

St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Primary & Pre School



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Friday 29th September 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

Harvest Festival

Recently we launched our annual Harvest Appeal at school. This year we will be donating to our local Catholic homeless charity, Noah Enterprise. A representative came into school on Wednesday to share the important work that they do with the homeless of Luton and suggested ways in which we could help.

We are, therefore, asking for donations of the following: tins of food, packets of pasta, rice etc. Clothes that are in good condition for adults such as jumpers, gloves, coats, shoes, toiletries, sanitary towels, hairbrushes etc.

We will be collecting until the half term holiday.

Thank you for your support.

What Has Been Going on at School?

We are nearly 4 weeks into the new school year, things are already moving at 100 miles per hour! The children and staff have settled in brilliantly! This week we had a **transition meeting** for our Year 6 children to support parents and children in selecting a secondary school, it was great to see so many parents and children at the meeting. I hope you found it useful. This week we held our **Beginning of the Year Mass** for years 4 – 6. It was lovely to welcome Father Eustace in to school for the mass. This week Mrs Forde and I attended masses at **JFK** and **Cardinal Newman** for our Y6 students who have recently joined their new schools. It was lovely to see the children, they looked so grown up in their new school uniforms!

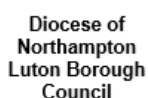
Congratulations, More Baby News!

Some exciting news, recently **Miss Atkinson** gave birth to a little girl Nora and **Mrs O'Donnell** gave birth to a little girl called Niamh! This is great news and already Niamh has visited school with her proud mum! I am sure you all join me in wishing all of the families all the best!

Meet the Teacher, Year 1 to Year 6

Thank you to everyone who attended our Meet the Teacher event. We hope you found the event helpful. Knowledge Maps for your child's class can be found by following the link below.

<https://www.stmargarets.luton.sch.uk/curriculum/curriculum-knowledge-maps/>



During the event I made a small presentation to parents. Below are the most important parts of it. Please take the time to read them:

Support your children by:

Getting them to school on time **8.15 - 8.30**

Picking your children up on time **3.00**

Read with them every day

Engage with our school and staff, attend class assemblies **8.30**, special events such as **Maths Monday – PLEASE TURN UP ON TIME**

Read the weekly newsletter emailed on a Friday, put relevant dates in your diary to stay up to date with school news and events

Keep in Touch

You can follow our school on 'X' – formerly known as Twitter. Search for @SMOSschool and click follow. We are also on Instagram, search ST_MARGARETS_SHOWCASE and follow to get lots of amazing pictures of the work our amazing children do.

Class Dojo

Last year we started to use Class Dojo, This is a secure online system that staff can use to keep you updated and share important information. Currently on average we have around 90% of families connected to the relevant classes. If you are not attached please contact the school office who will be more than happy to get you connected!

Please note there is no expectation for staff to reply to messages on Class Dojo quickly. If you need to speak to a member of staff about something urgently please speak directly to the member of staff or speak to the school office. Staff will not access Class Dojo during evenings, weekends and holidays. Thank you for your support.

Keeping Children safe online

We have been made aware that children within our school are playing at home a game online linked to Roblox. It is called **Rainbow Friends**. This game is for children who are 12 years old and over. Please do take the time to review the content of what your children are accessing online to keep them safe.

Attendance

We all know how important it is for children to attend school every day. I understand there may be times a child is unwell and unable to attend school, however as parents we need to ensure our children are in school each day and are on time, which is in school ready to learn by 8:30am.

Please find below attendance data for every class for this week.

Good attendance will be rewarded so please do make sure your children are in school each day. Thank you for your support.

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CLASS ATTENDANCE	YEAR TO DATE	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK
Reception St Bernadette	92	93	89% ↓
Reception St Clare	97	97	96% ↓
1 St Francis	91	88	90% ↑
1 St Clare	93	92	87% ↓
2 St Francis	97	98	96% ↓
2 St Bernadette	94	96	90% ↓
3 St Clare	93	95	97% ↑
3 St Bernadette	97	91	←91%→
4 St Francis	98	95	97% ↑
4 St Bernadette	95	96	95% ↓
5 St Clare	92	95	91% ↓
5 St Francis	94	93	←93%→
6 St Bernadette	97	96	←96%→
6 St Clare	95	94	←94%→
6 St Francis	94	96	93% ↓

Well done to **3 St Clare and 4 St Francis** who had the top attendance this week with **97%**! You will be rewarded later this week.

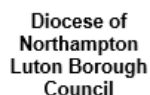
Can a class get 100% this half - term? Go for it!

School Photos

A reminder we have school photos on Monday 2nd October. All children must come to school dressed in their school uniform, even if it is their PE lesson day.

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.



Have a lovely weekend,

God bless,



Mr Chiswell

Dates for your Diary

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

Date	Event	Time
Mon 2 nd Oct	Individual & Siblings School Photos	
Tues 3 rd Oct	Y2 School Trip to Whipsnade Zoo	
Mon 9 th Oct	Maths Monday Y1 – 6	8.30 – 9.00
Fri 6 th Oct	Schools' Mass for Faith Ambassadors at St Mary's Church Dunstable	10.00
Thurs 12 th Oct	Y5 & 6 Poet visitor in school	
Fri 20 th Oct	Half Term Break – Return to school Mon 30th Oct	
Fri 3 rd Nov	Y5 First Friday Mass at St Margaret's Church	9:00
Thurs 9 th Nov	6 St Clare Class Assembly	8.30
Mon 13 th Nov	Odd Socks Day	
Thurs 16 th Nov	St Margaret's Feast Day – Mass at St Margaret's Church Y4 – 6	10.00
	Tea at 2	2:00 – 3:00
Tues 21 st Nov	Parent / Teacher Consultations	3.30 – 6.30
Weds 22 nd Nov	Parent / Teacher Consultations	3.30 – 7.00
Thurs 23 rd Nov	6 St Francis Class Assembly	8.30
Thurs 30 th Nov	6 St Bernadette Class Assembly	8.30
Fri 1 st Dec	Y4 First Friday Mass at St Margaret's Church	9.00
Mon 4 th Dec	Meditation Monday	8.30 – 8.45
Mon 11 th Dec	EYFS & Y3 Christmas Crafts	8:30 – 9:30
Tues 12 th Dec	Y1 & Y5 Christmas Crafts	8:30 – 9:30
	Christmas Service at St Margaret's Church	5:00
Thurs 14 th Dec	Y 2 & Y4 Christmas Crafts	8:30 – 9:30
	Fantastic Finishes for Parents	3.00 – 3.45
Mon 18 th Dec	Y6 Christmas Crafts	8.30 – 9.30
	Tasty Treats	2.00 – 2.45
Tues 19 th Dec	Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day	
	School Movie Night	5.00 – 6.45
Weds 20 th Dec	Carols on the Playground	2.30 – 3.00
	End of Advent Term – Children return to school on Mon 8th Jan 2024	