

St Margaret's C.E.P. School

Newsletter

Inspire, Nurture, Discover

Learning as we grow, Growing as we learn, Rooted in Jesus

Tuesday 8th September

Issue No: 1

St. Margaret's Fully Reopens

Welcome back. It has been so good to see the whole school community return as one. I hope you are all adjusting smoothly to those early mornings once again!

The first week back at school is always a very busy and important time; this applies even more this September. Friendship groups need to reconnect, teachers need to get to know the class, new routines will need to be discussed, especially in the current and continuing circumstances. However, there was a noticeable air of excitement and confidence as the children arrived in school each day. Here are some of the children's first week back in school experiences:

'At first I was a bit nervous but then my fear turned to joy at being back in school'. William (Yr 5)

'Returning to school was like moving forward in my life and I am looking forward to the excitement of learning in the future.' Imogen (Yr 5)

'During the first week I experienced the joy of seeing my friends!' Honor (Yr 5)

New Reception Children

This week was the first week of transitions into Primary school with our youngest children coming in initially with their parents on Wednesday followed by a full morning session split into two groups. This will then be increased to having lunch as a whole year group and lastly full days.

Miss O'Connor was very impressed with how the children came in with beaming smiles and enthusiasm.

Amazing work from 'Lockdown'

Many children throughout the school have been bringing in work from the projects they completed at home during lock down. Class projects included the Castles, Monarchs, Mayans, Aborigines as well as activities that celebrated both World Oceans Day and VE day. Pupils enjoyed sharing fun facts and home craft projects. These have included papier mache Mayan masks, wooden and cardboard castles with turrets and drawbridges, stories, poetry, photo albums and science investigations. Pupils have enthusiastically shared their work with their peers and it was lovely to have the opportunity to celebrate the home learning together.

Thank you to all adults who have been involved in supporting home learning; the work which has been shared is impressive.

Key Stage 1 Outside areas

Over the summer a few changes were made to the outside areas for both Key Stage 1 classes. We are especially thankful to Norman Collins, our caretaker, who worked alongside staff and volunteers to move the playhouse from the front of the school to the garden at the side of the school. This move will now enable Pippin class to enjoy using it as part of child initiated play activities. The decking in Russet class' outdoor area was also replaced with the addition of a covered sandpit being inserted within it. Both Key Stage 1

class children are now eager to enjoy these areas as part of their learning.

Worship via Zoom

On Wednesday morning, the school experienced the first whole school worship via zoom. It was a great success and the children thoroughly enjoyed learning about the story of the return of the Israelites from exile in Babylon. There are many parallels between the story of the Israelites and what is happening in schools now. 'Let us start rebuilding' (Nehemiah 2:18); I think we have!

Music

We are delighted that private and small group music lessons in school will continue as normal. Both Karen Barton-Holman and Sarah Whitehead will be resuming music lessons over the week.

Hunton CE Primary

I will continue to be in Hunton on a Thursday and Friday until the end of the year. In my absence Mrs Bannon will be on site as Senior Teacher. The recruitment process at Hunton school is well underway with interviews for the substantive Headteacher post due to take place later this month.

Finally, we will have further adjustments to make to school life. Looking forward this term we would have had our first church service to celebrate harvest as well as Open Evenings. These important events will take place. Further details will be issued soon.

Wishing you all a good week.