

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 6th September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

We are thrilled to report that the first week back at school has been a tremendous success! It's been wonderful to see the children settle in so quickly and to welcome our new families into the school community. They have spent time this week learning about our School Saint, St. Margaret Clitherow. Our Nursery Team have undertaken home visits this week building strong connections with our youngest learners and their families right from the start. We pray that all our new families already feel a sense of belonging to our special community and look forward to many happy years working in partnership with you. The positivity and enthusiasm from both children and staff have set a fantastic tone for the year ahead. Your children are a credit to you and to the school. You will shortly receive a letter from your child's class teacher with further updates, class timetable and class overviews.

This morning, we began our school year with a Mass for staff and governors. It was a beautiful and meaningful way to come together as a school family and set our intentions for the year ahead.



Early dates for your diary

As mentioned in the ParentMail last week, on Wednesday 11th 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 23rd 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.

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 on the yellow lines or 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 us! Please do not be concerned about bothering busy staff – it's what we are all here for.

Nursery Admissions 2025 - 2026

Was your child born between 1/9/2021 - 31/8/2022?

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 22nd November. Please contact the school office for an application pack or visit our school website for further details.

Summer building work

Over the summer holidays, we undertook significant building work to enhance the safety and learning environment for our children. This included fire safety work with the replacement of internal doors and glass screens, as well as a redecoration of the Nursery classroom. We're pleased with the improvements and are sure they will benefit everyone in our school community. We were able to complete the fire safety work after receiving funding from the Diocese. The school must contribute 10% towards the cost of this work and the School Building Fund will be used to cover this cost. A heartfelt thank you to the many families who contribute monthly to this fund. Every contribution, no matter the size, makes a difference and helps us plan and carry out future work that benefits our children. Please contact the school office if you would like to support us.



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.

We encourage you to follow us on X (Twitter) @StMClitherow for regular updates. We aim to tweet snapshots of school life to keep you informed and engaged with what's happening at school.

I am extremely proud to be headteacher of St. Margaret Clitherow School and I look forward to working with all of you throughout this school year to ensure it is a successful and rewarding one for our children.

God Bless

Carmela Puccio
Headteacher

KEY DATES

Please check the school website for any changes to dates

Wednesday, 11 th September 2024	Meet the teacher (3:20pm – 3:50pm)
Thursday, 12 th September 2024	Swimming for Year 3 & 4 commences
Wednesday, 25 th September 2024	Year 6 Height and Weight
Thursday, 10 th October 2024	Harvest Mass: 9:30am in the school hall
Wednesday, 23 rd October 2024	Parent Consultations (school finishes at 1:15pm)
Friday, 25 th October 2024	Finish for October break (normal time)

Half Term: Monday, 28th October to Friday, 1st November 2024

Monday, 4 th November 2024	Return to school: 8.45am
Monday 4 th November 2024	Other Faiths Week
Monday, 4 th November 2024	Individual and sibling photos
Monday, 25 th November 2024	Flu vaccinations Reception – Year 6 (details to follow)
Friday, 29 th November 2024	EYFS (Nursery & Reception) Nativity: 9:30am in the school hall
Thursday, 5 th December 2024	Advent Mass: 9:30am in the school hall. Confession for Yr 4-6
Tuesday, 10 th December 2024	Year 5&6 Carol Concert: 6:30pm at St. Hilda's Church
Thursday, 12 th December 2024	Key Stage 1 Christmas play: 9:30am in the school hall
Friday, 20 th December 2024	Finish for Christmas break: 1:15pm

Christmas Break: Monday 23rd December to Friday, 3rd January 2025

Monday, 6 th January 2025	Return to school: 8.45am
Future date	
Tuesday 18 th March 2025	Year 3&4 Easter Play: 9:30am in the school hall