

St Margaret's  
Academy

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01/03/2019

## Spring Term Newsletter No.7 (1.3.19)

Welcome back to the second half of the spring term at an un-seasonably warm time of year.

We are currently in the process of reviewing our school values and policy for behaviour. I started the week with an assembly on one of our core values: *responsibility*. During the week, children have spent time exploring this value to help understand what it looks like in reality. It's easy to say, "be responsible" but much clearer if we can show how we are responsible. To help illustrate this we looked at the story of Mr Mole driving his car dangerously fast with Mr Badger in the back. Mr Badger could have continued to be a passenger and blamed Mr Mole when he got hurt but instead he took responsibility for himself and decided not to get a lift with Mr Mole anymore.

**We're looking for your help.** If you have any great examples that we can include in our policy to help children understand *responsibility*, we would love to hear them. We would also really value your contribution to our new policy for behaviour. We are keen to have a policy that celebrates achievement and helps children to understand that boundaries are an important part of society. If you have any ideas for rewards and sanctions please do let us know. You are very welcome to write to me with your suggestions. At the forthcoming parents evening, there will also be a parent questionnaire which you can use to give us feedback and ideas.

The Student Council is helping to coordinate the children's work on school values. They will also soon be looking at what additional values the school could have. We are thinking that it would be great to also have a softer type of school value that helps reflect the profound nurturing and caring side to the school. So, again, if you have any suggestions, please do let us know.

Following interviews for a Teaching Assistant on Tuesday, I'm really pleased to welcome Kelly Tozer to the staff at St Margaret's. Kelly successfully navigated her way through a range of tasks, including a grilling by the Student Council and will soon be joining us in Reception.

The *Stay and Read* on Monday and Thursday this week has been a big success. Thank you to Miss Palfrey for organising this and thanks to the PTA for providing refreshments.

This week we've opened more of the school grounds at play and lunchtimes to help give the children greater choice and to help spread them out. We are really glad to hear the positive feedback from you and hope we can gradually expand this further over the coming weeks. A special thanks to Nicky Scaife and Sue Blackburn who came in over the holiday to sort some of the play equipment.

Tim Hughes

### **World Book Day Reminder - Monday 4th March 2019**

Just a reminder that we celebrate World Book Day on Monday when we invite your children to come dressed as one of their favourite book characters.

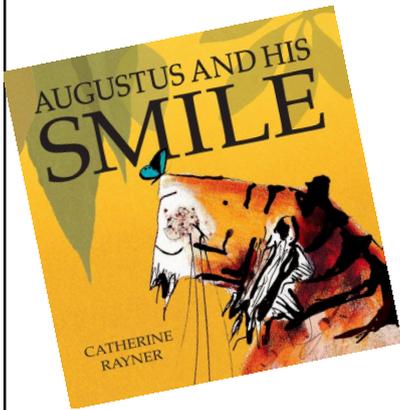
The *Shelfie Competition* entries will be judged by the Reading Ambassadors with Miss Palfrey. It's just a bit of fun to promote reading. Any collection, large or small is equally valid. Winners will be chosen for their creativity and humour.

*Kitchen Competition* - for another bit of fun the kitchen staff are going to hide stickers on the bottom of plates. Those who find a sticker will be able to name some chicks that are joining KS1 after a book character.

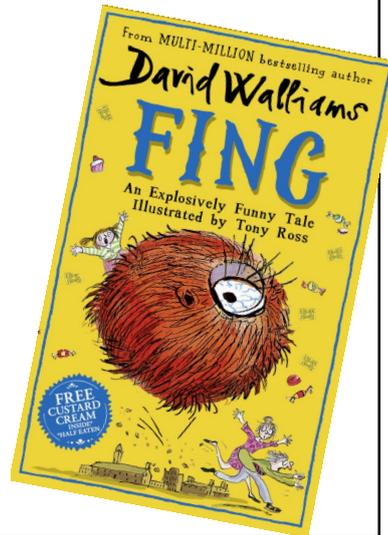
*RESPECT*

*RESPONSIBILITY*

*ASPIRATION*



Miss Palfrey  
and the  
Reading  
Ambassadors  
Book Picks  
of the Week



### Weekly Attendance Award

Congratulations to  
**Rowan Class AGAIN**  
for winning the School  
Attendance Award with  
**97.8%** attendance.  
School target: 96%  
The whole school achieved  
**96.4% this week**



### ★ ★ This Week's Star Pupils! ★ ★

Ash — Maisie J and Maisey S - for being such responsible learners - practising their writing skills independently and writing super stories about Goldilocks and the three bears! What a pleasure it was to read your stories! ★

Elm — Giovanna and Layla - for showing kindness towards other people in all they have said and done this week. What super stars they are!

