

Keeping our School Community Safe

Dear Parents and Carers

Now that we have had another announcement from the PM regarding Covid restrictions I thought it would be good to update you on the school's approach.

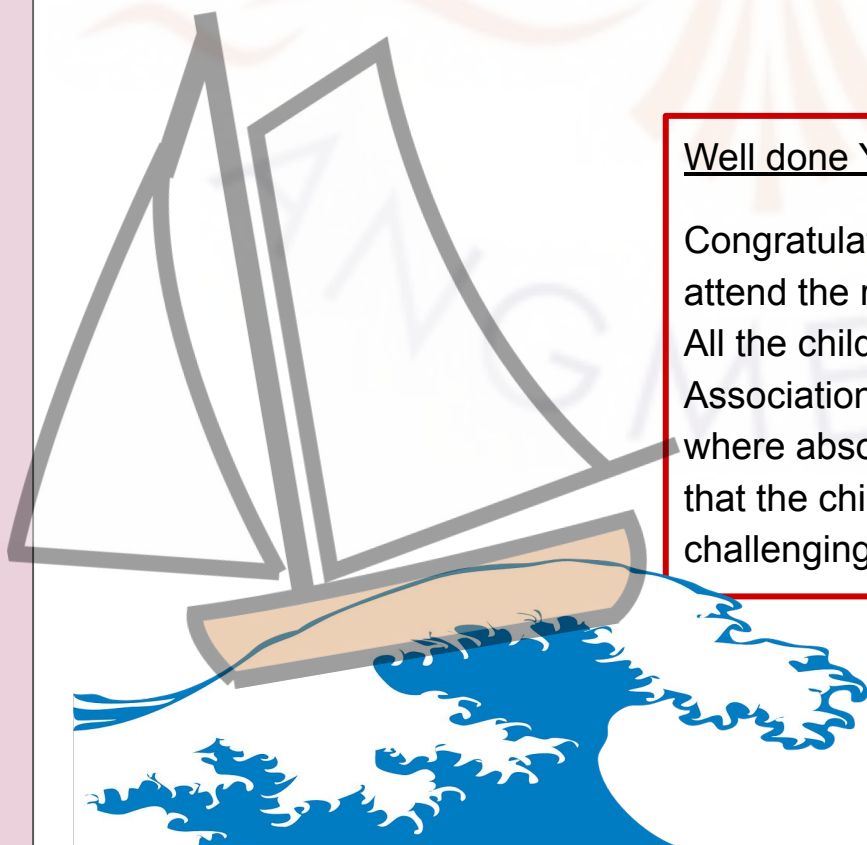
Schools receive daily guidance from the DfE which makes planning for events fairly problematic. It is essential that we follow guidelines whilst seeking to make life as normal for the children as possible. Sports days, Early Years transition meetings, leavers' services etc will still go ahead and where ever possible we will have parents at these events providing we can follow government guidelines on the numbers at gatherings, social distancing and other Covid related restrictions. Please continue to wear masks at drop off and pick up, adhere to the one way system and keep your distance in the playground and school gate.

Local schools in the village and wider locality have had to shut bubbles this week and we are determined to minimise this risk for children at St Margaret's to reduce educational disruption and the wider effects on families.

If arrangements for school events seem a little 'herdsh'(!) for parents and carers, please accept our apologies – we know how important it is for you to see your children at these important times and if at all possible we will see that this is the case

Well done Year 6!

Congratulations to our Year 6 children who attend the residential trip to Cobnor last week. All the children qualified for the Royal Yachting Association Level 1 sailing qualification and where absolutely amazing. We are delighted that the children had this opportunity in such challenging times and wow did they go for it!!





Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

We mentioned at a recent school forum with parents and carers the new curriculum areas introduced by the DfE from September 2020.

Towards the end of the year we embark on a number of lessons that support children's understanding at an age appropriate level of how their bodies work, proper names for body parts and how bodies change as we grow older. We use a variety of videos from the NSPCC and the older children in years 5 and 6 are introduced to puberty, conception and birth. It's important that children know *just enough* for their age to reassure them, dispel misinformation and provide them with strategies to help them stay safe. That is our aim.

These lessons will be part of our normal PSHE timetable and start in w/b July 5th. We think it's important for parents and carers to know this in case children ask questions at home or use terms previously unheard at home. Parents in Year 6 who wish to see the sex education videos should contact the school office before July 5th.

**THE
COUNTDOWN
HAS
BEGUN!**



**Order your
uniform
online direct
with
Brigade!**

Option 1	Service Parents delivery to School <small>(if offered by your school)</small>	Order by ▶ 30/6/21 ▶	For delivery ▶ Before the end of term
	<small>Service will be switched to our 'Parents delivery to Home' service (below) between 1/7 to 2/9 (Standard delivery charges will apply)</small>		
Option 2	Service Parents delivery to Home	Order by ▶ 1/8/21 ▶	For delivery ▶ Before start of new term



Mayday Dance Video -

Now live on the
website! Enter the
password sent to you
via email.

<https://www.stmargaretsprimary.org.uk/556/St-Margarets-School-Performances>

Request from School Council

We are hoping for a few donations of small shoe boxes to be used as "Classroom Suggestion Boxes".

If you have one spare, please send it in with your child next week.

Many thanks, Mrs Bray and the School Council
Representatives

Newsletter 16 - 18th June 2021

Come rain or shine, West Sussex school crossing patrols are out morning and afternoon with their trusty STOP signs to help children safely reach school as well as assisting adults across the road.

However, a small minority of drivers are being increasingly abusive and putting lives at risk with dangerous manoeuvres just because they don't want to stop to let people cross safely.

Recent examples of inconsiderate behaviour have included drivers using abusive language, not stopping when the Crossing Patrol was already standing in the road and even swerving round the Crossing Patrol just to get past.

There are also other instances where blocked pavements and inconsiderate dropping off or parking by parents, particularly at School Keep Clear markings makes their job more difficult to maintain safety and hinders the safe route to school.

Our School Crossing Patrols are valuable members of our local school communities and are appreciated and valued by the many pupils and parents they help.

Some drivers seem unaware of, or simply ignore, the Highway Code on the meaning of the position of the pole and the appropriate response from a driver.

Drivers must stop when they are shown the STOP 'lollipop' sign, failing to do so when requested can lead to a £1,000 fine, three penalty points and disqualification. Vehicles must also stay stationary until the pole has been lowered and the Crossing Patrol is back on the pavement.

Unfortunately, in many instances, the drivers are also the parents of pupils at the schools the Crossing Patrols are serving.

It is disappointing that we need to write and ask drivers to respect Crossing Patrol staff who are trying to perform an essential road safety function.

We would ask the school community to come together to support this valuable resource and ask parents to:

- park considerately,
- wait patiently when asked to stop by the patrol
- to record the details of any vehicles involved in incidents at the patrol site that prevent the School Crossing Patrol from performing their duty.