

# St Margaret's C.E.P. School

## Newsletter

*Inspire, Nurture, Discover*

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

---

**Monday 4th Sep**

**Issue No:1**

### Welcome back

A very warm welcome to the new academic year to everyone especially the 17 pupils and their families who have joined us in Year R. I hope everyone has had a most enjoyable summer.

The summer break has been busy with quite a few improvements to the buildings and equipment undertaken including the redecoration of the hall and welcome area. We were also fortunate to be offered a virtually new server completely free from Mrs Bentley's husband's workplace so this has also been installed. Not only has Mr Collins been busy overseeing the decorating and much more, he has repaired the ever popular boat in the playground. I know this will be welcome news to so many of the children! Talking about the grounds, Mrs Brooker now has a dedicated shed for Forest School which will be running for 1 whole day each week throughout the year enabling every year group to be involved. In all, a busy 6 weeks but all important stuff!

In worship over the coming term we will be recognising that we are 'together again' looking at themes of rebuilding together, learning together from Jesus the Teacher, how we are flourishing together, showing compassion together and also growing together with a link to our Harvest celebration. Our Harvest service will be taking place in the church on Friday 6th October from 9.15am. Please put the date in your diary and enjoy a coffee or tea from 8.45am.

### Diary

Thurs 7th September 11+ (PESE) testing all day for Year 6. Swimming lessons for Bramley Class start

Tues 12th Maidstone Mediation leading worship

Thurs 14th Sarah Whitehead (Flute Lessons) resume, both private and for Years 3 and 4

Tues 19th—Family Trust worship

Tues 26th—Father Paul worship

Fri 29th—Collection for the Harvest Service starts. Please bring all donations to the school hall. We will be collecting tins, packets, toiletries and other non perishable items which we will be donating to Maidstone Day Centre who provide emergency support for the homeless as well as food parcels to needy families throughout the Borough of Maidstone.

Fri 6th October—9.15am Harvest Service in St. Margaret's Church.

Wed 18th PESE results issued to parents

Fri 20th October Photographer in taking individual/sibling photographs. If you would like a younger pre school sibling to be in a family photo, please come to the hall at 8.45am.

End of term 1.

*Mon 23rd—Fri 27th October holiday*

Mon 30th Staff Development Day—school shut.

Tues 31st—Start of term 2

Tues 7th November—Flu vaccinations for Year R—6.

Tues 7th and Thurs 9th—Parents' afternoon/evening—a separate letter

will be issued later this month. Times will be 3.30—6.00pm on Tuesday and 5.30—8.00pm on Thursday.

Many more dates to be added as the term progresses.....

### Uniform Shop

It was lovely seeing all the children back in their smart uniform this morning. A reminder that the shop will be open each Wednesday at 3.15pm in the school hall.

### Good attendance at school

However good our provision including the quality of teaching, absence from school leads to disruption which creates gaps in learning. Our attendance was 'good' up to Easter. Thank you. Term 6 saw a considerable increase in absence mainly due to holidays. Unless there are exceptional circumstances, holidays in term time are unauthorised. Unauthorised absence can result in fines issued to each parent for each child.

Our term dates are already published on the website for 23/24 so please plan accordingly. A new attendance policy will be on our website very soon, reflecting the renewed focus on attendance from the Department for Education. Please can everyone do their utmost in keeping any absence from school to an absolute minimum.

### Hot school Lunches

From today, a reminder that the cost of each meal has increased to £2.85.

*Have a good week*