



St Margaret Mary's RC Primary School
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Tuesday 23rd July 2024

Dear Parent/Carer[s],

Reports and Transition – Last week you will have received your child's class report alongside other important assessment information for pupils in Rec/Y1/Y6. I do hope that you found this useful in providing you with an update on your child's progress this year as well as many other aspects of their learning, school-life and development.

The children also completed a transition morning as they settled into their new class bases ahead of September.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of our children and staff on the fantastic results that they have achieved during the statutory tests and in-year assessments this year. Once again, I am very proud of our fantastic children and the dedicated, committed staff team. These are just a very small snapshot and celebration of their wider journey and experience at St Margaret Mary's but deserve celebrating nevertheless.

Y5 - Fiver Challenge: A special well done to all of our Y5 pupils who took part in their Enterprise – Fiver Challenge last week. A great deal of time and preparation went into planning, designing and making products to sell. Thank you to all parents who helped to support this and to all who came along to buy the products. All monies raised are to be donated to the Caritas Homeless Charity. Once again thank you and well done Y5!

Reminders and Important Notices:

School will close for the holidays tomorrow, on Wednesday 24th July at the usual time of 1pm ahead of the summer break.

School will re-open on Wednesday 4th September at 8:45am.

Changes to the length of the school day: As noted in previous letters a reminder that ahead of the new academic year, the school day will formally start at 8:45am from Wednesday 4th September.

Children will enter the playground from 8:40am and line-up to meet their classteacher, who will take them into school. Please note that the register will be completed swiftly upon entering the classroom, so please ensure that children arrive promptly and on time, to avoid disruption ahead of lessons commencing.

School will finish at the later time of 3:15pm for all pupils.

Uniform Reminder and PE Change: As the summer holidays approach, we ask that you please ensure that ahead of the new academic year, all children have their full school uniform including appropriate black, school shoes, not black trainers [see the attachment and school website for full list and further details]. Please support us in ensuring that your child wears black shoes, not black trainers from September. Thank you.

A reminder that the children are to wear a pair of plain black shorts and a plain white t-shirt for PE, not branded or other sportswear. This is to support affordability and ensure that all of children are in the same PE kit. Many thanks for your support with the above.

Holiday Calendar and School Attendance Policy:

As always, we ask that you please consult the School Holiday Calendar 2024-2025 to ensure excellent attendance during the next academic year [a copy of which is attached with this newsletter]. A new school Attendance Policy from Manchester City Council has recently been adopted by the Governing Body and will be used from September. Please take time to read this as it contains important information regarding attendance codes and changes to fixed penalty notices for unauthorised absence and holiday leave during term time. A copy of this will be available to download from the website.

Attendance Prizes: Across the school, we have celebrated pupil attendance in a range of ways as we approach the end of term and the school year. This has included most improved, 100% this term, 100% across the year, over 97% etc... We continue to celebrate and reward this through our weekly prize shop, shared treats as a class and individual prizes. We recognise that there is a great deal of fortune –due to not being ill, as well as other factors, involved in excellent attendance. Nevertheless, we wanted to celebrate and acknowledge these achievements. Well done and thank you for your support with helping to ensure best possible attendance.

Thank you: A special word of thanks to Mrs. Dolan, who recently finished her term of office as a Foundation Governor at St Margaret Mary's. Mrs. Dolan has been a member of the School Governing Body for over 13 years and played an important role in helping to strategically lead and support the school, ensure that we are the best that we can possibly be as a school, but crucially be a school that is rooted in Faith and in Mission. We will miss Mrs. Dolan but send her our love, best wishes and sincere thanks for all of her support over the years.

Year Six Reflection:

I would like to take this final opportunity to congratulate our Year Six cohort of children as they come towards the end of their journey at St Margaret Mary's. Last Thursday we came together to share a special Leavers' Liturgy. During this, we listened to reflections, prayers and sang hymns, giving thanks for our shared experiences and looking forward to the future. On behalf of all at St Margaret Mary's, we feel very fortunate and honoured to have worked with them and their families during this journey through primary school. I urge all pupils and parents to keep in touch and they will remain in our hearts and minds moving forward. I hope that their experiences are ones that they will remember and that the relationships, memories and bonds that have been made over the last eight years stay with them.

Finally, I would just like to say how very proud I am of all of the children, staff and governors of St Margaret Mary's. As a school community, we continue to work together towards our Mission and purpose of sharing the Good News of the Gospel, finding and nurturing our gifts and talents and living a life of compassion and love.

It is important to take a moment to reflect on all of the achievements, hard work and the shared experiences that we have had together this year.

It is a real privilege to work with our children and you, their parents and families as a school community. Once again, thank-you for all of your support throughout the year. It is very much appreciated!

I wish you all a very enjoyable, restful summer break and look forward to seeing you and our children again in September.

Take care and God Bless!

Mr Sutton
Headteacher

“During Summertime, let us learn how to take a break, turn off the mobile phone to gaze into the eyes of others, cultivate silence, contemplate nature and regenerate ourselves in dialogue with God.”

Pope Francis 2021