

Newsletter 2

28th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our Special Support Centre – Buildings Update

We are about half way through our exciting building project at the front of the school. Our new building will be a Special Support Centre for children in the locality with Social Communication needs (Autistic spectrum). Whilst the centre is *based* at St Margaret's the local Authority decides on admissions to the centre. The centre is due to open in January 2024 and will eventually support up to 12 children. It will be called "The Tomlin Centre" – named after a generous benefactor to St Margaret's CE primary School who lived in Angmering for many years.

I am delighted to announce that we have appointed a new Centre Manager who will run the centre from January 2024.

Mrs Mary Ballingal has joined the St Margaret's team from 1st September. Mrs Ballingal worked in both mainstream and SEND schools in West Sussex for 9 years before moving to a specialist school where she worked as class teacher and outreach manager. During this time she advised other schools and mainstream colleagues to support pupils in their setting to be successful and happy learners. This involved training all teachers and support staff, running workshops and modelling best practice.

Littlehampton & District Foodbank and Harvest Festival

We are looking forward to our Harvest Celebrations at St Margaret's Church next week – Wednesday 4th October.

Years 4, 5 and 6 service will be at 9.15am and Years 1, 2 and 3 will be at 10.00am. All parents and carers are welcome to join us. If you are able to walk to and from church with your child's class, please see their teacher or let the office know. Many thanks for sending in your donations – this year we are supporting the Littlehampton Food Bank.



Harvest 2023

We urgently need food donations this Harvest.

- Tinned fruit
- Tinned veg
- Hot chocolate
- Rice pudding
- Squash
- Rice
- Tinned meals
- Soup
- Tinned fish
- Custard
- UHT milk
- Jam, peanut butter etc
- Free From foods



For more info go to <https://rb.gy/45tg5>.



School Matters!



Attendance Matters

You will no doubt have seen that there is an attendance crisis in schools across the country.

Attendance at school is not only a legal requirement but essential for children's learning and welfare. Far too many families are taking holidays during term time. We recognise that holidays in term time are cheaper than during school holidays but that is nothing new – it's always been the case. However, there is a far greater cost than the financial saving when taking holidays in term time. Children who are away for a week do NOT lose a week of schooling - they lose *at least* 2 weeks. We plan our curriculum to be progressive and build on the previous weeks' learning. When children return to school after time out in term time they have missed previous work and are not able to catch up as the class have already moved to the next part of the learning journey. Topics started in the week of their absence mean that they have lost that important introduction and often flounder in the weeks following a break in attendance.

This has a very negative effect on both learning and morale. It cannot be made up.

It's absolutely understandable that children who are unwell should have time off school. Some children are susceptible to colds and chest infections etc.

However, some parents believe that attendance at 90% for other reasons than illness is satisfactory! This represents on average a day off school *every* fortnight – apart from lost education this is a very poor life lesson for children. A child with 90% attendance each year will have lost a whole year at school over a 10 year period.

Throughout this week (and indeed every week following the 6 week summer holiday) I have received a clutch of Absence from Learning in Term Time forms. All of them are for holidays – some for extended periods. This time cannot be made up – this learning for your child has been forfeited. Such absence is lost learning for your child, disruptive for the class and demoralising for teachers. I would ask you to think very carefully before thinking about taking time off school for all the reasons stated.



Parents' Evenings

Parents' Evenings appointments are now available to book via ParentMail.

Tuesday 10th October 3.30 – 6.00pm

Thursday 19th October – 4.00 – 7.00pm

If you are unable to access this, please contact the school office.

Your child's teachers are very keen to let you know how your child has settled in and how they are progressing with their learning.

Communications with Teachers

Please be reminded that if you wish to speak to your child's class teacher, they are available at the end of the day as they release children from the various gates around the school. Teachers are always happy to make contact with you if you have something you want to let them know or some questions. Alternatively, you can email your child's class teacher but please be aware that these emails are only monitored between 8.30am and 5.30pm. Evening and weekend emails cannot be answered outside reasonable working hours. This includes messages on Seesaw or Tapestry.

The class emails follow the format eg. oak@stmargaretsprimary.org.uk; badger@stmargaretsprimary.org.uk etc. It is essential that you **do not** use the class email to report a child's absence but to email the school office instead or phone (01903 785416) and leave a message.

school@stmargaretsprimary.org.uk



REMAINING INSET Days

May I remind you that the school is closed for staff training on

Friday 20th October 2023

Monday 19th February 2024

Monday 22nd July 2024

Tuesday 23rd July 2024



Wet Weather

Please ensure your child has a suitable coat for wet weather as we are very keen to ensure they get plenty of fresh air everyday regardless of the weather.

