

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
Website: www.stmargarets.luton.sch.uk



Friday 27th September 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

Improving Reading with Accelerated Reader

Today I led an assembly for Key Stage 2 introducing a new initiative for reading in Key Stage 2 at St Margaret's, it is called Accelerated Reader. <https://www.renaissance.com/products/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:

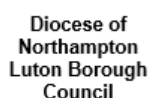
- Reading with your child for at least 15 minutes a day.
- Making sure your child brings their reading book to school every day.
- Record in your child's reading record when they have read with you at home.
- Support your child to look after school reading books. (Damaged and lost reading books will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

Meet the Teacher Part 2!

Thank you to everyone who attended our Meet the Nursery Teacher event this week. It was really lovely to have so many of you in attendance. Our Nursery provision is a wonderful addition to our school and the children have settled beautifully. Thank you for your continued support.

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher if you have any questions. You are also welcome to make an appointment to meet with me, please contact the school office who will be happy to help.



Friday Celebration Assemblies

Each **Friday**, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 take part in **Celebration Assemblies**. During these assemblies classes share work, we celebrate birthdays, award certificates and reflect on the week that has passed.

We would like to invite you to these assemblies and join us in celebrating our amazing children! As with class assemblies you will be let in via the main entrance of the Key stage 1 and 2 halls.

The assemblies start at 8.30am and will be finished by 9.00am.

Parents of children who will be awarded a certificate for following our school virtues will receive a Parentmail on Thursday from school inviting them to the assembly to allow you to see your child receive their certificate. It would be great to have you join us. **Please do not share this information with your child as we want it to be a surprise for them on the day!**

Each week a class in each key stage will share some work. **Please note if your child's class is sharing work this does not guarantee your child will be involved in the sharing of the work.** Teachers tend to choose small groups of children.

You are welcome to attend any of the assemblies, even if your child is not receiving a certificate or their class is not sharing. Please note we will have to monitor the number of parents that attend to ensure we are adhering to health and safety requirements; we will always prioritise the parents of children receiving a virtues certificate. Thank you for your support.

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)
4.10.24	2 St Bernadette	3 St Clare
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

After School Clubs

We hope the children have enjoyed taking part in the extra-curricular clubs this week. They have been really well attended. Please do make sure if your child has been allocated a place in the club that they do attend, we have lots of children on waiting lists ready to take part!

A reminder, children are not allowed to bring snacks to the clubs.

PE Lessons

Please be reminded that children should have their PE kits in school every day. They can be taken home at the weekend if they need washing. Children must not come to school in PE kit, children will get changed for PE in school.

Some parents have contacted the school in regard to changing for PE. Please be assured teachers treat this with great sensitivity and children's well being is a priority. Thank you for your support.

Morning Snacks

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. Thank you for your support in this matter.

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 1st September 2016 – 31st 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>

Y6 Parents – A Reminder

This coming Monday **30th September** at **6.00pm** there is a meeting in the Key Stage 2 Hall for parents and children of Year 6. This is a meeting to provide more information regarding applying for a secondary school place for September 2025.

We are hoping to have representatives from Stockwood Park Academy and Cardinal Newman to share information about their schools. I hope to see you there.

2 Week Half Term

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

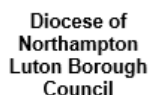
Term	First Half Term	Half Term Break	Second Half Term
Advent Term	Weds 4 th Sept – Fri 18 th Oct	Mon 21st Oct – Fri 1st Nov	Mon 4 th Nov – Fri 20 th Dec
Lent Term	Mon 6 th Jan – Fri 14 th Feb	Mon 17 th Feb – Fri 21 st Feb	Mon 24 th Feb – Fri 4 th Apr
Pentecost Term	Weds 23 rd Apr – Fri 23 rd May	Mon 26 th May – Fri 30 th May	Mon 2 nd Jun – Weds 23 rd 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 30 th Sept	Y6 to Y7 Transition Meeting for Y6 Parents	6.00pm
Fri 4 th Oct	First Friday Mass at St Margaret's Church – Y6	9.00am
Mon 7 th Oct	Maths Monday	8.30am
Tues 8 th Oct	School Photos – Individuals and Siblings	
Fri 11 th Oct	Schools' Mass at St Mary's Church for Faith Ambassadors	10.00am
Thurs 7 th Nov	Y6 St Clare Class Assembly	8.30am
Fri 8 th Nov	Flu Vaccinations for Reception – Y6	
Weds 13 th Nov	Wear Odd Socks to School for Anti Bullying Week – It is good to be different!	
Thurs 14 th Nov	Y4 St Bernadette Class Assembly	8.30am
Fri 15 th Nov	Feast Day Mass at St Margaret's Church Years 4 - 6	10.00am
	Tea at 2	2.00pm
Thurs 21 st Nov	Y6 St Bernadette Class Assembly	8.30am
Tues 26 th Nov	Parent Teacher Consultations	3.30pm – 6.30pm
Weds 27 th Nov	Parent Teacher Consultations	3.30pm – 6.30pm
Thurs 28 th Nov	Y3 St Bernadette Class Assembly	8.30am
Mon 2 nd Dec	Meditation Monday	8.30am
Fri 6 th Dec	First Friday Mass at St Margaret's Church – Y5	9.00am
Thurs 12 th Dec	Fantastic Finishes	3.00pm
Mon 16 th Dec	Reception & Y3 Christmas Crafts	8.30am
	Christmas Service at St Margaret's Church	5.00pm
Tues 17 th Dec	Y1 & Y5 Christmas Crafts	8.30am
Weds 18 th Dec	Nursery & Y6 Christmas Crafts	8.30am
	Tasty Treats	2.00pm
	Christmas Movie Night Y1 – Y6	5.00pm – 6.30pm
Thurs 19 th Dec	Y2 & Y4 Christmas Crafts	8.30am
	Reception Christmas Nativity Performance to Parents	2.00pm
Fri 20 th Dec	Carols on the Playground	2.30pm