



ST MARGARET CLITHEROW CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL  
01732 358000

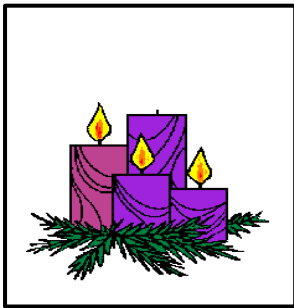
[www.stmargaretclitherowschool.org.uk](http://www.stmargaretclitherowschool.org.uk)

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61555595014553&sk=followers>

Learning for life, loving God  
Ourselves and others  
Valuing all of His creation  
Enabling us to do our best

## NEWSLETTER No 15 - 20 December 2024

### Reflection



This week in our prayers we discussed how we open our lives to Jesus through our words and actions, as we prepare for His coming and the Year of Jubilee. When we open our lives to Him, our actions are an example to others of love, kindness and generosity. The crowds asked John, "What, then, shall we do?" And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise."



### THIS WEEK

The children have enjoyed a very festive and fun week! We started the week with Mr Thornton's band sharing a couple of musical pieces that they have been learning, during the Monday morning assembly. Well done to all the players for sharing your musical talents.

On Tuesday our EY and KS1 children enjoyed their Christmas lunch while KS2 had their class parties. On Wednesday, it was the turn of KS2 to have their Christmas lunch while EY and KS1 had their class parties. The children did craft activities and played party games during the afternoon. We finished the week off with a visit from 4 Elves who delivered class presents around the school!



*Ho ho ho!*

Over the two days, the kitchen has served approximately 370 Christmas meals to the children and staff! We would like to say a big 'Thank you' to them for carrying out this huge task!



Our hall set up for Christmas lunch



Father God, I pray for the whole world and pray for your peace and joy to fill all hearts today. I pray that people will experience your unfailing love this Christmas. Amen

### **SPECIAL ASSEMBLY FOR MRS CHAMBERLAIN**

On Wednesday, we said a farewell to Mrs Chamberlain who is retiring from SMC after 26 years of dedicated service. Mrs Chamberlain has taught over 780 children during her time with us, sharing her devout love of all things RE. Her passion for teaching shines through in all her lessons, and so many of the children, taught by her, remember them for many years. As part of her celebrations, we held a special Mass with past and present staff, our CEO, governors, friends and her lovely family attended. On Wednesday we held a school assembly to celebrate Mrs Chamberlain and all that she has achieved during her time with us. We presented her with gifts from generous donations from both staff and parents. We also presented her with The Chamberlain Cup, which will be for our house winners at the end of each term. We feel sure that Mrs Chamberlain will visit us when she has some time, as we would love to hear stories about her retirement. We wish her the very best as she embarks on her next journey, she will be gratefully missed.



### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Air are this term's house winners having earned the most house points during the Autumn term! Therefore, on Thursday afternoon, all children in Air got to enjoy a film in the hall with popcorn, cookies and biscuits. Well done to you all - keep up your great work. Who will be our next winners - Earth, Wind or Fire?

This week my **Headteacher awards** go to: Jesse & Ava (Rec), Antony & Luca (Yr1), Lila & Nazar (Yr2), Athena & Rosie (Yr3), Jayla & Eleanor (Yr4), Savannah & Phoebe (Yr5) and Eliana & Saoirse (Yr6). Our children have been showing lots of kindness and have been great role models for the school. Well done!



### **SPORTING EVENTS**

All Teacher led clubs will start week commencing 13 January 2025. Msporti and Gym club will start week commencing 6 January 2025. If your child has music lessons, you will be informed by them directly when they will be restarting.

There is a football match on Wednesday 15 January at home, letters will be sent out when we return to school.

We have two spaces available for the netball club which takes place on a Thursday, 3.15pm - 4.15pm. It is open to year 5 and 6 so please let the school office know if your child would like to join.

### **PARENTPAY**

Please remember to book your child/ren's school lunches for the January term, before we return in the new year. We are finding a lot of children are arriving at school without having a lunch booked or packed lunch with them. If you are unable to book a lunch, please contact the school office for help, before 9.15am, so we can ensure the kitchen are catering for the appropriate number of children. Thank you for your support with this.

If you have any outstanding accounts on Parentpay, we would very much appreciate it if these could be settled as soon as possible.

Admissions deadline is **15 January 2025**, please remember to send in a completed Supplementary Information form if you are applying for a place for September 2025. If you apply to us and haven't completed a form, we will be unable to rank you accordingly and you may be ranked at the bottom of the list. Please speak to Mrs Shaw, in the School office, should you require a form or any support.

On Thursday 16 January our Reception classes will be going on their winter seasonal walk. If you are able to volunteer your time to join them, please let the office know or email [adminoffice@st-margaret-tonbridge.kcsp.org.uk](mailto:adminoffice@st-margaret-tonbridge.kcsp.org.uk) Thank you.

### **ADVANCE NOTICES**

#### **SWIMMING**

Just a reminder that 3Beech will be swimming for 6 weeks from Monday 6 January 2025 to Monday 10 February 2025. Payment has been set up on Parentpay for this period. Thank you.

#### **UNIFORM**

I would like to remind you that all children should be wearing appropriate school uniform. This includes a white polo shirt with school logo or white shirt and school tie, red sweatshirt or sweat cardigan with school logo and navy trousers, skirt or pinafore dress. Black school shoes should be worn as ankle boots are not acceptable uniform. PE uniform is navy polo shirt with school logo, navy shorts/plain navy joggers and plimsols/trainers to be worn. Leggings/joggers with designs/stripes

are not acceptable uniform. All these items are available from Supermarkets, Next, M&S and other outlets. Items with school logo should be purchased only from School Trends. Your support with this is appreciated. We will be doing sweeping checks during the term and we will call parents of children who are not wearing the appropriate uniform to bring it in.

## ATTENDANCE REPORT

Overall attendance to date: 94.71%

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

You can also find more events on our school calendar:

[Calendar | St Margaret Clitherow Catholic Primary School \(stmargaretclitherowschool.org.uk\)](https://stmargaretclitherowschool.org.uk)

### Monday 6 January 2025 - return to school

6 January - 3Beech swimming

13 January - Teacher led clubs commence

15 January - Reception 2025 applications deadline

On behalf of myself and my staff, I would like to thank you for the many kind and generous gifts. We would like to wish you all a blessed and peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Fiona Oubridge  
Headteacher

Lord, the sight of the guiding star,  
brought hope, courage and joy  
to those who had journeyed to find you.  
When our journey seems long,  
when hope seems far away,  
when our courage is failing  
fill us with faith and trust;  
shine your light on our fears,  
lift our hearts with your joy.  
Help us to recognise you  
in our brothers and sisters  
throughout the world;  
show us how we can work together  
so that we may all come to share in the life  
promised to us by Jesus,  
the Saviour of us all.

Amen.

CAFOD