



**St. Margaret's C of E Primary School**  
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Headteacher: Mrs Jill Hine B.Ed. (Hons), NPQH

***Loving God ~ Serving others ~ Fulfilling our potential***

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you all had a very enjoyable Christmas and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a healthy, happy and peaceful New Year. On behalf of all the staff I would like to thank you all for your very generous gifts. They are most appreciated. Thank you.

### **Staffing news**

Today we welcome Ms Williams as a teaching assistant with Swallow Class. We also welcome back Miss Budd. Miss Budd will be working as an assistant finance officer as before. I know that you will all make both our new members of staff feel very welcome and part of the St Margaret's family.

As we all know, there have been many infections and viruses in the community. I have copied, in full, a press release from yesterday. I think it is important to note that it is recommended that your child stays at home if they have a fever. We haven't stopped regular hand washing/using hand gel at school, so that will continue as will regular cleaning of tables.

### **Press Release, 2<sup>nd</sup> January, from the UK Health Security Agency**

*Following simple steps can help protect children, minimise the spread of illness in education and childcare settings and protect wider communities.*

*Flu and coronavirus (COVID-19) are currently circulating at high levels and are likely to continue to increase in coming weeks. High numbers of scarlet fever, which is caused by group A streptococcus, also continue to be reported.*

*Professor Susan Hopkins, Chief Medical Adviser at the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), said:*

*It's important to minimise the spread of infection in schools and other education and childcare settings as much as possible. If your child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay home from school or nursery until they feel better and the fever has resolved.*

*Helping children to learn about the importance of good hand hygiene is also key, so practice regular handwashing at home with soap and warm water. Catching coughs and sneezes in tissues then binning them is another simple way to help stop illness from spreading.*

*Adults should also try to stay home when unwell and if you do have to go out, wear a face covering. When unwell don't visit healthcare settings or visit vulnerable people unless urgent.*

*Remember that flu vaccination is still available for all eligible groups and is the best protection against the virus. We have seen good uptake in older age groups but vaccination among young children remains low. Flu can be very unpleasant and in some cases can lead to more serious illness. Getting your child vaccinated protects them and others they come into contact with, and it's still not too late.*





### Reading with your children

*If you want your children to be intelligent, read them fairy tales. If you want them to be more intelligent, read them more fairy tales.*

*Albert Einstein*

Please make daily reading one of your new year resolutions!

### Parking...

It would be good if we made sure that all cars were parked with consideration for our local residents. Please drive slowly down The Mardens as families are crossing the road with children.

### Cold, wet weather...

Please can you ensure that all children come to school with warm, waterproof coats as we will be going out at break times even if it is raining? Coats, scarves, hats, gloves all need to be named as returning a lost item to the right child is much easier with a name! Thank you.

### Timings...

I am sure the children are all keen to be back at school and are ready for some very exciting learning. I know some children will find waking up early after being on holiday for two weeks a little challenging, but as you know the classroom doors will be open from 8.30am every morning, so please make sure you set your alarm clocks a little earlier so you are not running in late. The school gates close at 8.50am every morning.

### Hair...

Any hair accessory should be blue, white or black and without sequins. Extremes of hair styles, hair colours or shaved features are not allowed. Thank you for your support with this.

## Christian Value for this half term



Our new Christian value for this half term is Trust.

We will be thinking about what Trust means and that Trust is essential to human life and lies at the heart of all relationships. Trust can mean putting yourself in others' hands. We will be exploring the experts we trust and who trusts us.

We will be exploring 'Trust in the Lord' as a central theme in the Psalms. Time and time again, God is recognised as the source of all true security and strength.

## Golden Leaf certificates



Well done to all the children who received a Golden Leaf Certificate on the last day of term.

All the children enjoyed a special morning breaktime with cake and crisps straight after worship.

## Attendance



School attendance is very important to us at St Margaret's. Every Friday the class with the best attendance for the week will have popcorn on Friday afternoon.

We know that a child's attendance has a direct impact on their learning. Children who are regularly absent from school and are regularly late do not achieve their potential and fall behind in class.

Please support the school in this by ensuring that your child attends school regularly and arrives ready to learn and on time by 8.50am every day.

**Attendance matters! It is important that your child gets to school on time and aims for 100% attendance!**

**Overall School Attendance: 85.92%**

Reception	Butterfly	81.67
	Ladybird	82.33
Year 1	Hedgehog	81.72
	Squirrel	84.07
Year 2	Badger	71.33
	Fox	84.00
Year 3	Chaffinch	91.85
	Robin	86.79
Year 4	Swallow	84.38
	Swift	89.03
Year 5	Heron	94.00
	Kingfisher	84.78
Year 6	<b>Owl</b>	<b>94.19</b>
	Woodpecker	92.58

**Well done to Owl Class for the best attendance in the last week of term.**

**Hope you all enjoyed the popcorn.**

**Well done to Year 6 who had the best attendance in the last week.**

**93.39%**

### Diary Dates

Please keep checking these dates and times as I will update them every week. New dates added are in bold. I will try to give you as much notice as possible about forthcoming events at school. We will try not to change dates and times, but sometimes we do need to due to circumstances beyond our control.

Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	First day of Spring term
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Forest School starts for 3 weeks for Heron Class-5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> January</b>
<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Forest school starts for Butterfly and Ladybird classes. Please see the Seesaw message for more information. pm Swift Class start swimming for 10 weeks School Led Clubs start this week.</b>
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	9.00am Kingfisher Class worship. Parents and carers are welcome to join us.
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> January	9.00am Heron Class worship. Parents and carers are welcome to join us.
<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January</b>	9.00am Swallow Class worship. Parents and carers are welcome to join us. <b>Forest School starts for 3 weeks for Kingfisher Class-26<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; 9<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	9.00am Swift Class worship. Parents and carers are welcome to join us.
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	9.00am Year 4 Eucharist service. Parents and carers are welcome to join us.
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Inset Day 3
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00am Year 3 Eucharist service. Parents and carers are welcome to join us.
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00am Chaffinch Class worship. Parents and carers are welcome to join us.
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	9.00am Robin Class worship. Parents and carers are welcome to join us.
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	9.00am Badger Class worship. Parents and carers are welcome to join us.
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	9.00am Fox Class worship. Parents and carers are welcome to join us.
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	9.00am Year 2 Eucharist service .Parents and carers are welcome to join us.
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Extra Bank Holiday
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> -Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 Key Stage 2 Tests (SATs)
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	9.00am Hedgehog Class worship. Parents and carers are welcome to join us.
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	9.00am Squirrel Class worship. Parents and carers are welcome to join us.
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	Inset Day 4
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	9.00am Year 1 Eucharist service Parents and carers are welcome to join us.
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	9.00am Butterfly Class worship. Parents and carers are welcome to join us.
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00am Ladybird Class worship. Parents and carers are welcome to join us.
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Reserve Sports Day
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> July 2023	Inset Day 5

Thank you for your continuing support.

Take care.

Jill Hine,

Headteacher



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