



St Margaret of Scotland
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Primary School,
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Friday 12th September 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome Back

Well, it has been a busy start to the school year. It is great to have the children back and see them working so hard. A special welcome to all of our new children, we hope you settle into school life here at St Margaret's really quickly, we are delighted you have joined our wonderful school!

We also welcome new members of staff, **Mrs Dewji** our new Early Years Leader, **Ms Whitehead** who has joined our Year 2 team and **Miss Gordon** who will teach many of our children in her role as a HLTA. Finally, we welcome **Miss Fowler**, **Mrs McGovern**, **Miss Kniter** and **Miss Holubowsak** as members of our lunchtime team. I am sure you join me in wishing all of our new members of staff all their best in their new role.

Starting School on Time

Our school gates will now open just before 8.15am Monday to Friday to allow children to be in school for **8.15am**. The school day starts at 8.30am but those 15 minutes before allow children to settle and get ready for the day ahead. Too often we have children arriving for school after 8.30am, this is very unsettling for the child and results in loss of learning time. Please make it your new school year resolution to get your child to school on time!

We are monitoring times children are picked up. Please note **children must be picked up at 3.00pm**.

The St Margaret's Way (SMW)

This term I have introduced **The St Margaret's Way** to our children. This is a new set of values / rules that we want all of our children to aspire to lead their lives by, both in and out of school.

- **To be Safe** – we keep ourselves safe and look after one another – just as Jesus taught us.
- **To be Good Listeners** – we listen with open hearts and minds, learning and flourishing with God and the world around us.
- **To be Kind** – by our just actions and kind words. We love God and we love each other.
- **To be Honest** – a sense of responsibility and the strength to speak up truthfully.
- **To be Hard Working** – developing lively, enquiring and independent minds and the resilience to embrace the challenges we face.
- **To be Respectful** – well rounded individuals who have a positive impact on others near and far, especially those who are less fortunate.

Please do spend time talking to your children about these values, children will be rewarded for following them.

Diocese of
Northampton
Luton Borough
Council



Good to Be Green (GTBG)

As we do at the start of every year we have reviewed our school behaviour policy, this can be found on our school website. As part of our policy we are using Good to be Green (GTBG).

In Class and on the playground children aim to be Good to be Green. This means following the St Margaret's Way and doing their best to be a good citizen. The aim for the children is to be Good to be Green all week. For every week children achieve this, they will be rewarded with a sticker. The stickers are significant, as they accumulate the children are rewarded. Below is a table showing you what the children can earn.

Number of Weeks	Reward
1 (This reward is presented for every week a child is GTBG for the whole week)	Sticker on class chart and ParentMail sent home informing parents.
5 Weeks (Accumulatively)	GTBG Certificate
10 Weeks (Accumulatively)	GTBG Badge
15 Weeks (Accumulatively)	GTBG Pencil
20 Weeks (Accumulatively)	Invite to Headteacher Special Event
25 Weeks (Accumulatively)	GTBG Enamel Badge
30 Weeks (Accumulatively)	Invite to Headteacher Special Event
35 Weeks (Accumulatively)	Good To Be Gold Certificate and Sticker
Whole Year	Privilege Card and School Trip

We are really excited about our new behaviour policy; the children are already earning lots of tokens. Keep it up everyone!

Meet the Teacher

It was fantastic to see so many of you at our **Meet the Teacher** event on Wednesday. I was delighted to see so many of you in our key stage 2 hall for my short presentation. The slides for this are attached for those who could not make it. I know your children's class teachers are really excited about the year ahead, we do hope you found the sessions helpful.

Below is a reminder of class names and new family saints.

This year we have moved from 3 families to 4 families. As a 2 form entry we feel this will 'fit' the school more effectively.

We have also taken the opportunity to change the names of the 4 families. We have decided to go with the patron saints of the British Isles which fits in with our British Values: St Andrew, St David, St George and St Patrick. Below is a table informing you of your child's class name and also the family their class is in. Children will be able to earn Good to be Green Tokens to achieve rewards for their families.

