

# St Margaret Ward Newsletter

Spring 1 Edition

February 2017



## We're on Twitter!

Follow our brand-new Twitter account to see lots of the amazing things happening in our school.

Our Twitter address is: @SMWprimary



## Sponsor needed

Our school football team are on the look out for a new sponsor. Buy them a new kit and you can have your company's name on the front. That could be your own business or a firm you work for. Please ask around and let us know if you can help.

## Message from Mr Hughes....

Dear Parents and Carers,  
Welcome to the first edition of our half-termly newsletter. It's been a busy few weeks and standing outside the gate on January 4<sup>th</sup> to welcome back all of the children and to greet all of the parents certainly seems a long time ago. Since then I've enjoyed beginning to get to know the children, families and friends which make our school and Parish community such a special place.

The term started with Father Ned kindly putting on a welcome Mass for me. It was lovely to see everyone come together to join in the celebration. This included all of the children from Nursery to Year 6, all of the staff, as well as many parents and Parishioners. As the term has gone on, there

have been many other moments which have made me feel equally as proud as your new headteacher. Thank you for making me feel so welcome!

I hope you will enjoy reading this newsletter, where you will hear about the school's Twitter account; why we need to improve school attendance and punctuality; and how you can help the football team stand out!

Next term is going to be equally fascinating with many of our Year 3 children making their First Forgiveness, while I'm already looking forward to celebrating Easter with you all.

Have a lovely half-term break with your children and see you on February 20th.

Mr Hughes

## Don't miss out ... Be on time by 5 to 9

Since September there have been a staggering 1,016 instances of children being late for school! Even at just 10 minutes late on each occasion, this equals nearly 170 hours of lost learning across the school!

A reminder that the classroom doors open at 8.45 and close at 8.55.

By this time, all children should be in the classrooms ready for the day. When children arrive late, it has a negative effect on their learning and their school experience.

They are often embarrassed about arriving after their classmates and are less settled, playing catch-up for the rest of the day.

Needless to say, good attendance is also vital to ensure children get the

best possible start in life.

I'm pleased to say that there are 39 children still on target to achieve 100% attendance for this academic year. Keep it up!

Overall school attendance is 95.6%, which is just short of the school target of 96%.

With a big push in the second part of the Spring term, I am sure we can reach that target,

So, which class has the best attendance since September?

Reception - 95.6%

Year 1 - 94.6%

Year 2 - 95.4%

Year 3 - 97.1%

Year 4 - 95.1%

Year 5 - 96.5%

Year 6 - 94.8%

It's Year 3! Well done to you!

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## Diary dates

Feb 23 - First Forgiveness  
Feb 28 - Big Brew (9-11 in Bright Stars)  
Mar 1 - Ash Wednesday Service (9.30am). Film Theme nights (3.20-5.30pm)  
Mar 2 - World Book Day  
Mar 7 - Class Mass (Year 3)  
Mar 8 - Year 6 SATS parents' meeting (5pm)  
Mar 21 - Class Mass (Year 4)  
Mar 29 - Parents' Evening  
Apr 4 - Easter Service led by Years 3 & 4  
Apr 6 - Class photographs  
Apr 7 - Finish at 2pm for Easter holidays

## Hall of Fame

Well done to our Headteacher Award winners from Spring 1 term:  
Lilly Coupe, Darcey Williamson, Aaliyah Perrin, Tyler Oke, Chloe Lester, Adam Sardar, Yurika Aisaka, Finlay Roberts, Lilly-Louise Salt, Bailey Bogart-Otoo, Kyiera Robinson, Belvyne Kouatila, Olivia Barnes, Dylan Burge, Maisy Williamson, Ella McGlinn, Liam Teatum, Morgan Stacey, Daniel Dobson, Yaa Boateng, Mason Parkinson, Callum Boyd, Zofia Ganuszkow, Remy Chin, Leah Slater, Miley Phillips, Noe Kiely, Lexii Nicholson, Ekene Udeaja, Stephanie Rhonor, Aidan Reilly, Lacey Peters, Niall Ascott, Marcus Drozdowski, Francesca Jordan, Harry Petrykowski, Abbas Sardar, Bradley Wilson, Orla Murray.

Congratulations to those awarded a 'Heart of Gold':  
Ebony Otoo  
Libby Hope  
Munachi Udeaja

## Get your tickets for some movie magic

Due to popular demand, the Friends of St Margaret Ward are holding another Kids Club 'Film Theme' night on Wednesday 1st March from 3.20pm to 5.30pm.

This event is for all children from Year 1 to Year 6 and will once again be a great chance for the children to socialise together after school.

The event will be held in the school hall directly after school, so parents can enjoy a couple of peaceful hours off whilst the children are entertained!

It will be lots of fun and the ticket price includes drinks and snacks for all the children.

They'll need to bring a cushion to sit on! There will also be a 'Mini Movie' night for Reception children held at the same time but in the Bright Stars room.

The ticket prices and sale arrangements are the same.

Tickets for both events are priced at £5 per child (£4 per sibling).

They will go on sale at 9am on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February in the school hall. Ticket numbers are limited so please get your tickets early to avoid disappointment.

We hope that you will be able to support this event and the children can look forward to another evening with their friends.

## Time to tackle numbers with Sale Sharks

This half term, Class 4 and 5 have enjoyed taking part in the Sale Sharks 'Tackling Numbers' programme which uses tag rugby to help increase children's understanding of and confidence in number skills.

Our Spring sports clubs have got off to a flying start!

The children have been taking part

in fencing, street dance, tag rugby, multi skills and football sessions. It is wonderful to see the fantastic turn out at the girls football training on a Thursday. We hope to organise some matches for next half term. Good luck to the tag rugby and netball teams who are taking part in competitions after the half term break.

## More news from around the school

**SAINSBURY'S VOUCHERS** We are collecting these again so please pick them up if you shop at the store and drop off at the school office.

We were able to buy lots of sports equipment through this last year.

**CAKE SALE** Well done to the Friends of St Margaret Ward for raising £242. Thank you also to those who donated cakes. The money will go towards ICT equipment in school.

**FAIR TRADE FORTNIGHT** As part of this, we are holding a Big Brew in Bright Stars from 9am on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February. Tea, coffee and other

Fair Trade products will be on sale. Donations will go to the Valley of the Moon Children's Centre in Bolivia.

**TODDLER GROUP** Mrs Murphy hosts this for toddlers and parents every Monday morning in the school hall from 10am to 11.15am. £1 per family. All are welcome.

**STORYSACKS** For parents of Nursery and Reception children, there will be a Storysacks Session on World Book Day (9-10am, March 2<sup>nd</sup>). Keep an eye out about sign-up details.