Exercise and use of the Daily Mile will go on unabated!



Reminder - Children's Birthdays

It's always lovely to feel special on your birthday (when you are young!) and we would like to invite children who are having a birthday to wear mufti on their special day. This means that other children and staff will be able to wish children a Happy Birthday and will help staff who teach in different year groups to get to know children across the school. Children who have birthdays at the weekend or during a holiday can wear mufti **on the Friday before the holiday in which their birthday falls**. If children wish to wear a birthday badge stating their age, they are most welcome.

FREE

Join us for a fun filled evening with
games, crafts & food.
Come & go as you please.

YOU ARE INVITED:

LIGHT PARTY

31ST OCT AT 5:30 PM

To sign up online or email:
chriswilson@angmering.org.uk

www.stmargaretsangmering.church SHARING GOD'S LOVE

St Margaret's
CHURCH
ANGMERING

Curriculum Letters

May I remind you that each half term teachers send out curriculum letters via email highlighting areas of learning for your child. Please make sure you keep this handy so you can support your child with their learning at home and be up to date with their areas of study.



Parentmail APP - Improving our school communications

We are using ParentMail for sending our emails, paying for trips and signing up for Parents Evenings.

ParentMail utilises a **free mobile app**, available for iOS and Android devices, as well as a desktop portal. We strongly encourage you to download the mobile app; here's why:

- Push notifications alert you to new messages, enabling you to access important information with ease
- Keep up to date on school communications from the comfort of home or whilst out and about
- Manage all school messages in one place
- Manage communications for more than one child, across different schools, with one ParentMail account
- You don't need to log in to pick up messages or attachments - communications are quick and easy to access in moments

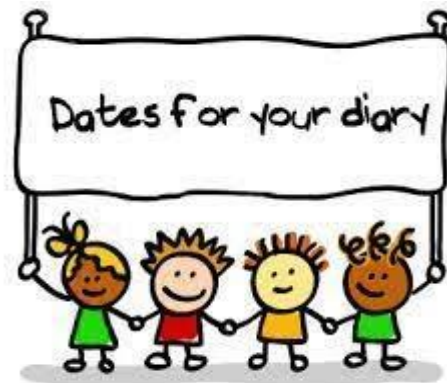
We occasionally send text messages to our parents. However, text messages are very expensive for our school, and we know they're inconvenient for you, too.

**So please download the free ParentMail app
from the Apple App store or the Google Play Store now**

Yours sincerely

Mike Jee
Headteacher





Items highlighted in red are new dates

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – Autumn Term 2023

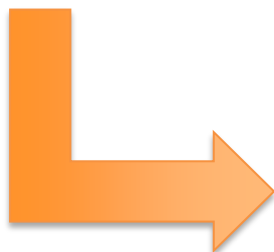
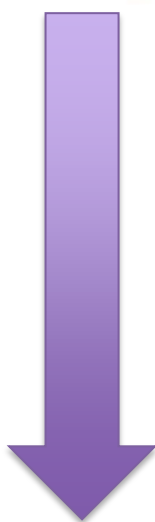
Date	Time	Event
Wednesday 4 th October	9.15am 10.00am	Years 4, 5 and 6 Harvest Festival service at St Margaret's Church (Parents invited to attend) Years 1, 2 and 3 Harvest Festival service at St Margaret's Church (Parents invited to attend)
Tuesday 10 th October	3.30pm – 6.00pm	Parents Evening
Thursday 19 th October	4.00pm – 7.00pm	Flu Immunisation programme offered for the whole school (further details to follow) Parents Evening
Friday 20 th October	ALL DAY	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR INSET DAY
Monday 23rd – Friday 27th October		Half Term
Tuesday 31st October	5.30pm	St Margaret's Church Light Party (see flyer attached)
Thursday 2nd November	6.00 – 7.00pm	PTA Firework Display (see flyer attached)
Friday 10 th November	11.00am	Remembrance Service
Thursday 30 th November	am	Panto performing at school
Saturday 2nd December		PTA Christmas Event – Breakfast with Santa
Thursday 7th December		Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 11 th December	9.15am 10.00am 1.30pm	Years 4, 5 and 6 Church Service at St Margaret's Church (Parents invited to attend) Years 1, 2 and 3 Church Service at St Margaret's Church (Parents invited to attend) Year 1 and 2 Christmas play dress rehearsal to ½ school
Tuesday 12 th December	9.30am 1.30pm	Year 1 and 2 Christmas play dress rehearsal to ½ school Year 1 and 2 Christmas play to parents and carers
Wednesday 13 th December	9.30am 2.30pm 6.00pm	Year 1 and 2 Christmas play to parents and carers EYFS Christmas Nativity to parents Carol Service
Thursday 14th December	Pm	Christmas parties in classes
Friday 15 th December		Last Day of School
First day back after Christmas is Tuesday 2 nd January 2024		

