



St. Margaret's

C of E Primary School

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

Faith, Hope, Love

20th September 2024

Newsletter 2

As we complete our second full week back at school, the children continue to work extremely hard, please see below information regarding what your child has been learning about in school over the past 2 weeks.

This week, our Spirituality Leaders led their first whole school Collective Worship on the value of Love – I was so impressed by the thought that they put into this showing a real understanding of what this value means.

Finally, thankyou so much to all parents who attended the 'Meet the Teacher' evening last week. Information from this evening will be shared on the website: [Our Classes – St Margarets – Birmingham Diocesan Multi-Academy Trust \(bdmat.org.uk\)](https://www.bdmatschools.org.uk). You will also find this term's curriculum maps on there using the same link. We will continue to add information to these parents so please do keep checking back.

Have a lovely weekend.

Anita Delaney

Parent Workshops

This year we will be running parent workshops to enable you to come to school to share in some learning with your child. These workshops will be phonics based for Reception and Year 1 and Maths based for the rest of school with Maths workshops for Year 1 and EYFS later in the year. All workshops will begin at 9:10am in the hall where your child's teacher will talk to you and then you will have the opportunity to complete some activities alongside your child following this. Each session will end by 10:30am. Please see below for your child's class dates. The first of these workshops will take place this week for Reception parents.

Please note that these sessions are not suitable for younger siblings to attend due to the practical nature of these sessions and space limitations.

No nuts

Please can I remind all parents that we operate a strict 'no nuts' policy in school. We have a number of children and staff with nut allergies and exposure would be incredibly dangerous. Please note, this does include having Nutella or similar as a sandwich filler.

Slip into Slippers

On Tuesday 1st October, children are invited to wear their slippers to school in return for a £1 donation which will be sent to Age UK Solihull to support work in the Solihull area. Please do send in an outdoor pair of shoes for outdoor play on this day. Donations should be brought into the classroom by the children.



SLIP INTO SLIPPERS
for Older People's Day
Tuesday 1 October 2024

Join in by wearing slippers at your school, place of work or at home and making a donation to support Age UK Solihull

To mark **UK Older People's Day** and **UN International day of Older Persons** by wearing our slippers on **Tuesday 1 October**.

The day recognises the **achievement and contributions** that older people make to our communities.

Donate as little as £1 to help us support around 10,000 Solihull residents each year.

Age UK Solihull is a local charity and all the money raised will stay in Solihull.

For more information please contact us:

✉ events@ageuksolihull.org.uk
☎ 0121 704 7842



Green Flag

At the end of the Summer Term, we were awarded The Eco-schools 'Green Flag' accreditation. The assessment team described it as a 'an absolute joy' to assess our application and commended the hard work and dedication of our school eco council. Well done to all of our eco councillors from last year who were so passionate in their efforts! We look forward to our new eco team taking over the baton this year. In order to cover the cost of the flag, we will be holding a 'Go Green' non-uniform day on Monday 21st October with a suggested donation of £1 payable on Arbor. Thank you for your support in helping us to fly the flag!

Key Stage 2 Snack

Children in Key Stage 2 are encouraged to bring a snack for morning break but this should be a healthy snack such as a piece of fruit. On a Friday, they are welcome to bring a treat such as a small chocolate bar – packets of sweets are not acceptable.

Earrings

We still have a number of pupils who have returned to school wearing earrings. Our policy does not allow earrings to be worn to school therefore if your child is wearing earrings, please ensure that these are removed. If your child is unable to remove their earrings for any reason, then please contact their class teacher directly for a conversation about this.

PE Kits

Please can I remind you that the only logos on a PE kit should be the school logo if you choose to purchase logo'd clothes rather than plain ones. The children should look as smart in their PE kits as they do in their full uniforms.

Harvest Festival

Harvest Festival in school will be led by Year 3 on Friday 4th October at 9:10pm. We would welcome donations of dried / tinned goods which we will donate to Birmingham City Mission. Parents are very welcome to attend this service. On Sunday 6th October at 10am it will be Harvest Festival at St Margaret's Church.

