

# St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Primary & Pre School



Headteacher: Mr S Chiswell, BA Ed (Hons) NPQH  
Rotheram Avenue, Luton LU1 5PP  
Tel: 01582 723430  
E-Mail: [admin@stmargarets.luton.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stmargarets.luton.sch.uk)  
Website: [www.stmargarets.luton.sch.uk](http://www.stmargarets.luton.sch.uk)



Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

## Art Competition

The Season of Creation runs from 1 September (World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation) to 4 October (the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi) each year. It is an international initiative organised by different Christian churches to work together to care for God's creation.

This year's theme is '**To hope and act with Creation**'. We are inviting all schools in our Trust to take part in an art competition. The stimulus should be based on the theme 'To hope and act with Creation' and how we can each play our part in bringing hope to our planet. The work can be completed using a media of choice.

You can find further information here:

<https://seasonofcreation.org/>

<https://laudatosimovement.org/season-of-creation/>

<https://cafod.org.uk/pray/season-of-creation>

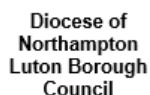
The closing date for entries has been extended to **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024**.

Please hand your competition entry into the school office. Mr Chiswell and Mrs Forde will select the best two entries from EYFS, KS1 and KS2 to be entered into the competition. Mr Richardson (Our Trust Strategic Executive Lead) and Trust Directors will judge the competition and an overall winner for each Key Stage will be chosen and awarded a prize. The submitted work will be presented and shared on the Trust's YouTube channel.

## Thank you!

Thank you to parents and carers that have this week engaged with their children and supported them with their reading at home. We have had lots of children reading at home and then coming in to school to complete quizzes. Remember children should read at home for 15 – 20 minutes a day. More information about Accelerated Reader can be found here: [Improving Reading with Accelerated Reader](#)

As we all know reading is so important and we want to support our children to become the best readers they can. This term we have spent nearly **£4,000.00** on new books to engage our children.



Accelerated Reader is a computer programme that helps teachers manage and monitor a child's independent reading practice. Children pick a book that falls within their level. When they have finished reading, they take a short quiz on a computer **at school** - passing the quiz is an indication that the child has understood what has been read. If they are reading at the recommended level for them, then most children are likely to be successful and enjoy the books and quizzes. Best of all they learn and grow at their own pace.

Please support your child at home by:

- Reading with your child for at least 15 minutes a day.
- Making sure your child brings their reading book to school every day.
- Record in your child's reading record when they have read with you at home.
- Support your child to look after school reading books. (Damaged and lost reading books will need to be paid for by parents).

More information will be shared with you as the children and staff get used to Accelerated Reader, but the main thing for now is please **support your child to read every day!**

### Celebrating our Faith

Today children in Year 6 attended mass at St Margaret's Church. The children behaved impeccably and as always were a credit to our school.

### Friday Celebration Assemblies

Below is a table with information regarding the assemblies you are invited to.

Date	Key Stage 1 Assembly (Class Sharing Work)	Key Stage 2 Assembly (Class Sharing Work)
11.10.24	1 St Clare	6 St Bernadette
18.10.24	2 St Francis	4 St Francis
8.11.24	1 St Francis	4 St Francis
15.11.24	2 St Bernadette	6 St Clare
22.11.24	1 St Clare	3 St Francis
29.11.24	2 St Francis	3 St Bernadette
6.12.24	1 St Francis	4 St Bernadette

### Maths Monday

This **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October** we have our first Maths Monday of the school year. We are inviting families of children in **Years 2 – 6** to this event. Maths Monday is an opportunity for families to spend a short time with their children in school learning how they are taught in maths.

If you would like to attend, please drop your children off as normal and then make your way to the Key Stage 2 Hall to sign in. You will then be taken to your child's class to spend time with them. You will only be able to attend 1 class due to the short period of time you are in school, so if you have more than 1 child attending the school you will need to decide which class you will visit this time and then maybe visit another at a later event. Please note you will not be able to join the session if you arrive at the Key Stage 2 Hall after **8.35 am**. Thank you for your support.

### School Photographs

A reminder that the school photographers will be in school on **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October** to take individual and sibling photos. Please ensure your children are dressed smartly in full school uniform.

### Morning Snacks and Packed Lunches

Please be reminded that children can bring a piece of fruit to school for morning break. No other food is permitted. Staff will not allow children to eat any other types of food.

Please be reminded you must not include nuts in your child's packed lunches. Thank you for your support in these matters.

### Pre School and Year 3

This year we have 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 for children from 2 years old. Please contact the school office if you would like more information.

### Cashpot 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>

### Harvest Festival

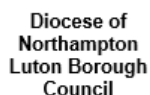
As part of our Catholic social teaching, the Mini Vinnies are collecting non-perishable goods that will be donated to Vinnies Pantry at Our Lady's Catholic Church in support of those in need in our local community.

Children can bring donations into school and leave them in the KS2 hall.

### The Month of October

To mark October as being the month dedicated to our Lady, Judy Weekes, from The Legion of Mary, visited our school this week to deliver a very generous gift of a set of rosary beads for each child. She then took part in a training session of how to deliver a decade of the rosary with our Faith Ambassadors. Thank you Judy!

**Hail, Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou amongst women  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death.  
Amen.**



## 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

Weekly newsletters and past correspondence can be found on our school website at this [link](#).

## 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 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