St Margaret's C.E. Primary School, Arundel Road, Angmering, West Sussex, BN16 4LP

To develop a life-long love of learning; to grow spiritually and reflect Jesus in our words and action; to foster self-respect and love for others; to provide opportunities for ALL to flourish; to serve our community; to prepare and equip for an ever-changing world.

PTA

WHAT'S ON



WHATS ON THIS TERM



FIREWORKS DISPLAY

We are very excited to announce the return of our Fireworks display in on **THURSDAY 2nd NOVEMBER, 6-7pm**

There will be music, food and drink available.

Under 3s go free, but all other attendees will need to purchase a ticket. £3.00 per person, available on ParentMail soon

SAVE THE DATES!



Join the PTA!



Would you like to join our PTA?

We always welcome new faces, and new ideas.

We appreciate everybody has busy lives but even a few hours every now and again to help our PTA would be gratefully appreciated.

If you are interested please contact pta@stmargaretsprimary.org.uk or come and speak to the school office.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

This year we have invited a very special guest to school for a new Christmas event - Breakfast with Santa!

SATURDAY 2nd DECEMBER, time and price TBC

Santa will be on site whilst children and their families enjoy croissants, juice and fresh fruits, together. There will be the grotto where your child can have a photo and chat with the jolly man himself!

Tickets will be available to purchase on ParentMail, and every child attending over 2 will need a ticket. 1 parent per child can attend for free, additional adults will need a guest ticket.

SAVE THE DATES!

We Need Your Help



Spaces still available for these clubs if you are interested?

RACHAEL reynolds

SCHOOL OF DANCE

**BE ACTIVE
BUILD CONFIDENCE
AND HAVE FUN!**

ST MARGARET'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
AFTER SCHOOL STREET DANCE CLUB

EVERY MONDAY (3:10 - 4:10pm)
FOR YEARS Reception - 4

£5 PER CLASS

SPACES AVAILABLE!

BOOK NOW
07878161246 | RACHAEL@RACHAELREYNOLDSADANCE.COM
WWW.RACHAELREYNOLDSADANCE.COM


DANCE CLASSES

FREE 1ST CLASS

Classes for ages 4-12


Classes in : musical theatre, jazz/lyrical and street

Location :St Margarets Primary School, Arundel Rd, Angmering, BN16 4LP

Scan to book : 

Or book at <https://activ8.classforkids.io/term/153>

Contact for more information
Phone : +447786253589
Email : Charlotte@activ8forkids.co.uk



CHARLOTTE READER DANCE

IN THE DANCE STUDIO AT ST MARGARET'S

TAP DANCE
Mondays
4.15 - 4.45pm Reception - Year 2
4.50 - 5.35pm Year 3 +

MUSICAL THEATRE
Thursdays
4.15 - 5.00pm Reception - Year 2
5.05 - 5.50pm Year 3 +

NEW TERM STARTS 11TH SEPT

Get in touch for more info and to book a 2 week taster:

WWW.CHARLOTTEREADERDANCE.CO.UK

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You don't need to go hungry if you don't have money for food.

There are many reasons for financial crisis, including redundancy, illness or injury, low income, unexpected expenses, a relationship breaking down, homelessness and more.

Whatever the reason, you can contact Citizens Advice free on **0808 278 7969** to talk about getting a foodbank voucher.

If you live or work in the areas around **Littlehampton, Angmering, Rustington, East Preston** and **Arundel** you can find more information on how to get a voucher, including other agencies you could contact, at <https://littlehamptondistrict.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/how-to-get-help>.

Nobody needs to go to bed hungry tonight.

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