Class Name	Class Teacher	Class Family / Saint
Pre School	Miss Newland – Pre School	St Andrew
Nursery	Mrs Cook & Mrs Durkin - Nursery	St David
Reception - RD	Mrs Dewji	St George
Reception RA	Mrs Deacon	St Patrick
1G	Mrs Greene	St Andrew
1Z	Miss Zulfiqar	St David
2C	Miss Chance	St George
2M	Mrs Morris & Mrs Whitehead	St Patrick
3A	Miss Afridi	St Andrew
3W	Miss Waller	St David
4G	Miss Greenwell	St George

4U	Miss Urquhart	St Patrick
5K	Mrs Kinch & Miss Armstrong	St Andrew
5T	Miss Thelwell	St David
6A	Mrs Ahmed	St George
6D	Mrs Dilkes	St Patrick

Water Bottles

Thank you to everyone who has considered the use of single use plastic this term so far. I have noticed we have less plastic waste at school. Well done all and keep it up. We really want to look after God's world. We want to make our school a 'Single Use Plastic Free Zone!'

Below is a picture of the water bottle children will have received since returning to school. If your child has not received one please ask them to speak to their class teacher. Please ensure your children's name is on the bottle before they bring it to school.



Please note this is the type of water bottle children will be allowed to bring to school. Last year we had lots of different styles of drink containers, many of them were too big and not appropriate for school. As with pencil cases if we feel a water bottle is not appropriate for school children will be told to take the water bottle home and reminded not to bring it to school again.

Thank you for your continued support in this matter.

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 3 rd Sept – Fri 17 th Oct	Mon 20th Oct – Fri 31st Oct	Mon 3 rd Nov – Fri 19 th Dec
Lent Term	Mon 5 th Jan – Fri 13 th Feb	Mon 16 th Feb – Fri 20 th Feb	Mon 23 rd Feb – Fri 27 th Mar
Pentecost Term	Tues 14 th Apr – Fri 22 nd May	Mon 25 th May – Fri 29 th May	Mon 1 st Jun – Tues 21 st Jul

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

Date	Event	Time
Mon 1st Sept	Staff Training Day – School Closed	
Tues 2nd Sept	Staff Training Day – School Closed	
Weds 3rd Sept	1 st Day of Advent Term for children in Pre – School, Nursery & Years 1 - 6	
Mon 15th Sept	Reception Children to attend school full time	
Weds 24th Sept	Flu Vaccinations reception – Year 6	
Mon 29th Sept	Y6 – Y7 Transition Meeting for Year 6 Parents	6.00
Fri 3rd Oct	1st Friday Mass for Year 6 at SMOS Church	8.30
Mon 6th Oct	Maths Monday (Y2 – Y6)	8.30
Tues 14th Oct	Parent / Teacher Consultations	3.30 – 6.00
Weds 15th Oct	Parent / Teacher Consultations	3.30 – 6.00
Fri 17th Oct	End of 1 st Half Advent Term	3.00
Mon 3rd Nov	Start of 2 nd Half Advent Term	8.15
Thurs 6th Nov	6A Class Assembly	2.30
Fri 7th Nov	1st Friday Mass for Year 5 at SMOS Church	8.30
Thurs 13th Nov	4U Class Assembly	2.30
Thurs 20th Nov	6D Class Assembly	2.30
Thurs 27th Nov	3W Class Assembly	2.30
Mon 1st Dec	Meditation Monday (Y2 – Y6)	8.30
Fri 5th Dec	1st Friday Mass for Year 4 at SMOS Church	8.30
Mon 15th Dec	Christmas Crafts Reception & Y3	8.30
Tues 16th Dec	Christmas Crafts Nursery & Y6	8.30
Weds 17th Dec	Christmas Crafts Y2 & Y4	8.30
Fri 19th Dec	Christmas Crafts Y1 & Y5	8.30
	Carols on the Playground	2.30
	End of Advent Term	3.00