Beech — Lincoln - for showing that he can take responsibility for his choices and trying really hard every day! Super proud of you!

Pine — Max for taking such responsibility for his learning, despite his injury he has worked so hard this week! Well done Max!

Oak — Benjamin- for showing responsibility through his level of independence in his learning and organisation for the lessons. Well done Ben! ★

Birch — Saphia- For being extremely responsible for both your learning and helping around the classroom not just this week, but EVERY week!

Rowan — Maisie for excellent listening and a wonderful approach to her writing and maths. ★

Cherry — Olivia displays a consistently high level of responsibility in everything she does and is a great role model to others. ★

Maple — Harriet for her excellent attitude to learning in all lessons. Well done, Harriet! ★

Holly — Toby M - for his fantastic attitude in maths lessons this week. He has shown a truly aspirational approach and we are very proud of him. Well done!

Willow — Emma has shown great responsibility in her learning this week and has joined in a lot more with whole class discussions. ★

Hawthorn — Belal- for his continual enthusiasm, humour and effort ★

Hazel — Finley (apologies to Finley for being missed last time) for an outstanding, aspirational attitude towards his writing! ★

George Br - for taking responsibility for his learning and showing excellent participation in maths. ★

### Paired Reading

Oak and Cherry class enjoyed sharing books together earlier this week, with the added bonus of enjoying the spring sunshine too!



## **Eco-Brick - collecting until Easter - see Mrs Turner and Dylan for more info**

If anyone would like to join us we will be collecting all of the filled plastic bottles by the Easter holidays. We request that the bottles are plastic and that they are clean and filled with clean shredded plastic. The final criteria is that they have to weigh 333g so they are solid and will not bend easily. It is a great way to help people less fortunate than us, create wonderful sculptures and help clean the ocean and save the animals.



## **Y1 BOG BABY SLIDING PICTURES**

Before half term we were learning how to make a sliding picture. First we watched a video on how to use watercolours and remembered to move the paintbrush from left to right as much as we could. We created our background and then made our own bog baby that we could move around on a stick.



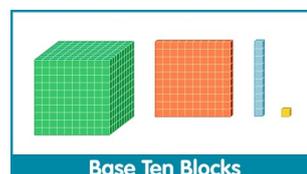
## **School Council - Mr Tullier reports...**

The school council has been busy this week! Badges were handed out to help more clearly identify the council members so that other children can approach them outside of the classroom. The school council has been involved with TA interviews this week and they then met with the senior leadership team to discuss their thoughts. For your information, the school council will be taking some photos of Fairtrade items in packed lunch-boxes during lunchtime next week as part of Fairtrade Fortnight! Fairtrade helps to ensure a fair wage for all involved in the foods we buy. We value your support.



## **Using Base-10 in Year 5 - Mr Rogers reports...**

This week, Year 5 have been learning to convert fractions into decimals and percentages. To develop concrete understanding of numbers to three decimal places, the children used three different manipulatives; decimal place value cards, counters and Base-10 equipment (dienes). As a result, the children's understanding of tenths, hundredths and thousandths has really blossomed. It was very evident that their explanations and justifications had been enriched through the use of correct mathematical equipment, confidently explaining why, as an example,  $30/40$ ,  $75\%$  and  $0.75$  are all one and the same. The image below could represent 1111 or, as we used it to represent 1.111 - the yellow cube is  $1/1000$  of the green cube; the blue rod (cuboid) represents  $1/100$  of the green cube and the red cuboid represents  $1/10$  of the green. It is always good to learn something new!



## Diary Date Reminders

Monday 4.3.19	World Book Day—advance notice—more very exciting news to follow ( <i>please note that this is not the official national day because we are doing something different in school</i> )
Wednesday 6.3.19-12.3.19	The Scholastic Book Fair
<b>Week beginning Monday 11.3.19</b>	<b>Parents Evening Week. Tuesday will be the main day. Appointments are now available for booking .Please book via your eSchools login.</b>
Thur 14.3.19 2.00-3.00pm	CAP (Child Assault Prevention) UK team parent workshop. A very worth-while event to attend. More details to follow.
Weeks beginning 18.3.19 and 25.3.19	CAP UK team will be in school delivering workshops to all the children. More details to follow.
Tuesday 26.3.19	PTA Film Night 3.10pm
Friday 5.4.19	Deadline for returning the 1 litre, 333g plastic bottles filled with clean shredded plastic. These will be used for home insulation in Africa and to create local benches in Torbay. See Mrs Turner for more details.