

# St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Primary & Pre School



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Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

## Welcome Back

Well, it has been a busy start to the school year. It is great to have the children back and see them working so hard. A special welcome to all of our new children, we hope you settle into school life here at St Margaret's really quickly, we are delighted you have joined our wonderful school!

We also welcome two new teachers, **Mrs Kinch** who has joined our Year 5 team and **Mrs Deacon** who has joined our EYFS team. We are very lucky to have you both teaching our children!

## New Developments

This year we have opened a Nursery Class. **Mrs Cook** and **Mrs Durkin** teach our new Nursery class and are enjoying getting to know the children.

We have also supported the local authority by opening a third Year 3 class. This is a year group that has a significant number of children living in Luton that need a school place. We still have places for children in Year 3, **children who were born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016 – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017 are welcome to apply for a place at our school.**

It has been a year since our wonderful pre – school joined our school. **Miss Newland** and her team provide a fantastic service. We accept applications from children from 2 years old. Please contact the school office if you would like more information.

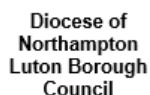
## Goodbye!

Today we say goodbye to Miss O'Shea who has worked in our Pre School for a number of years. Miss O'Shea is leaving to travel the world. On behalf of everyone at St Margaret's we wish Aoife all the best and hope she enjoys her trip!

## Cash Pots for Schools

We have registered with Asda for their **Cashpot for Schools** initiative. Please follow the link below to get more information about the scheme. You need to download the Asda Rewards App and follow the instructions, type in our school postcode, **LU1 5PP** and click on our name. It doesn't cost anything, but each time you shop in Asda a percentage of what you spend will be donated to our school. Thank you for your support.

<https://www.asda.com/cashpotforschools>



## Starting School on Time

Our school gates will continue to open at 8.15am. The school day as always will start at 8.30am. I do urge you though to do your best to arrive for school at 8.15am. The first part of the school day allows children time to read and settle before the business of the day starts. Too often we have children arriving for school past 8.30am, this is very unsettling for the child and results in loss of learning time. Please make it your new school year resolution to get your child to school on time!

We are monitoring times children are picked up. Please note **children must be picked up at 3.00pm** from either the Key Stage 1 or the Key Stage 2 playgrounds.

## Attendance Update

As you are aware good attendance is important for every child so that they can achieve their full potential. With effect from 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024 the government introduced new statutory guidance **'Working Together To Improve School Attendance'** to support schools to be able to work with families effectively to improve attendance.

The emphasis will be much more on strategies to support children's good attendance but there are changes to the Penalty Notice system and there will be **no term time holiday** allowance, this will have to be **unauthorised**.

There are also changes to the fines that will be issued in cases of unauthorised absence. If issued with a fine, or penalty notice, **each parent** must pay **£80** within 21 days or **£160** within 28 days. Please note that if children arrive at school after **8.30am** this is also recorded as an **unauthorised absence**. It is important that you inform school of the reasons for your child's absence on the first day so that we can keep accurate records.

## A Reminder of Classes This Year

Please find below a table for classes and teachers for this academic year.

Year	St Bernadette	St Clare	St Francis
Pre School	Miss Newland		
Nursery		Mrs Cook & Mrs Durkin	
Reception	Miss Chance & Mrs Morris		Mrs Deacon
Year 1		Mrs Greene	Miss Zulfiqar
Year 2	Mrs Hatchell		Miss Greenwell
Year 3	Miss Waller	Miss Thelwell	Miss McCabe
Year 4	Mrs Dinghile / Mrs Brogan		Miss Urquhart
Year 5		Miss Atkinson & Mrs Kinch	Mr Van Wyk
Year 6	Mrs Dilkes	Mrs Ahmed	

## Breakfast and WrapAround Provisions

Please find below pricing for our Breakfast and After School Club Provisions from September 2024.

