

ST MARGARET CLITHEROW ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

Headteacher:
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Dear Parents / Carers

I cannot believe we're almost at half term – time certainly flies when you are having fun!! We have managed to squeeze in so much this half term, thank you to our dedicated team for ensuring our children have the opportunity to enjoy many aspects of the curriculum.



Staffing Update

I am pleased to announce that Mrs Vincenti–Morrison and Miss West will be joining our team over the coming months as permanent members of staff. We also look forward welcoming back Mrs Mather on Wednesday 22nd May. We are sad to say goodbye to Ms Sinclair and Mrs Flynn from their temporary positions with us. Ms Sinclair and Mrs Flynn will be leaving us at Easter. We thank them both for their dedication and teaching over the past two terms and we wish them well with their future endeavours. Mrs Vincenti-Morrison will teach Year 5 on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. She will job share with Mrs Bishop until Mrs Mather returns from her maternity leave. Miss West will teach Year 3 full time after the Easter holidays.

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Workshop

It was lovely to see parents at the RSE workshop earlier this week. The handouts and parent booklet that were shared at the workshop are available on the school website.

Wow Travel Tracker

We are currently participating in the WOW Walk to School Challenge which is being delivered by Living Streets. The children select their travel into school each day using the travel tracker on their class whiteboard. WOW rewards children who walk to school four times a week with a collectable badge each month. Cycling and scooting also counts towards earning a WOW badge.

Mini Police – Year 5

Year 5 will be taking part in the Mini Police scheme that is taking place across Hertfordshire. The principal aim of the Mini Police programme is to create a fun and interactive volunteering opportunity for children aged 9-11 years old in primary schools. The programme will take place



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

each week for approximately 6 weeks. The police officers will teach the children about road safety, personal safety and anti-social behaviour. During the programme there will be a Community Week where the children are invited to the police station and have a tour. It sounds like a great scheme – we can't wait!

Sports Updates

Our netball and football fixtures have continued this term. Our Year 3 children took part in Stevenage Sporting Futures' Mini Olympics sessions this half term and had a great time! Our Year 6 children received defibrillator and first aid training earlier this week – an informative and important session.



Youth Leadership Team (YLT) have been busy!

Our YLT have spent a lot of their own time reorganising our school library. A special thank you to Ava in Year 3 for organising the team each lunchtime. Our classes are now working on a variety of art and design technology projects to turn our library into a jungle! Our Key Stage 1 library has already transformed into an 'under the sea' theme. Keep an eye on the school website for more photos!

Writing Communal Displays – don't they look fab?!



World Book Day – Thursday 7th March

Please note that World Book Day will take place on Thursday 7th March this year. The children are invited to come to school as a book character if they wish. They will be taking part in various activities throughout the week and the day itself.



No problem is ever too big or too small to be discussed!

This is something that we always try to reinforce with the children. It is, however, just as true for all of us. Please do come in to talk to us if you have any concerns. Often an early chat prevents small worries from becoming big worries. Remember, we can't act if we don't know! In the first instance, a discussion with the class teacher may help, either via a telephone call after school or simply popping in at the end of the day. Longer appointments can be arranged via the office where necessary. If the problem remains unresolved you may wish to make an appointment (via the school office or email) to come in and see me. Please do not leave things to fester.

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 or yellow zig zag lines.**
- All children must be accompanied by an adult through the car park.
- The junior play equipment must not be used by anyone before or after school.
- The infant play equipment must only be used by children, with care, under parental supervision.
- 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.
- Balls are not permitted on the playground before or after school.
- There will be occasions when we will need to close the gate promptly after school.

Feedback

We are always keen to receive and act upon feedback. Both myself and governors will be available at parent consultations later this term to gauge your views – please do talk to us! We will also be encouraging all parents to complete a simple Ofsted questionnaire at <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login>. Data gathered from this is not only used by Ofsted in evaluating the school but also by the Senior Leadership Team and the Governing Body in order to gauge areas that we should focus on.

General Reminder – lockers!

We are fortunate to have lockers for each child in the school. Please ensure your child's belongings are not too large as some children are struggling to close their locker doors because of the size of their bags.

I wish you all a wonderful half term with your families; often not a peaceful time I know but one in which we can all focus on those whom we love most and enjoy some time together. Have a fantastic break – I look forward to welcoming you back to the Lenten journey towards Easter. God's blessing on you and those most dear to you.

Yours sincerely



Miss Puccio
Headteacher



Important dates this term (dates and times subject to change – please check our website)

Fri, 15 th February	Finish for Half Term (3.30pm)
	<i>Mon, 18th – Fri, 22nd February Half Term</i>
Mon, 25 th February	Return to school (8.45am)
Wed, 6 th March	Ash Wednesday Mass (2pm)
Thurs, 7 th March	World Book Day – children can dress up!
Fri, 15 th March	INSET Day (no school for children)
Thurs, 28 th March	EYFS and KS1 Lenten Mass (9.30am)
Thurs, 4 th April	KS2 Lenten Mass (9.30am)
Fri, 5 th April	Finish for Easter Break (1.45pm)
Tues, 23 rd April	Return to school (8.45am)

