



St. Margaret's

C of E Primary School

"I am able to do all things through the one who strengthens me." Philipians 4:13

Faith, Hope, Love

9th February 2024

Newsletter 10

Dear Parents

Yesterday I attended Collective Worship training which was led by 'Space Makers'. One of the key things that we discussed was what are the 'space invaders' in our lives and how can we manage these to allow ourselves more quality time together. I do hope that you can find space and time over the next week for yourselves, families and friends.

When we return after the holiday, the days will be getting longer and hopefully, we will begin to see some signs of spring appearing.

Just a reminder that Monday 19th February is an INSET Day, and the children will return on Tuesday 20th February.

Have a lovely week.

Kind regards

Anita Delaney

Collective Worship

This week we have focussed on the value of 'Love'. We have shared the story from the Bible about Jacob and Rachel and how God showed his love for Leah even when others did not. We have talked about how God loves us all regardless of what we look like or who we are and about how we can and should show that love for one another. Please do let us know how children see love within their families and community.

Rev Dom and Rev Tammy led the children in Communion yesterday. As always, this was a very special service.

Exciting learning opportunities in and out of school.

We have had a number of visits out of school and visitors to school over the past couple of weeks.

- Reception have been having a great time in Reception learning about people who help us! We had a visit from Solihull Council who taught us how to keep safe when crossing the road and we also had a visit from firefighter Dodd who told us all about being a firefighter and he let us try on his uniform! We also went for a walk around the local area to spot signs of people who help us. We enjoyed a fun filled day dressing up as people who help us in our community!
- Year 3 had a fantastic trip to Guru Nanak Gurdwara where they were given a tour, learned more about Sikhism and were invited to share delicious food.
- Year 4 visited the Islamic Experience and learnt a huge amount about the Islamic faith. One child said that their 'mind had been blown' by all of the information.
- Year 6 visited the Hindu Temple - The Temple was really impressive from the outside, it is one of the biggest Hindu temples in Europe It was huge and very ornate. They were taken around different temples and shared Hindu stories. Each story had a moral which the children really took on board.

Whole school review – BDMAT

On Wednesday we had a whole school review carried out by a team from BDMAT. This review looked specifically at the Teaching and Learning at St Margaret's and our curriculum offer. We were delighted with the feedback that we received and now look forward to developing our culture of learning further. A huge thankyou as always to all of the staff for all of the hard work and dedication they show day in and day out and to our pupils for being simply wonderful.

Areas of strength:

- There is a positive climate for learning across school
- Relationships are strong between staff and pupils
- Pupils interact appropriately with one another
- Support staff across school are extremely skilled
- Working walls within the classrooms are embedded and impactful
- The structure of lessons is consistent across school
- Pupils with SEND are supported well and the SENCo is extremely knowledgeable
- Phonics and early reading are a strength and led well by the early reading and phonics lead

Areas for development:

- Review the 'we do' part of the lesson structure to ensure that this is consistent across school
- Ensure that the more able pupils are challenged to further extend their learning
- Develop the sequence of learning in History and Geography to ensure that activities planned match the key skills and knowledge within the curriculum

World Book Day

Just a reminder that World Book Day is Thursday 7th March – please see information that has been sent by Miss Hussain with regards to the theme for this year.

Internet safety – What parents need to know about 'Monkey'

Tuesday was Safer Internet Day and all classes did some work on what this means for them and how to stay safe when on line.

I have, this week received the following information about 'Monkey'. Monkey is a service that randomly connects its users for video calls, using their mobile numbers and Snapchat account details 🙈 Please click on the following link for further information.

[Monkey: What Parents Need to Know | Free Online Safety Guide \(nationalcollege.com\)](https://www.nationalcollege.com/monkey-safety-guide)

Parent Survey Link

BDMAT are very keen to gain the voice of parents and have sent out a survey for parents in all schools. Please use the link below to complete this survey so that the voice of St Margaret's parents is heard:

<https://forms.office.com/e/JEsUsvzQFB>

Parent's Association Update

Please see attached information regarding the latest fundraising news from the Parent's Association.

The ELSA project

We are pleased to be offering parents the opportunity to take part in The ELSA study. Attached to the previous newsletter was all of the information that will enable parents to make an informed decision about this study and how to take part. The clinic will take place at St Margaret's on 11th March 2024.

The ELSA study is screening children, aged 3-13 years to find out their risk of getting type 1 diabetes. This is a simple finger stick blood test and your child can have this test done at school, at your GP or at home.

Children at high risk can be monitored and could enter research studies aiming to delay the start of type 1 diabetes. Every family who takes part in the ELSA study is helping us to understand more about type 1 diabetes.

Snowy or Inclement Weather

We will always endeavour to keep school open however, should there be any disruption due to inclement weather, we will inform you by posting information on the website and sending updates via Arbor. Please also listen to local news for any updates. Let's hope that this isn't needed!

Nursery Places September 2024

We still have Nursery places available for September 2024. Please contact the school office for an application pack if you are interested.

Measles

There has been an increased number of cases of Measles across the West Midlands. Please read the following information and do not send your child to school if they have suspected measles.

What is measles?

Measles is a very infectious virus, which spreads quickly if people have not had the MMR vaccine. Two doses of MMR are needed for maximum protection. A version of MMR is available which does NOT contain pork ingredients. Measles can cause severe illness, especially in certain at-risk groups including babies and small children, pregnant women, and people with weak immunity. Complications could mean hospitalisation, permanent disability, and in rare cases, it can even cause death.

What are the symptoms of measles?

- cold-like symptoms such as runny or blocked nose, sneezing and cough
- red, sore watery eyes
- high temperature (fever) which may reach around 40°C / 104°F
- a non-itchy, red-brown rash usually appears 3-5 days later (sometimes starts around the ears before spreading to rest of the body), spots may be raised and join to form blotchy patches – which may be harder to see on darker skin tones

What do I do if my child has suspected measles?

If children have symptoms of measles they **must** stay at home please do not bring any child with measles symptoms to the setting.

Please keep in your prayers:

Our whole school community as they enjoy a half term break

Any member of our school community who has recently suffered bereavement

Any member of our school community who is unwell or undergoing treatment

Key dates for your diary:

Monday 19 th February	INSET Day
Wednesday 21 st February	Coffee morning Mrs Ashton 9am – 10am (invite only session)
Monday 4 th March	Y3 Personal Best Festival
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day
Friday 8 th March	9:10am Family Service led by EYFS / Key Stage 1
Monday 11 th March	ELSA diabetes study clinic
Tuesday 12 th March	Parent's Evening
Thursday 14 th March	Parent's Evening
Wednesday 20 th March	Year 5 Choral Spring Concert 9:15am
Thursday 21st March	EYFS Easter Bonnet Parade 9:10am
Friday 22 nd March	Easter Service St Margaret's Church led by Year 4 No afternoon Kidzone

