



ST MARGARET CLITHEROW CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

01732 358000

www.stmargaretclitherowschool.org.uk

NEWSLETTER No. 23 – 10 March 2023

Dear Parents

MESSAGE FROM MRS SEXTON

Dear parents and carers,

As predicted in the weather forecast, the temperatures did indeed drop and we had a fall of snow mid week. This would seem to be very localised in Kent but all schools made decisions re opening based on local circumstances and their own risk assessments with health and safety being of the utmost importance. Hopefully that's the end of the "white stuff" for this season anyway.

Next week is National Science Week but we are beginning our science work today in a whole Trust project led by Tom Holloway from the Primary Science Trust. Each school in our cluster is taking part, the classes log onto each session following a timetable for the day. We have activities from "worm charming", to studying sound vibrations making our own seismometers to investigating nests and making our own nests to protect eggs. Next week during official Science week, I know each school will be building on this work with additional activities and science experiences throughout the week.

We are now approaching the third Sunday of Lent when in the Gospel we will be hearing about " the woman at the well", a woman regarded as a sinner and outcast. Jesus forgave her transgressions, revealed to her that He was the Messiah and the woman was so overwhelmed that she spread the word and many in her town in Samaria became believers. She was one of the first evangelists, we are all asked not only to follow the teachings of Jesus but to spread His word especially during this holy season of Lent.

Have a good weekend

Katharine Sexton
Executive Principal

THIS WEEK

This promised to be an exciting week for the children. We had lots of activities planned but sadly had to postpone a couple of them due to the weather. However, we had a dance company come in for two days and each class attended a workshop. The children (and staff) thoroughly enjoyed themselves! Thank you to the PTA for funding this.

On Wednesday we saw some snow, which caused lots of excitement across the school! Whilst we love looking at the beautiful white landscape, we hope that this is the last of the 'white stuff' for this academic year and we start to see some signs of Spring!

A team of year 3 and 4 boys took part in a Football Tournament at Hayesbrook School on Tuesday. They had a great time and played very well as a team. We are impressed with their enthusiasm and talent! Thank you to the staff members who attended to make this possible.

Unfortunately, the girls Football Tournament at Mascalls had to be postponed until a later date and the SEND Activity Festival was also postponed. We will inform you of the new dates as soon as we receive them.

SCIENCE DAY

Today the children have been carrying out different science investigations around the school. Year 5 and 6 were 'worm charming', Reception and Year 1 and 2 were nest building and Year 3 and 4 were looking at seismographs, monitoring sounds. Please do ask your children about their investigations, what they did, how they did it and what the outcomes were.

ATTENDANCE REPORT

Overall attendance to date: 93.3%

GENERAL INFORMATION

CONSULTATIONS

Parent/Teacher consultations have taken place this week across the school. This is a great opportunity for you to meet with your child's class teacher and discuss their progress during the year. If you have not had an appointment and would like one, please book an appointment directly with the class teacher.

Year 2 will have their consultations on Monday 13th March, you are still able to make an appointment on line, via Schools Interviews, should you need to.

RESIDENTIAL TRIP - current Year 5

As you are aware, our Year 5's will be visiting Grosvenor Hall, Ashford (Kingswood Activity Centre) from Monday 18th to 22nd September 2023. Final payments are due by the end of June 2023 to enable us to pay the final invoice. Please do speak to myself or the school office, in confidence, if you think you will be unable to meet this payment deadline. We will be arranging a meeting for parents during the summer term, so please keep checking the Newsletters for details.

RESIDENTIAL TRIP - current Year 4

Our current year 4 pupils will be attending a residential trip in September 2024, when they are in Year 6! We are in the process of investigating the best activity centre at the best price for all concerned. We do encourage all children to attend the residential trip as it is always an amazing experience. To help parents budget, we have set up a trip on Parentpay so you can make payments towards this trip, should you wish to. We will provide you with further details of the venue and costs as soon as we are able, but please be assured that we will do our upmost to keep the costs down. We have started at £365.00 as a guide, this may go up or down slightly. The final payments will be due by the end of June 2024.

PARKING NEAR SCHOOL

I have received further complaints from residents and parents regarding the parking around school at drop off and collection times. May I remind you that there is no parking on double yellow lines, zig zag lines or dropped kerbs, and please do not block our neighbours drive ways. The entrance to Coblands is private land and should not be used for parking or waiting at any time! Please be advised that I have been in contact with KCC requesting regular visits from the Traffic Wardens in our area.

ABSENCES

We have provided a designated email address for reporting absences: absence@st-margaret-tonbridge.kent.sch.uk.

VACANCIES

We currently have vacancies for full time Learning Support Assistants (part time will be considered) on a fixed term basis. Please see our website

(<https://www.stmargaretclitherschool.org.uk/vacancies/>) or Kent Teach for further details and an application form. If you have any questions please speak to myself or Mrs Shaw in the school office.

ADVANCE NOTICE

17 March - Reception Mother's Day Assembly

22 March - Boys football match at home

22 March - Girls football match at Plaxtol

27 March - Year 4 Easter production - 2pm performance

29 March Year 4 Easter productions - 6pm performance

28 March - Key Steps Gymnastics event

Yours sincerely

Fiona Oubridge
Academy Principal

You are the people of God; he loved you and chose you for his own.
So then, you must clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness,
humility, gentleness and patience