

ST MARGARET CLITHEROW ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

Headteacher:
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Friday 11th September 2020

Dear Parents

We have officially completed our first full week of the new normal! As I mentioned last week, your children have settled into school life well and we are very proud of them. Thank you for your patience and for following new routines and one-way systems. Your best wishes and good luck messages have also been well received by the team here in school, thank you! I would also like to thank the staff for their dedication and support when implementing new routines in class. Staff are teaching, cleaning and working incredibly hard to keep our community safe and I cannot thank them enough.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all the new children and families joining St. Margaret Clitherow this term – we look forward to working with you and creating memories with you and your children.



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

COVID-19

If you or your child show any of the symptoms of COVID-19 – a high temperature (37.8 or more) or a new continuous cough or a change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), you must not come into school and follow Government guidelines regarding testing and isolation. Testing is now available for anyone (staff and children) showing the signs or symptoms. You must inform us of the outcome of a test as soon as possible.

Some reminders

- Only one adult picks up / drops off your child.
- Keep your distance from other families as you drop off or collect your child - use the markers on the playground if necessary.
- Keep your child close by. Our children are kept apart from other classes during the school day and at break and lunchtimes - please help to maintain this before and after school.
- Follow the arrows around the edge of the Infant playground during busy times.
- Only park in the designated spaces in the car park - not along the hedge, yellow zig zag lines, in the open space near the entrance or in front of the school gates.
- When possible, walk, cycle or scoot to school. Please do not cycle or scoot through the playground or car parks.
- Keep your child close by when walking through the car parks.

Stevenage FC car park

Please note that we have been in communication with Stevenage FC and the police regarding the litter and broken glass in their car park each morning.

Vision, Aims and Rules

The start of a new school year is always a good time to reflect upon our purpose in sending our children to a Catholic school and with this in mind, you will find below our vision statement, aims of the school and the school rules. I am sure that you will be proud to continue in supporting these aims in the same way that the children are proud to uphold their school rules and the Mission Statement.

Our Vision Statement:



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Our School Aims:

To ensure our school values encompass the Catholic identity and ethos of the school and support the faith journey of all pupils

To maximise potential progress and achievement for all pupils through high quality of education which ensures at least good and often outstanding learning and teaching, monitoring and feedback, leading to sustained high rates of progress and consistently high standards

To enjoy and achieve through the development of a creative approach to the curriculum which improves learning and makes appropriate links between subjects.

To sustain and develop a safe and comfortable learning environment which is conducive to effective and creative learning and teaching and which maximises the opportunities for learning indoors and outdoors

To promote and celebrate the diversity of our school community, ensuring pupils understand how to be responsible and respectful to society

To promote pupils' and staff's emotional and mental health wellbeing that enables them to be resilient when they encounter problems and challenges

Our School Rules:

- Treat others as you would like to be treated
- Be ready to learn
- Be proud of your uniform
- Respect property and the environment
- Be the best that you can be!

Nursery Admissions 2021 - 2022

Was your child born between 1/9/2017 - 31/8/2018?

This year our governors intend to offer 15 hours (morning only) or 30 hours (morning and afternoon) in our Nursery. The application process is now open and will close on Friday 27th November. Please contact the school office for an application pack or visit our school website for further details. External school visits (**visitors will not be entering the school building at all**) can take place, please contact the school office for information about this under the current restrictions.



A message from the Governing Body – Foundation Governors needed!

The Governing Body is looking for two Foundation Governors to join our Governing Body. Foundation Governors are appointed in the name of the Archbishop and form the majority of our governing body. They have a legal duty to preserve and develop the Catholic character of the school and to ensure that the school is conducted in accordance with its trust deed.

The role of Foundation Governor is an important one, because the Catholic character of our school depends on committed Catholics being willing to undertake this service. Induction and training is provided for all Foundation Governors by the Diocese therefore no experience is necessary, only the time and commitment to serve.



If anyone would like more information on the role please feel free to contact Sally Curtis, Chair of Governors (s.curtis@clitherow.herts.sch.uk) or Maria Streeter, Clerk to the Governing Body (clerk@clitherow.herts.sch.uk)

Best Wishes

SMC Governing Body

Dinner Monies – another gentle reminder!

Please remember that **school meals must be paid for in advance**. The preferred payment method is via Parentpay, however cash or cheque payments can also be made via the School office.

Remember – no problem is too big or too small!

We are always keen to work with parents as a problem arises. Please do not let things fester. Whether it is perceived as a big problem or a minor one – please do make contact and we'll help you to put it into context! Remember – if it is a worry for you or your child then it is a worry for us!

Virtual Assembly – a first!

It was wonderful to 'gather' together yesterday afternoon for our first virtual assembly. The children were so excited to see their friends and siblings from other classes within the school. They enjoyed seeing themselves on the big screen too!

Please follow us on twitter @StMClitherow to get an insight into school life.

God Bless



Carmela Puccio
Headteacher



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