

# 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 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parents

Half term is almost in sight! I have been incredibly proud of our children this half term; I can not fault their attitude to learning. They certainly deserve their half term holiday and rest. Even though we are operating under various restrictions, we are trying to keep school life as normal as we can. This term we have reintroduced after school clubs, started to use our outdoor equipment and hosted parent consultations online. Despite Government restrictions easing, the guidance for school remains the same. We continue to follow our school risk assessment and remain cautious here in school. It is highly unlikely that we will be able to celebrate events with families here in school this term. We pray that when September comes, we will be able to get back to normal school life. Later this term we will start to plan for September as there are some ideas that we have put in place for our risk assessment that we will keep moving forward.

### Science week

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April marked the start of Science Week at St. Margaret Clitherow School. A week full of science and outdoor learning! Year 2 and 3 celebrated Earth Day, thinking about how they can make commitments to make a simple change to their behaviour to show their love for the planet. Nursery carried out some experiments using everyday items; from colour changing milk to dancing raisins! Year 6 extended their forces learning on Newton's laws and their application to everyday life. They mastered every force having an equal and opposite force and enjoyed exploring how parachutes work. Year 1 began the week exploring the outside environment. Using magnifying glasses, the children observed the plants they found closely and used plant identification sheets to help name them. Children in Reception investigated what they needed to successfully grow beans. They planted the beans in recycled pots containing soil, cotton wool or paper towels, watered them and cared for them. Year 4 were busy learning about classification keys. They learnt how to use a key to identify different plants and animals. Our Year 5 children created their own products from recyclable plastic that the Hamro Mahila women's group could create and sell in international markets. What a week!



### Outdoor Zones and Play Equipment

When the children arrived back to school after the Easter holidays, they were incredibly surprised and excited to see our new combination trail. Almost all the classes have been given an opportunity to use the equipment, our youngest children will get their turn after half term. The children have thoroughly enjoyed using the equipment as you can imagine, challenging themselves to get further along the trail. We also introduced new play equipment bags for each class and again, the children have loved playing some new games. As it gets warmer and drier (!) we have started to use the field more at lunchtimes; the children follow the zone rotas and get to enjoy various areas on the field, including our new games zone which

includes a football table, Jenga and Connect 4. Lunchtimes have never been so much fun!



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

## TA positions

Please note that we have two Teaching Assistant (1 full time and 1 part time) roles advertised on Teach in Herts. Please visit <https://www.teachinherts.com/find-a-job.htm> and search for our school for further details. Both advertisements close on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June.

## SchoolGrid

You should have by now received an email invite from SchoolGrid asking you to link to their online payment system for ordering school dinners. Herts Catering will continue to provide our children with their meals but from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June, School Grid will be used as the ordering and online payment system for school meals. **Children will no longer be able to place dinner orders in school, dinners MUST be pre-ordered at home before coming into school.** We have new touch screens installed in the hall ready for when the children can eat in the hall again from September. When this does happen, they will select their name from the screen and collect their food from the serving hatch. If you have any further questions about the new ordering system, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

## COVID-19 Update – Half term holiday contact tracing

**We have been asked once again by Hertfordshire County Council to monitor our [admin@clitherow.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@clitherow.herts.sch.uk) account over the half term holiday to ensure that we are able to quickly identify those that need to self-isolate.** Can I please remind you that 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 available and anyone (staff and children) showing signs or symptoms will be expected to be tested. **You must inform us of the outcome of a test as soon as possible. If you need to contact us out of school hours please email [admin@clitherow.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@clitherow.herts.sch.uk)** This account is monitored out of school hours, including weekends and holidays. Staff will continue to undertake their lateral flow testing during the half term holidays as requested by Hertfordshire County Council.

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

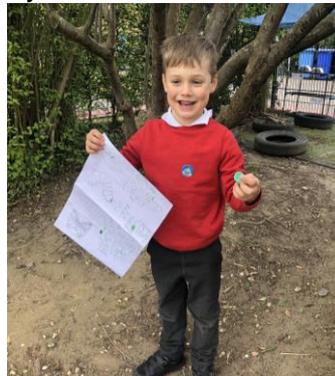
I hope you all have a peaceful and relaxing half term holiday. Please continue to follow local and Government guidelines to keep our community safe.

Yours sincerely

Carmela Puccio  
Headteacher



Thank you for your book donations!



Headteacher Awards



Eco-Committee Members



Ultimate frisbee!



Fire Pit Project Club



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