

St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Primary & Pre School



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Friday 6th October 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

Seat Belts / Travelling in cars

It has been brought to my attention that we have children travelling to school in cars and not wearing seatbelts. This is against the law and can result in a fine of up to £500.00. More than that it is extremely dangerous and could result in serious danger and even worse for the children if they were in an accident. Mrs Newman and I will approach owners of cars that we have concerns about and advise of our concerns. We will also take advice from the police if we feel it is necessary.

Please also ensure you have no more than the legal number of passengers in your car.

Please keep your children safe when travelling in a car. I have spent some time reading the laws and have learnt a lot. You too can read the information by following this link.

<https://www.gov.uk/browse/driving/highway-code-road-safety>

Harvest Festival

A reminder of our Harvest Appeal at school. If you are able to support his fantastic cause it really will make a difference. 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.

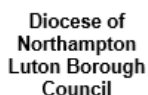
We will be collecting until the half term holiday.

Thank you for your support.

Maths Monday

This Monday 9th October we have our first Maths Monday. As this is the first one of the school year we are inviting families of children in years **2 – 6**. Our next event will also include Year 1. Maths Monday is an opportunity for families to spend a short time with their children in school learning how children 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.

Thank you!

A big thank you to all of the parents who this week supported our Year 2 trip to Whipsnade Zoo! The children had a great time and we hope you did too! School trips like this would not be possible without your fantastic support. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!

Our Faith Ambassadors!

Our amazing Faith Ambassadors supported by Mrs Forde, this week attended the Diocesan Schools' Mass at St Mary's Church in Dunstable. This is when all of the schools in the Northampton Diocese come together to pray for all of the school communities, it really is a wonderful event, celebrated by Bishop David. The children represented our school brilliantly. I am very proud of them and our school!

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 86% of families connected to the relevant classes, well done to **2 St Francis** and **4 St Bernadette** who both have **100%** of families connected to their class. (Please see the table below to see how well your class is doing!) 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.

Year Group	St Bernadette	St Clare	St Francis
Pre-School	48%		
Early Years	52%	84%	
1		88%	92%
2	96%		100%
3	96%	96%	
4	100%		96%
5		90%	96%
6	90%	93%	90%

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Keeping Children safe online

Next Wednesday 11th October children in Years R – 6 will be taking part in online safety workshops. Staff will also be taking part in training to support them in keeping children safe. The company providing this support is one we have used before and they are very good. As part of the training, they will be providing a recorded session that you as parents will be able to access. I urge you to watch this. Here is a link to a poster about the recording. <https://www.ecplimited.com/Parent%20Carer%20Poster.pdf>
 More information in regard to this will be provided next week.

Attendance

This 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.

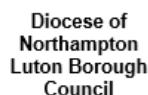
Please find below attendance data for every class for this week.

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

CLASS ATTENDANCE	YEAR TO DATE	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK
Reception St Bernadette	92	89	90% ↓
Reception St Clare	96	96	93% ↓
1 St Francis	92	90	95% ↑
1 St Clare	92	87	91% ↑
2 St Francis	98	96	98% ↑
2 St Bernadette	95	90	99% ↑
3 St Clare	92	97	91% ↓
3 St Bernadette	96	91	94% ↑
4 St Francis	98	97	99% ↑
4 St Bernadette	95	95	94% ↓
5 St Clare	92	91	94% ↑
5 St Francis	94	93	95% ↑
6 St Bernadette	97	96	95% ↓
6 St Clare	95	94	←94%→
6 St Francis	94	93	←93%→

Well done to **2 St Bernadette** and **4 St Francis** who had the top attendance this week with **99%**!

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



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 9 th Oct	Maths Monday Y2 – Y6	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	