

## Headteacher's Newsletter – July 2021

t h a n k y o u

What a challenging and busy year it has been! It feels like the time has flown by. Attending school, whilst trying to mitigate the risks of Covid-19, has been very challenging for us all; school staff, children and you the parents and carers. However, as your headteacher I feel extremely lucky and very well supported by you all. Each time we needed to change our plan, our collection arrangements, even our lunch menus, you have all just 'gone with it'. I would like to thank you all for your generosity of spirit and your understanding. You have all been fantastic!



CONGRATULATIONS

You may know that we have had lots of staff having babies this year! So far, we have welcomed eight new babies into the St Margaret's family. With more babies still to arrive!

Our best wishes go to:

Mrs Thelwell (who has returned from maternity)

Miss Griffin

Mr Locker

Mrs Ziabek,

Miss Atkinson and Mr Fennelly

Miss Hussain

Mrs Glover

Miss McGuinness

## BACK TO SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 2021

- **02.09.21 School reopens for children (not EYFS)**
- **02.09.21 School Dinners available (pay on Scopay) Menus start on Week 2 Thursday and Friday**
- **Children to be dressed in FULL school uniform**
- **PE kits to be worn to school on PE days – must be school PE kit – white t-shirt, green or black shorts, green or black tracksuit ONLY and sensible trainers**
- **All covid restrictions to do with working in social bubbles should no longer be needed. Children will be able to enjoy lunchtimes back in the dining room and will also be able to use all play equipment on the playgrounds**
- **Collective worship face, to face, will return – we have really missed gathering together to share the gospel and prayers and singing will also return (thanks to our Faith Ambassadors and Mrs Forde for keeping our worship going remotely)**
- **Some restrictions will stay in place:**
  - **Handwashing and cleaning routines in school**
  - **Masks for meetings with parents and visitors**
  - **Informing the school if you or your child tests positive**
- **Drop Off – will remain exactly the same as it is now as it has worked really well 😊**
- **Collection at the end of the day – will return to parents collecting children from the playgrounds. Please park sensibly to avoid causing the school issues with our neighbours. Gates will open at 14:55**

## Term Dates 2021-2022

Advent Term 2021	Lent Term 2022	Pentecost Term 2022	Please note
Thursday 02 Sept to Friday 17 Dec	Wednesday 05 Jan to Friday 01 April	Wednesday 20 April to Thursday 21 July	<i>Total number of days is 195  (190 teaching days)</i>
Half Term w/c Monday 25 Oct	Half Term w/c Monday 14 Feb	Half Term w/c Monday 30 May	<i>Easter Sunday 17.04.22 May Day 02.05.22 Bank Holiday 30.05.22</i>
Training Days  Wednesday 01 Sept  Monday 01 Nov	Training Days  Tuesday 04 January	Training Days  Tuesday 19 April  Friday 22 July	<i>5 training days in total</i>

## Goodbye & good luck



Despite all the Covid restrictions, we managed to celebrate our wonderful Year 6 children, who are saying goodbye to St Margaret's this summer, as they head off to their new high schools.

### Celebration Mass

Father Eustace, Parish Priest at St Margaret's, came to school to celebrate mass with us on Tuesday morning. It was a cheerful, outdoor mass (very brave considering it did start to rain on us for a short time!). Father Eustace's message was very clear for our children... 'Do Not Settle! Work hard and see all there is to see, fulfil your ambitions and stay focused'. We are very grateful to Father Eustace for agreeing to celebrate mass for us and to Mrs Forde for organising the mass so beautifully. The children showed great respect and those who read and sang were great. Each child was also presented with their St Margaret's cross to take with them on their faith journey through life ☺

### Class of 2021 Leavers Celebration

Thanks to all the staff, led by Miss Caulfield, for planning and organising such a happy celebration for our Class of 2021. The decorations looked amazing, the music was LOUD!!!!, the posh reception drinks were a real buzz and to top it off, a visit from the ice-cream van!!!! The children were a real delight and the staff who stayed had a really enjoyable time together.

Year 6, we love each and every one of you. You are the most incredibly kind, caring, hard working and resilient children. We know that you will do well at your new schools and all have bright futures ahead. xxxxx

# HAPPY Retirement!

This summer we say goodbye and thank you to Mrs Blunt who has worked hard to keep our school looking clean and bright for over 25 years. We hope she enjoys a long and healthy retirement. Time to put your feet up!! ☺ x



Your children are amazing! They have all shown such resilience and maturity this year. They have adapted to the challenges we have faced with ease and have such a great 'can do' attitude. I hope that you too are proud of all they have achieved. I know their reports really reflected their hard work and accomplishments.



