



ST MARGARET CLITHEROW CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Learning for life, loving God

Ourselves and others

Valuing all of His creation

Enabling us to do our best

NEWSLETTER No 4 – 26 September 2025

Reflection



It can be hard to focus on God when our hearts are distracted! In this week's Gospel, Jesus recalls the two most important commandments - love God and love your neighbour. Children learnt that removing Earthly distractions can help us focus on putting God first in our lives, which in turn helps us to love our neighbours well.

THIS WEEK



Heavenly Father, Thank you for today. Keep me in your care. Be my guide in all I do. Thank you for hearing my prayer. Amen *Natalie Yr2*

Thank you to the many parents who attended the Reception Class consultations this week. This greatly helps our teachers to learn more about your children. If you were unable to make an appointment please speak to your child's class teacher directly to arrange an appointment.

Our children represented St Margaret's beautifully at the Welcome Mass on Sunday at Corpus Christi. We are pleased to have seen many families and staff members attend.

Mrs Page, along with two pupils, attended a special service at St George's Cathedral on Wednesday. Following the service, they had the opportunity to have lunch in the grounds of the Imperial War Museum before making their way back to Tonbridge by train.



Myself and Mrs Louis took a small group of children to the Beginning of Term Mass at Aylesford Priory today to join together in praise, with other schools from the Trust. It was a wonderful service to celebrate the beginning of the new Academic year.



A group of children from Yr3/4 attended a tag rugby festival on Thursday. They showed great skills and thoroughly enjoyed themselves bringing home a medal. Well done!. Thank you to our volunteer helpers who went along to support our staff and children.

GENERAL INFORMATION

This week my **Headteacher Awards** go to: Lily F & Dora K-B (Rec), Lola H & Ada S (Yr1), Sheryl N & Jasper L (Yr2), Zara C & Amelia B-H (Yr3), Noah B & Olivia W (Yr4), Rafferty G & Keira A (Yr5) and Dylan S & Joshua Y (Yr6). They have all participating in active listening, being polite and showing respect across the school. Well done.



International Walk to School Month

International Walk to School Month will take place throughout October 1-3.

This month-long initiative encourages communities to celebrate the benefits of walking or cycling to school for children's health, well-being, and the environment.

What is International Walk to School Month?

Focus on Active Travel: The month encourages children and their families to walk, cycle, or use other forms of active, sustainable travel to get to school.

Health Benefits: Walking gets children's hearts pumping, builds strong muscles and bones, and provides a vital dose of exercise for physical and mental well-being.

Environmental Benefits: By choosing to walk, communities reduce car use, which lowers congestion, carbon emissions, and pollution, contributing to cleaner air.

Community Building: The events and programs during the month help build community bonds and provide opportunities for social interaction.

CHANGE OF WEATHER

Autumn is just around the corner and it is getting colder and wetter! Please ensure your child has a suitable (named) coat in school as they will go out to play in all weathers. We also have a lot of cardigans and jumpers that have been discarded on the playground that need to be reunited with their owners! The new lost property box is located outside the school office - do have a look if you think you may be missing anything.



ADVANCE NOTICE

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Braiswick Photographers will be attending school on Wednesday 1 October to carry out individual and sibling photos. It is important that the children arrive at school on time, so they don't miss their slot and wearing the appropriate uniform. We appreciate your support with this.

HARVEST FESTIVAL/FRUGAL LUNCH - FRIDAY 3 OCTOBER

Our theme for this year is 'Being Good Neighbours' so we would like to support CAFOD by raising money to help communities in Africa. Our target is £750 which will provide a whole community with access to clean water for a year. Therefore, we would like to ask the children to wear a coloured top (over their school cardigan/sweatshirt) on Friday 3 October in exchange for a donation of £1.00. We do not wish for you to purchase a new top/t-shirt so if your child does not have one of the following colours, they should just wear normal school uniform.

Reception - red top-T-shirt

Year 1 - orange

Year 2 - yellow

Year 3 - green

Year 4 - blue

Year 5 - indigo

Year 6 - violet

On Friday 3 October, we will be serving a frugal lunch to coincide with our Harvest Festival. The **only** meal that will be served by the kitchen on that day will be rice, vegetable or tomato sauce and bread. If you wish your child to take part, please book them a meal (any choice) on that day (3 October). If you are providing a packed lunch, we ask that it too should be frugal, so that your child can feel part of the spirit of the day. We have also set up a payment on ParentPay, if you would like to donate to CAFOD to support this cause. All lunch payments made for this day will also go to CAFOD. However, if your child is a Universal Free school meal (Rec-Yr2) or free school meal, and you would like to donate the cost of a lunch, you can do this through the CAFOD payment on ParentPay.

