

# ST MARGARET CLITHEROW ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Monkswood Lane (off Monkswood Way) Stevenage Herts SG2 8QJ

Headteacher:  
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Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Parents,

I hope this letter finds you well and you all had a wonderful summer break. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the Year 1 teacher and provide you with the relevant information for the busy term ahead.

In Year One, we are fortunate to have Miss Bartesaghi and Miss Olejnik working with us. Mr Wells, our sports coach, will teach the children's PE lessons on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Please find attached a copy of our autumn timetable which allows children opportunities for child-initiated learning and well as daily explicit teaching of phonics, reading, English and maths. In a child centred approach, infant classroom this is subject to change according to child's interest and needs.

Learning to read as well as developing a great love for reading is a cornerstone of our curriculum at St Margaret Clitherow School, and this year we are pleased to adopt the Little Wandle phonics scheme. To find out more, please do read the information at: <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>  
Your children will continue to bring books to share at home. On Wednesdays, your child will bring home a book that they have practised reading in school. Please celebrate their reading skills and return the book to school on Friday. On Fridays, they will bring a 'sharing book' and another reading book home. We would not expect your child to read this book independently, although they may be able to read some of it. These are books to share and enjoy with an adult. You can read it to your child or share the reading with them or even just spend ten minutes discussing what you like about the book.

In your child's reading diaries is a Teach Your Monster to Read login which is an award-winning series of games which helps children to master the first stages of reading, it is available on a PC and laptop, or you can download the app from the app store.

As part of our daily phonic learning, we will be sending home new spellings every Friday for a test on the following Friday. Children's spelling test books will be sent home for you to check their progress, please ensure they are in school on a Friday. To begin with, children will have five spellings each week and this will increase to ten over the coming weeks.

Across the school there is a focus on handwriting this year; the children will be practising pre cursive writing every day, a visual aid to support your child with their letter formation has been attached for your reference.

If you would like to supply your child with a snack from home, please ensure it is a piece of fruit. Alternatively, the children are provided with a piece of fruit every morning before break time.

It is important your child is dressed for all weather eventualities; a coat is needed every day as we often work outside. Wellington boots or suitable waterproof shoes, clearly named, would be appreciated.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to catch an adult at the door in the morning or after school. Alternatively, contact the school office to arrange an appointment.

Yours Sincerely,

Eilish Marron  
Year One Class Teacher



Jesus lives in us, our families, our school, our Church, our world. Jesus is our guide, let us follow Him  
At St Margaret Clitherow School we are committed to Safeguarding Children