Class News:

Nursery	<p>The Nursery children have settled in so well to our routines and all of the staff are so proud of them! They have loved exploring all of our indoor and outdoor classroom and making lots of new friends.</p> <p>Our topic this term is 'All About Me' The children will be thinking about how they have changed since they were babies, and how they will continue to change. We will be having a new baby and Mummy will visit our classroom soon, the children have opportunities to ask their own questions about what babies need to help them grow and feel safe.</p> <p>A reminder about <i>wellies</i> to be in school for our outdoor environment and bookbags be in on a Thursday and will be sent out every Friday with a new book.</p>
Reception	<p>Reception have had the most wonderful start at school! The children have settled beautifully and already familiar with routines and expectations. They are building lovely friendships and have already become independent little learners; we are very proud of them!</p> <p>We are working our way through the 'more about me' boxes which the children have worked so hard on over the summer. It has been a joy to get to know the children, about their families and interests!</p> <p>We have been busy learning a range of Nursery Rhymes since starting school including Humpty Dumpty, 1,2,3,4,5 - Once I caught a fish alive and Heads, shoulders, knees and toes. We added actions to help us remember the rhymes and we have also innovated each one!</p> <p>We had Humpty sitting on a settee with all the King's bulls helping him, as well as 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Once I caught a shark alive! The children have wonderful imaginations.</p> <p>We have read the story about the colour monster and have talked about a range of feelings. We have been learning about parts of the body by meeting Herman the skeleton who has visited our classroom and by reading the story Funny Bones!</p> <p>We can't wait to continue our learning journey in Reception!</p>

Year 1	<p>Year One have been absolute super stars this week. They continue to try their best in all they do, and we are very proud of them!</p> <p>In Maths this week we have been looking at how we can use counters to represent numbers, counting on, counting back and 1 more than a number within 10. These White Rose home learning videos can help you support your child at home: https://whiteroseeducation.com/parent-pupil-resources/maths/home-learning?year=year-1-new</p> <p>In English this week we have been reading 'The Mixed Up Chameleon' by Eric Carle. We have learnt the story through actions and have been using our own adjectives to describe different animals!</p> <p>Ask your child what a noun is: A word for a person, place or thing. What is an adjective? A word that describes a noun.</p> <p>We are focusing hard on remembering our full stops and capital letters, so please remind your child of these if they write at home.</p> <p>In Science we have been thinking about the four seasons and what happens in autumn. Ask your children if they can remember the name for a tree that loses its leaves. We hope you have a lovely weekend!</p> <p>The Year One Team</p>
Year 2	<p>Year 2 have worked very hard over the past two weeks!</p> <p>The children have settled very well into Year 2; it is a huge change from Year 1 and the Year 2 team could not be prouder! They have done extremely well re-learning routines, settling into a different classroom and taking on their Year 2 role as 'top' of the Infants.</p> <p>Maths: We started our new topic 'Place Value' where children have been building on their past knowledge of Tens and Ones in a 2-digit number. Ask your child at home 'What is Place value?' and see if they can tell you that ...' Place Value is the digit of a digit in a number' 😊 Children have been partitioning 1-digit and 2-digit numbers into Tens and Ones. Place Value is the CORE of your child's Maths understanding, we then build on this throughout the year and of course in KS2. Please use examples at home for children to practise, and access Mathletics e.g. 42 has 4 tens and 2 ones.</p> <p>English: In English, the children have started learning to write a 'Portal Story' with the focus being on description. Year 2 have identified adjectives (describing words), expanded noun phrases (2 adjectives separated by a comma and separated by a comma). This week, Year 2 have made a large collection of describing ideas to describe the sneaky, tiny goblins which were in our model text 'Elf Road'. We have also started our Phase 5 Phonics Review which include Year 1 and 2 Common Exception Words and the different graphemes for the following sounds: ai, ee, igh and oa.</p> <p>Reading: In our class Reading lessons, we are kickstarting the year with 'Stick Man' by Julia Donaldson and Axel Sheffler - clearly a class favourite! The children have used information in the text to draw Stick Man's home and have used their inference skills to determine characters' feelings and different parts of the story.</p> <p>Well done Year 2 - Fantastic start 😊</p> <p>The Year 2 Team</p>

