

ST MARGARET CLITHEROW ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

Headteacher:
Carmela Puccio BA (Hons)



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Friday 8th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back! It has been a great pleasure to talk to parents on the infant gate this past week and to see the children so settled and eager to learn in their new classes. Your children are a credit to you and to the school. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all the new children and families joining St. Margaret Clitherow – we look forward to working with you and creating memories with you and your children. We pray that you already feel a sense of belonging to our special community and look forward to many happy years working in partnership with you. The children have settled well into their new classes and new routines. It is like they have never been away! You will shortly receive a letter from your child's class teacher with further updates, class timetable and class overviews.



Before school this morning, staff gathered for our start of new school Liturgy. Governors joined us and we prayed for our school community and for a successful year ahead.

Congratulations Miss Coleman!

I have some exciting news to share with you, Miss Coleman, our Year 3 teacher and Assistant Headteacher got married in Italy over the summer holidays. Huge congratulations to Ms Coleman and her new husband! Miss Coleman will be keeping her surname and will be known as Ms Coleman. Not too tricky to remember! Once again, congratulations Ms Coleman.



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

School Rights

We want all our children to feel safe, both emotionally and physically, in all aspects of school life. We want them to enjoy their learning, demonstrating positive attitudes, effective learning behaviours, and to achieve their fullest potential; making a positive contribution to the wider community in which they live. As part of our INSET day earlier this week we spent time with staff exploring our revised School Rights which you will find below. Our School Rights are kept under regular review and are explicitly modelled, discussed and celebrated in every class and across the school. The children have spent time this week exploring our School Rights, our School Values and British Values, and agreed upon a Class Promise. This is regularly reflected during the school year. Further information about our School Rights can be found in our revised Behaviour and Self-Regulation Policy and Practice which will be available on our school website next week.

At St Margaret Clitherow:

We have the right to be safe.

We have the right to learn.

We have the right to be respected.

Early dates for your diary

As mentioned in the ParentMail last week, on Wednesday 13th September, we will be holding a 'meet the teacher' session from 3:20pm - 3:50pm. This will be an informal opportunity to see your child's classroom, say 'hello' to their new teacher and ask any questions that you might have. We hope you can make it! Face to face parent consultations will take place on Wednesday 18th October. On this day, school will finish at 1:15pm for the meetings to take place. We will continue to use the ParentMail system to book appointments and you will be given further information nearer the time to book your preferred time slot. Please note that our website www.stmargaretclitherow.herts.sch.uk contains useful information including dates for your diary on the school calendar section (on the welcome page). Dates are subject to change but we will always inform you of any changes.



Some gentle reminders

Please remember the following guidelines, which aim to keep our school a safe place to be:

- **Only park in 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.**
- All children must be accompanied by an adult through the car parks.
- The climbing frames must not be used by anyone before or after school.
- Small play equipment (balls etc) must not be taken from the containers before or after school.
- Bikes and scooters must be walked through the playground.

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 try to help you! Initially a word with the class teacher either in person or on the phone can help to share the worry; if after this point it still remains a worry please make an appointment to discuss the matter with a member of the Senior Leadership Team via the school office. Remember – if it is a worry for you or your child then it is a worry for



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us! Please do not be concerned about bothering busy staff – it's what we are all here for. Please also feel free to just come and say hello!

Nursery Admissions 2024 - 2025

Was your child born between 1/9/2020 - 31/8/2021?

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 24th November. Please contact the school office for an application pack or visit our school website for further details.

Free School Meals

If your situation has changed, or you think you may be eligible for free school meals, please visit <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/at-school/free-school-meals/free-school-meals.aspx> The application only takes a couple of minutes to complete. Please do notify the school if you are eligible. Even if your child is in a class (Reception – Year 2) that receives a Government funded free school meal, it is still worth making an application as the school receives additional funding.

After school clubs

Please be reminded that Rising Stars offer after school clubs every day for children aged 4+. The flyer was sent out last term to all families. If you have missed the ParentMail and would like your child to attend an after school club, please contact the office for a copy of the flyer. There are other clubs which are offered throughout the year for specific year groups and these details have been sent directly to parents.

Please follow us on X (twitter) @StMClitherow to gain an insight into school life. Our twitter feed can also be accessed via our school website.

I am extremely proud to be headteacher of St. Margaret Clitherow School and I look forward to working with you all this year!

God Bless



Carmela Puccio
Headteacher

KEY DATES

Please check the school website for any changes to dates

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|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Wednesday, 13 th September 2023 | Meet the teacher (3:20pm – 3:50pm) |
| Thursday, 14 th September 2023 | Swimming for Year 3 & 4 commences |
| Thursday, 12 th October 2023 | Harvest Mass: 9:30am in the school hall |
| Wednesday, 18 th October 2023 | Parent Consultations (school finishes at 1:15pm) |
| Friday, 20 th October 2023 | Finish for October break |

Half Term: Monday, 23rd October to Friday, 27th October 2023

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|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday, 30 th October 2023 | Return to school: 8.45am |
| Monday, 6 th November 2023 | Individual and sibling photos |
| Monday, 27 th November 2023 | Flu vaccinations Reception – Year 6 (details to follow) |
| Friday, 1 st December 2023 | EYFS Nativity: 9:30am in the school hall |
| Tuesday, 5 th December 2023 | Key Stage 1 Christmas play: 9:30am in the school hall |



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Thursday, 7th December 2023
Tuesday, 12th December 2023
Wednesday, 20th December 2023

Advent Mass: 9:30am in the school hall. Confession for Yr 4-6
Year 5&6 Carol Concert: 6:30pm at St. Hilda's Church
Finish for Christmas break: **1:20pm**

Christmas Break: Thursday, 21st December to Wednesday, 3rd January 2024

Thursday, 4th January 2024

Return to school: 8.45am

Future date

Tuesday 19th March 2024

Year 3&4 Easter Play: 9:30am in the school hall



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