Following our frugal lunch, we will be holding our Harvest Festival assembly. As in previous years, we will endeavour to hold it outside, however, we are at the mercy of the weather. Should it not be favourable, we will move inside. Parents are welcome to join us for the assembly at 2.15pm. The top gate will be opened at 2.00pm to allow parents time to walk down and take their seats. We will also be collecting donations from parents should you wish to contribute. Thank you!

To create our Harvest display, we ask for donations of produce (details of suitable items below), these items are then bagged up and will be delivered to Tonbridge Baptist Church for their food bank. Any help with this would be very much appreciated. If you are able to help bag up and/or take deliver the produce to the church, please let the office know. Thank you.

Reception: Fruit and vegetables

KS1

Breakfast cereals
Tea/Coffee (small jars or refills)
Long-life milk
Tinned soup
Baked Beans
Tinned pasta
Tinned meat meals
Tinned fruit

KS2

Jars of pasta sauce
Tinned veg-potatoes, sweetcorn
Peas & carrots
Pasta
Small packs of rice
Tins/cartons of custard
Tinned rice pudding
Packets of biscuits

We would be grateful if children could bring gifts on **Thursday 2 October** (not before as we cannot store them).

RESIDENTIAL TRIP - SUNDAY 13 - WEDNESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2026



Current Year 5 parents - this is your last chance to sign your child up to attend the residential trip next year. We will be closing the bookings on 30 September and will be unable to add any children after this date. If you **do not** wish for your child to attend, we would appreciate confirmation of this so that we do not miss any children.

ATTENDANCE REPORT

Overall attendance to date:

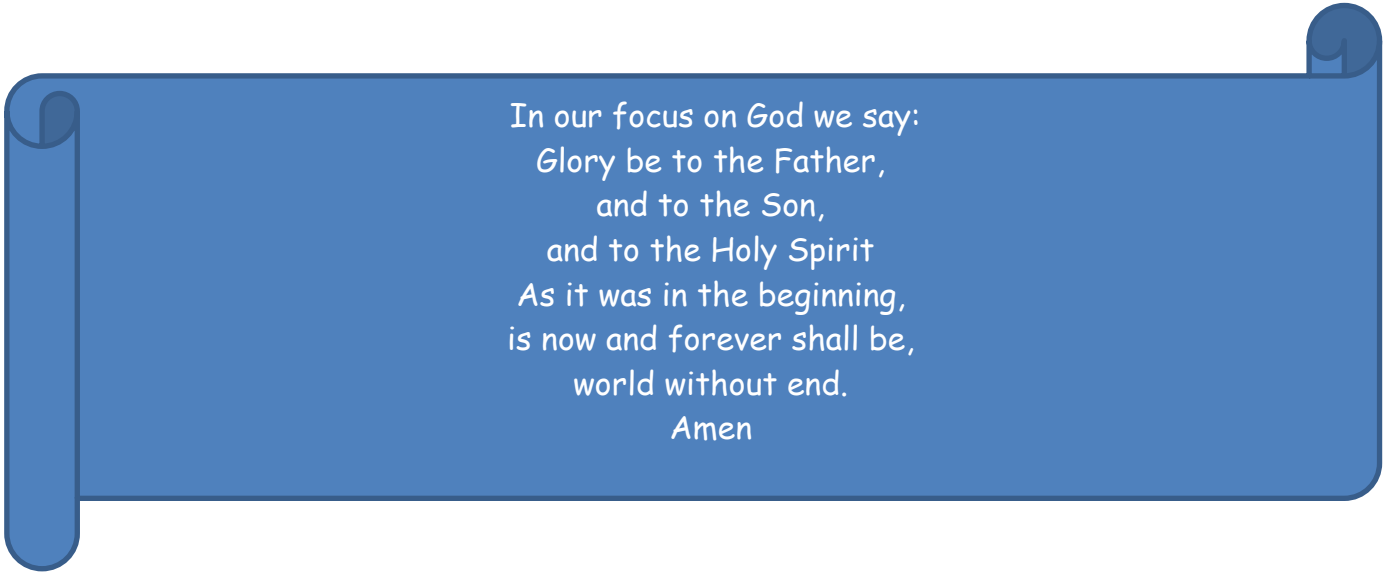
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

You can also find more details on our school calendar:

<https://www.stmargaretclitherowschool.org.uk/diary/grid/2025/09/>

1 October - School photos
3 October - Frugal Lunch followed by Harvest Festival
8 October - Tag Rugby Festival (Yr5/6)
9 October - Autumn Walk - Reception class

Fiona Oubridge
Headteacher



In our focus on God we say:
Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit
As it was in the beginning,
is now and forever shall be,
world without end.
Amen