

St Margaret's CE Newsletter

June 2019

Welcome Back

Welcome back to the final half-term of this academic year. The run up to half-term was as usual, a busy one: Fr Paul started a First Holy Communion group; SATS for both our Year Two and Year Six children; Pupil Premium meetings for parents; Science Week; the dramatic arrival of eight chicks in Nursery and trips out to Castleshaw for Fox and Chamber Classes as well as a trip to the Gallery Oldham for Twist Class, being some of the highlights.

Our final week of the half-term ended on a high note with our 'Community Week', which was superbly organised by Mrs Greenwood. In our final Monday assembly we heard the story of Esther and learnt about her act of service for the Jewish people; children from classes across school arranged events which would allow them to perform acts of service for people in the community. These included volunteering at Oldham Foodbank, a community coffee morning and a community 'Big Breakfast' to name a few.

Well done

A huge well done to all of our Year Six children who completed their SATs during the week of the 13th May. We are very proud of the way all the children approached the tests and look forward to sharing their results with you when we receive these in school. The children were treated to an ice-cream van on the playground at the end of the tests as a thank you for all their hard work so far this year. In addition to the Year Six, during the month of May our Year Two children have also been undertaking their statutory tests. Again we are very pleased with the way the children approached these tests: the results from these tests, along with the work that the children have done throughout the year, help the teachers reach their own judgements about how children are progressing at the end of Key Stage One. These teacher assessment judgements will be reported to you by the end of the summer term.

Whole School Topic – Summer 2 'Wonder Woman'

During this last half-term, each class in KS1 and KS2 will be following the topic of 'Wonder Woman': children will learn about pioneering women who changed the world in the fields of history, science and Religious Education. In addition, children in Years One and Two will learn more about female authors and illustrators, Years Three and Four will focus on women in the world of sport and children in Year Five and Six will look at women in politics.

St. Margaret's C.E.



Staffing

We are wishing Mrs Campbell well as she prepares to start her maternity leave at the beginning of the half-term.

Just before half-term we were delighted to welcome back both Mrs Van Houplines from her maternity leave and are looking forward to welcoming Miss Slater back at the beginning of July.



St Margaret's C of E
@stmargaretsoldh

Places in our amazing @stmargaretsoldh nursery class are filling up fast. Did you know from Sept 2019 we are offering full time places as well as morning and afternoon only sessions? Contact the school office ASAP for more info...

Childcare
Choices

Extended Nursery Provision
September 2019

As of September 2019 St Margaret's School will be offering a Pilot Nursery Scheme for funded 15 and 30 hours nursery places. If the Pilot Scheme proves successful in the 19/20 Academic Year then school will consider extending the scheme into the following year.

Enrichment

The children's experiences continue to be enriched by visits and visitors into school; the first day back of the final half-term has seen a mobile farm on the yard and a mini-bikeability for our Reception children. Furthermore, our Year Six are looking forward to presenting at the 'Leavers' Service' at Manchester Cathedral a little later in the half-term.

Preparations over half-term have begun for our Experience Pentecost event. As we return to school there will be the opportunity for children to contribute to our prayer corner – reflecting on the themes of 'waiting' and 'telling'. We will be remembering the promise of the Holy Spirit and how it would have been for the disciples to wait – thinking about things that we might be waiting for. Additionally we will talk about the feast of Pentecost and how the news was spread, like light spreading from flame to flame: children will be able to write down their own 'Good News' that they want to spread and thank God for.



Other News

This half-term will see our annual Spelling Bee competition take place – all children should have received their spellings lists by now and in-class competitions will start to take place very soon.

Dates for your diary:

Week beginning 10th June –
Phonics Screening Check
for Year One pupils

Wednesday 12th June –
Experience Pentecost in
school

Friday 21st June – Year Six
at Manchester Cathedral
for Leavers' Service

Tuesday 25th June –
Durban Class at
Castleshaw

Wednesday 3rd July –
Transition day

Monday 8th July – 250th
Anniversary Service @ St
Margaret's Church

Thursday 18th July – Last
day of term and final mass-
blessing of the Year Six
children

Dates for Year Six
presentation evening to
follow.

On **Wednesday 3rd July** we will be having a 'Move-up day' for all children at St. Margaret's: each year we hold a 'move-up day' which enables the children to spend time with their new class teacher and supports the transition to the next stage in their education. Transition arrangements have already begun in school: home visits for our new nursery children have been conducted by staff and our year six staff have been busy passing on information and meeting with the secondary schools in preparation for September. Information regarding which class/ class teacher your child will be moving to will be sent home the week before move up day. As usual class newsletters and homework challenges will be sent home and put online this week.

The Reading Agency and Libraries Present
SPACE CHASE
Summer Reading Challenge 2019

The Summer Reading Challenge begins on **Saturday 20 July**. This is the first Saturday of the summer holidays and we will be hosting a Sign-Up Saturday at all our Oldham

Libraries. Children can also join in the challenge at any time during the summer holidays after this date. The Summer Reading Challenge combines FREE access to books with fun, creative activities in the library during the summer holidays.

How the Challenge works

- 📖 Children sign up at their local library and receive their fold out 'Space Chase' poster
- 📖 Children borrow and read at least six library books of their own choice during the summer, collecting special cards to complete their poster and rewards along the way
- 📖 Library staff and teenage volunteers are on hand to advise and run family-friendly activities
- 📖 Children who complete the Summer Reading Challenge are presented with a certificate and medal at the library.