**The Summer Reading Challenge is here.**

**Join the Wild World Heroes for a summer of reading fun that will inspire you to stand up for our planet.**

**Find out all you need to know at:**

**[summerreadingchallenge.org.uk](https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk)**

### School Lunches

We have been informed by Chartwells our caterers that there will be a 5p increase to the school dinner price this year, taking the cost of a daily dinner to £2.35. We have been really impressed with the quality of their food this year. Thanks to all the kitchen staff for keeping us all well fed ☺



**Free School Meals – if you believe your child is entitled to FSM, please speak to the Family Workers or apply online at:**

[https://m.luton.gov.uk/Page/Show/Education and learning/Pages/Free-school-meals.aspx](https://m.luton.gov.uk/Page/Show/Education%20and%20learning/Pages/Free-school-meals.aspx)

**Remember that children on FSM are entitled to extra funding to support school trips, uniform and much more☺**



### Goodbye and Hello!

**We say goodbye to Mrs Muschett and wish her luck in her new school.**

**We welcome Mrs Ahmed and Miss Sloane to Year 6 and Miss Waller to Year 4, we know that you have already been welcomed into the St Margaret's family ☺**

### Year Group Dates for your diaries:

	EYFS	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
<b>Advent 1</b>	Local Walk 19.10.21	Toys from the past visit- visitor. 15.09.21  Zoo lab 30.09.21 Afternoon session.	Whipsnade Zoo 23.09.21	Luton Hoo Gardens- 30.09.21  RE Retreat Day 20.10.21	Zoo Lab 21.09.21	Swimming this term  01.10.21 Karl Nova (Rapper and Poet)	Visit to the Church – First Friday Mass: 9am, 01.10.21  01.10.21 Karl Nova (Rapper and Poet)

<b>Advent 2</b>	Visit to Stockwood Park - Autumn Walk 09.11.2021	Theatre trip at school 10.12.21	Judaism Workshop – Shabbat 17.11.21	Pantomime 14.12.21	Retreat Day 09.11.21	Visit to Church – First Friday Mass 9am: 5.11.21	Windrush workshop date tbc
	World Nursery Rhyme Day – fancy dress day for children 15.11.21				Visit to the Church – First Friday Mass 9am: 3.12.21	Stockwood Park Discovery Centre 09.11.21	

## St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Primary School

### Dates for Parents Advent 2021

w/c 06.09.21 Parents will be invited in to school to sign SEND Inclusion Passports	<b>02.09.21</b> Children return to school <b>09.09.21</b> -Y5 First swimming session @ Inspire -15:00-15:30 Meet the teacher session for parents to pop into classrooms and say hello
w/c 27.09.21	<b>27.09.21</b> - 08:30-09:00 Maths Monday - parents invited into school to play maths games with their children in their classes
w/c 04.10.21	<b>05.10.21</b> - 14:30-15:00 Story Time -parents invited in to their children classes to join them for a story
w/c 18.10.21	<b>18.10.21</b> - 08:30-09:00 Maths Monday - parents invited into school to play maths games with their children in their classes
<b>Half term 25-29.10.21</b>	
w/c 01.11.21	<b>01.11.21</b> INSET DAY – No school for children
w/c 29.11.21	<b>29.11.21</b> - 08:30-09:00 Maths Monday - parents invited into school to play maths games with their children in their classes  <b>30.11.21</b> - 14:30-15:00 Story Time -parents invited in to their children classes to join them for a story
w/c 06.12. 21	<b>07 and 08.12.21</b> Parents Consultation 15:30-19:00  <b>09.12.21</b> -Year 5's final swim -15:30-16:30 Fantastic Finishes – a chance for parents to join their children to view the amazing things they have been making and learning about this term
w/c 13.12.21	<b>13.12.21</b> -08:30-09:30 EYFS and Y6 Christmas Crafts and Carols -13:30-14:30 Tasty Treats for grandparents and elderly in the community <b>14.12.21</b> -08:30-09:30 Y1 and Y5 Christmas Crafts and Carols -17:00 Faith Ambassadors Christmas Service at St Margaret's Church <b>15.12.21</b> -08:30-09:30 Y2 and Y4 Christmas Crafts and Carols



14:00-15:00 – Y3 Christmas Crafts and Carols

**16.12.21**

-14:00 EYFS Nativity to EYFS Parents

-17:00 Whole School Christmas Movie Night

**17.12.21**

14:30 Carols on the playground – parents invited to join us

## **PRAYER FOR FAMILIES**

*Heavenly Father,*

**Please bless our families with  
Your love and protect us from  
harm. Give us grace to forgive,  
strength to overcome the  
difficulties we face, and keep  
us together when the world  
tries to pull us apart.**

**In Jesus Name, Amen.**

[www.facebook.com/OFWforChrist](http://www.facebook.com/OFWforChrist)

We will send out the Curriculum Entitlement Programme for 2021-2022 on Friday, This gives you details of all the trip, visits and activities that your child's teachers have planned for them. They are all matched to the curriculum and are designed to deepen the children's learning. We have also ensured that you know the price of each activity. These will be put onto Scopay from September, to enable you to spread the cost of these in time for the date of the trip.

I hope that you all have a wonderful summer break and I look forward to returning in September, to a life in school, that looks a little more 'normal' for us all. Please share the prayer above with your families.

Thank you to you all again for your support and kindness to all our staff during this difficult year.

Love Mrs Somes x