

St Margaret's CE Newsletter

September 2021



Welcome Back

It is wonderful to welcome the children back to school this week and to welcome new children starting school at St Margaret's. As always, the children's readiness to learn, reflected in their positivity, smiles and smart appearance, is encouraging to see.

Staffing News

We are delighted to welcome our new teacher to school - Miss Yaftaly will be teaching Durban Class this year. We also welcome our Parish Priest and governor, Father Tom Davis, to the new role of Chair of the governing body of St Margaret's CE Primary School for the coming academic year. Last term we said goodbye to Mrs Ferris after 18 years at St Margaret's. We are planning a special celebration as soon as it is sensible for the whole school community to join together.

Thank you!

We ended the school year last in July with a fundraiser for Azaylia Cain - a baby girl who tragically passed away in April due to leukemia. We managed to raise over £300 pounds which will be donated to the Azaylia Cain Foundation; a huge thank you to all the staff, children and parents for their support.

Other news

Further improvements to our outdoor environment have been made over the summer break which reflect our ongoing commitment to providing enjoyment for all children at St Margaret's. Our Courtyard has been transformed with the help of the children and our resident artist to create a beautiful outdoor space which will be used as a reading and reflection area as well as provide opportunities for small group teaching outside.



We have really made #AzayliasDay one to remember @stmargaretsoldh: we've had a hugely successful cake sale in addition to painting the school orange for the day. Children have donated money to wear Azaylia's favourite colour - with many children donating their own pocket money..



Worship/Assembly

On Monday morning I gave the children a 'virtual tour' of our new library (see pictures) and showed them a selection of our new books. I talked about the importance of reading in their education. Your child will be bringing home their reading book/s this week and I have encouraged them to practise and enjoy their reading as much as possible with it being such a key aspect of learning and progress right across the curriculum. We finished with a prayer asking for God's help in us BECOMING the best we can be. This term we will be exploring our school values of Faith, Hope and Love and relating them to the lives of significant people in history. We will begin with the story of Abraham from the Old Testament.



The **more** that you read, the **more** things you will know. The **more** that you learn, the **more** places you'll go.



Covid update

We are maintaining some of the safety measures we had in place last term. We are avoiding mass gatherings; for example assemblies are conducted virtually at the moment. We are also maintaining our staggered start/finish times as well as breaks and lunchtimes so as to socially distance where possible. We are ventilating the building as much as possible and continuing with enhanced cleaning and hand hygiene. I hope you will agree that these are prudent measures in the current climate.

In order to minimise the chances of a positive case, it is important that only well children attend school. Please do not send your child/ren to school if they have any of the three main symptoms of coronavirus.

Classroom Life

This week your child will bring home their class newsletter which includes timetable and curriculum information as well as their homework challenges for this half-term. These will also be put on the relevant class pages on the website after being sent home. I am pleased that homework challenges can once again be brought into school from home and I am looking forward to seeing the wonderful creativity our children display in this area of their learning. Furthermore, we will continue with our system of rewards this year - postcards for significant achievements will be given out daily in classes and are now able to be sent home to allow you to celebrate your child's achievements. In addition, your child will also be bringing home their reading book/s. Information regarding after-school clubs will be coming soon.

As always, should you have any queries about your child's learning or welfare please do not hesitate to contact myself. Thank you for your continued support.

Mr D. R. Whittle (Headteacher)