### **Breakfast Club (7.30am – 8.15am)**

**£3.00** per session

## After School Club

£4.00 for 1 hour

£8.00 for 2 hours

£12.00 for 3 hours

Payments must be made in advance via Parentmail. Thank you for your support in this matter.

## Meet the Teacher

On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September we will be holding our annual Meet the Teacher event. Class teachers will be in their classes from 3.10pm – 3.50pm. This is an opportunity for you to come in and introduce yourself and ask any questions you may have. Class Teachers will have a document with important information for you to take away with you. Do try to attend if you can.

## 2 Week Half Term

A reminder that we have a 2 week half term in October. Term dates for this year are below.

Term	First Half Term	Half Term Break	Second Half Term
<b>Advent Term</b>	Weds 4 <sup>th</sup> Sept – Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<b>Mon 21<sup>st</sup> Oct – Fri 1<sup>st</sup> Nov</b>	Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov – Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec
<b>Lent Term</b>	Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan – Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> Feb – Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> Feb	Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> Feb – Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> Apr
<b>Pentecost Term</b>	Weds 23 <sup>rd</sup> Apr – Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> May – Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> May	Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jun – Weds 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jul

## Diary Dates

Please find below a table with key dates for this term and beyond, please do take note of events that effect you and your child. More information will follow regarding school trips etc.

God bless,  
Mr Chiswell

## Dates for your Diary

(Please note dates are subject to change and there will be new events added)

Date	Event	Time
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> Sept	Staff Training Day – School Closed	
Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sept	Staff Training Day – School Closed	
Weds 4 <sup>th</sup> Sept	1 <sup>st</sup> Day of Advent Term for children in Pre – School, Nursery & Years 1 - 6	
Weds 11 <sup>th</sup> Sept – Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Reception Children in school until 1.00 pm	
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Reception Children start school full time	
Weds 18 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Meet the Teacher Event	3.10pm – 3.45pm
Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Y6 to Y7 Transition Meeting for Y6 Parents	6.00pm
Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> Oct	First Friday Mass at St Margaret's Church – Y6	9.00am
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Maths Monday	8.30am
Tues 8 <sup>th</sup> Oct	School Photos – Individuals and Siblings	
Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Schools' Mass at St Mary's Church for Faith Ambassadors	10.00am
Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Y6 St Clare Class Assembly	8.30am
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Flu Vaccinations for Reception – Y6	
Weds 13 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Wear Odd Socks to School for Anti Bullying Week – It is	

	good to be different!	
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Y4 St Bernadette Class Assembly	8.30am
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Feast Day Mass at St Margaret's Church Years 4 - 6	10.00am
	Tea at 2	2.00pm
Thurs 21 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Y6 St Bernadette Class Assembly	8.30am
Tues 26 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Parent Teacher Consultations	3.30pm – 6.30pm
Weds 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Parent Teacher Consultations	3.30pm – 6.30pm
Thurs 28 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Y3 St Bernadette Class Assembly	8.30am
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Meditation Monday	8.30am
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	First Friday Mass at St Margaret's Church – Y5	9.00am
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Fantastic Finishes	3.00pm
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Reception & Y3 Christmas Crafts	8.30am
	Christmas Service at St Margaret's Church	5.00pm
Tues 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Y1 & Y5 Christmas Crafts	8.30am
Weds 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Nursery & Y6 Christmas Crafts	8.30am
	Tasty Treats	2.00pm
	Christmas Movie Night Y1 – Y6	5.00pm – 6.30pm
Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Y2 & Y4 Christmas Crafts	8.30am
	Reception Christmas Nativity Performance to Parents	2.00pm
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Carols on the Playground	2.30pm

# St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Primary School

## Term Dates 2024 - 2025

Advent Term 2024	Lent Term 2025	Pentecost Term 2025
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> Sept to Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan to Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April to Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July
Half Term Week commencing Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> Oct – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> November (2 weeks)	Half Term Week commencing Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Half Term Week commencing Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> May
Training Days (School closed to children)  Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sept & Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept		Training Day (School closed to children)  Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April