demonstrates our values of responsibility and aspiration as she always concentrates fully and preserves in all learning tasks. Well done Erin.
Cherry	Joshua is our star of the week in Cherry class. He has been trying hard with his learning recently, and his hard work is paying off. It has helped him in all of his learning, and especially with the wonderful story he wrote in the style of Aladdin. Well done Joshua!
Hazel	Harry is our star of the week in Hazel class! Harry is someone who can always be relied upon to try his best and always shows fantastic aspiration with his learning. He has particularly impressed this week with his amazing retelling of Aladdin, creating a wonderful piece of writing. Super week Harry, well done!
Birch	Birch's star this week is Molly. This week, we have had some very tricky maths to do and Molly has shown excellent aspiration and responsibility. Because of this, she has made excellent progress and we are so impressed and proud. Well done, miss Molly!
Rowan	This week's star is Freddie. He has shown such determination when we had a go at archery and climbing. He was also so incredibly kind to others when we went trampolining, he was so helpful and was everyone's biggest cheerleader! Well done Freddie.
Maple	Our star of the week is Lilly-Ella! Lilly is always showing the core values of kindness and responsibility. Lilly loves being responsible for lots of jobs and I love what a good friend she is to others. Well done Lilly - keep it up!
Hawthorn	Louis has impressed us with his aspiration and hard work in writing and maths lessons this week. It was a pleasure to read his suspense story based on the animation 'Alma' - his best piece of writing so far in Year 6. Well done Louis!