Year 3	<p>We have had such a fantastic start to the new school year in Class 3 and the children are all enjoying new challenges in their learning and getting into new routines.</p> <p>In Maths this week we have been focusing on place value of numbers up to 1000. Please feel free to use the home learning videos to consolidate this at home. https://whiteroseeducation.com/parent-pupil-resources/maths/home-learning?year=year-3-new&term=autumn</p> <hr/> <p>Maths home learning Home learning White Rose Education View all of our Maths 'home learning' lessons and videos for early years through to Year from White Rose Maths. whiteroseeducation.com</p> <hr/> <p>Please practise the 2, 5, 10 times tables and their related division facts.</p> <p>In English, we have started our new class reader 'Stig of the Dump' and have been enjoying making predictions! In Writing, we have been enjoying a short film called 'The Dream Giver' and writing sections of a fantasy story, using expanded noun phrases to describe the setting.</p> <p>We have started our 'Rocks' topic in Science; this has involved grouping and classifying different rocks as well as testing their properties.</p> <p>In R.E, our big question this half term is 'What do Christians learn from the Creation Story?' We have been reading the creation story in Genesis and coming up with our own ideas of what God must be like to create our wonderful world and how we need to look after our planet.</p> <p>In History, we have thought about why the study of the past is important and had some interesting discussions about what would happen without it. We have also talked about chronology and practised putting historical events into the order in which they happened.</p> <p>We have also enjoyed learning some Spanish phonics and getting to grips with the Spanish alphabet. We have practised listening to different Spanish words and pronouncing them correctly.</p> <p>During Computing, we have been learning about fake news and thinking about how to tell if we can trust the information we view online. We also talked about what we can do if we see or read something online which makes us feel worried.</p>
Year 4	<p>Year 4 have got off to a good start with their writing, using a short film 'The Catch' as stimulus to write a diary, focusing on a different grammar feature each day. In Maths, we have been focusing on place value up to 10,000, by representing and partitioning 4-digit numbers. During guided reading, Year 4 have been exploring our class reader, The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe, using the text to formulate answers on character and plot. In RE we have introduced the learning question 'What kind of world did Jesus want?' by reading and analysing the key messages behind bible stories such as 'The Good Samaritan'. History has seen us explore 'Why did the Romans invade Britain?' leaving us all excited to learn more about the Romans in upcoming lessons. The class have started swimming lessons successfully and the children have enjoyed putting their skills to the test in the water. A great start to the year made by all in Year 4.</p>

Year 5	<p>Year Five have made an amazing start to their time in Upper KS2. They have strived to do their best across the board, and we are super proud of them! They have shown the maturity and willingness to work that we expect in Year 5, as well as a substantial knowledge base from prior years.</p> <p>In Maths this week we have started our study of place value and have started to look at Roman Numerals, as well as interpreting problem solving and reasoning questions involving addition and subtraction using prior knowledge. We have created the stem sentence below to help us:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When using a Gattegno chart, we multiply by a power of 10 to move up a row. <p>In English this week we have started to learn about how to understand a character based upon their body language, dress sense and expressions. The children have also worked on how they can work out a character's emotions and thoughts based upon their knowledge of a character and speech, and inferring how a character would feel even when not speaking.</p> <p>We are focusing really hard on remembering our uses of a range of punctuation and tenses (especially present tense) – please remind your child of these if they write at home.</p> <p>Year 5 have discussed what they believe God to be like in RE and have thought of words and phrases to describe God's actions in the Bible. We have seen instances where God has been just and fair, as well as circumstances where he has shown that he is both omniscient, as well as omnipotent.</p> <p>We hope you have a lovely weekend!</p> <p>The Year Five Team</p>
Year 6	<p>Year 6 have settled fabulously into their final year at St Margaret's. They are beginning to take on extra responsibilities and are showing themselves to be super role-models to the rest of the school. St Margaret's have now voted for the House Captains and Vice Captains. We are sure that the children in these roles will do Year 6 proud.</p> <p>In Maths this week, we have been studying place value. We are looking at numbers up to 10 million. The children are learning how to order and compare numbers as well as starting to round numbers and look at negative numbers too.</p> <p>In English, Year 6 have been studying a short film called, 'Beyond the Lines'. Today they have written some fantastic emotive letters from the perspective of a soldier.</p> <p>In History, we are now fully emersed in World War Two and are currently focusing on what it was like for a child to be evacuated during the war. The children are looking forward to their re-enactment of an evacuation next week. Please see the letter which has been emailed to you regarding this, for further details.</p> <p>Have a lovely weekend, when it arrives.</p> <p>Mrs Tipton and the Year 6 Team.</p>

School Fund

We welcome contributions of £10 per child for school fund. This is used to fund the extras such as craft materials, festive activities and additional books.

Medication

Please ensure that any medication such as inhalers and epi pens are replaced in school as a matter of urgency. If you have not given us medicine in September 2024 then we do not have medicine for your child. If you require us to have Piriton or Calpol in school, please could you

ask the pharmacist to print a label with your child's details on and the recommended dose. We have been assured that pharmacists will do this. Can I remind you that forms must be completed before we can administer any medication to children in school and medication must be brought to the office by a parent / carer and collected at the end of the day.

Key dates for your diary:

Tuesday 24 th September	Phonics workshop Reception parents 9am
Tuesday 1 st October	Phonics workshop Year 1 parents 9am Flu Immunisations Slip into Slippers Day
Wednesday 2 nd October	Coffee with Mrs Ashton 9am
Friday 4 th October	Harvest Festival led by Year 3 9:10am
Wednesday 16 th October	Open Day for prospective parents 10am / 2pm
Monday 21st October	Wear Green for Green Flag
Wednesday 23 rd October and Thursday 24 th October	Parent's Evening 4pm – 7pm
Friday 25 th October	Break up for half term
Monday 4 th November	INSET day
Tuesday 5 th November	Children return to school
Tuesday 5th November	Scholastic Book Fair in school
Monday 11 th November	Remembrance Day Service led by Year 6 10:30am
Thursday 14 th November	Year 6 parent workshop – Maths 9:10am
Wednesday 20 th November	Year 3 parent workshop – Maths 9:10am
Tuesday 26 th November	Year 4 parent workshop – Maths 9:10am
Wednesday 4 th December	Coffee with Mrs Ashton 9am
Friday 6 th December	Year 5 parent workshop – Maths 9:10am
Monday 9 th December	Key Stage 2 -Solihull Ice Rink Peter Pan
Wednesday 11 th December	EYFS Nativity 0:15am
Tuesday 17 th December	EYFS / Key Stage 1 theatre trip
Wednesday 18 th December	Key Stage 1 Nativity 9:10am and 2:30pm
Friday 20 th December	End of term church service – Carols and Readings 2:30pm No afternoon Kidzone Break up for Christmas
Monday 6 th January	INSET Day
Tuesday 7 th January	Pupils return to school
Monday 20 th January 2025	Year 1 parent workshop – Maths 9:10am
Wednesday 22 nd January 2025	Year 2 parent workshop – Maths 9:10am
Tuesday 28 th January 2025	EYFS parent workshop – Maths 9:10am

Additional INSET dates:

Monday 24th February 2025

Monday 28th April 2025

Monday 21st July 2025

- New dates added in red.