

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

## Newsletter

*Inspire, Nurture, Discover*

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

---

**Wednesday 13th Dec**

**Issue No:5**

### Starfish Malawi

Recently, we had an assembly led by a Starfish Malawi representative, Cathy Penfold. The children were absorbed! She shared such interesting information about our link school including their limited facilities and the impact of recent storms. In all the pictures everyone looked so happy. Cathy then spent time with Key-Stage 2 children where they were able to share their views and ideas. It was a great session where pupils displayed maturity and sensitivity.

### Poppy Appeal

Thank you to everyone who kindly donated. We raised £285.64 which was over £40 more than last year.

### Attendance

Things are not quite so equal on the attendance awards now! We have a clear front runner with Russet Class who have now been successful 5 weeks since September.

### Christmas activities...

What a stunning Christmas tree! Many thanks to the Elliott-Dunns who donated and decorated it.

### Nativity

We have enjoyed all the performances of Arthur's Christmas Drum. Narrators spoke with such clarity and confidence and the whole cast sang and danced with enthusiasm. Thank you to all the children and adults involved in making this such a success.

### Christmas Jumper Day

In excess of £160 was donated. Thank you.

### FOCSS Christmas Fair

With over 50kg of chocolate donated, it was sure to be another successful event, and indeed it was! £2400 was raised. Thank you to everyone who donated, assisted and attended.

### Carol Singing at Staplehurst

The children sang beautifully and were such great ambassadors for the school. Thank you to all the parents who offered lifts and joined in with the singing too!

### Diary

Fri 15th From 8.45am, refreshments will be served ready for our end of term Carol Service. Everyone is most welcome to attend.

*Mon 18th Dec–Tues 2nd Jan School closed*

Wed 3rd Jan Start of term 3. Children return to school.

Mon 15th Clubs start (separate letter to be issued)

Tues 16th Family Trust worship

Wed 17th FOCSS meeting at school

Thurs 18th 31 choir members off to the O2 for Young Voices. No swimming for Bramley Class

Mon 5th Feb Children's Mental Health Week

Tues 6th Safer Internet Day

Fri 9th Last day of term 3

*Mon 12th = Fri 16th–Feb Holiday*

Mon 19th Start of term 4. Children return to school

Tues 27th/Thurs 29th Parent/Teacher consultations

Tues 5th March Bishop Simon of Tonbridge visiting leading worship

and visiting the classes.

Fri 8th Combined World Book Day and World Maths Day

Fri 15th Science Day

Thurs 21st FOCSS Discos

Fri 22nd Clubs finish

Tues 26th FOCSS Easter Egg Hunt (reserve Wed 27th)

Thurs 28th Church Service. END OF TERM

*Fri 29th March–Fri 12th April–Easter holiday*

Mon 15th April Children return to school.

### Childcare for two-year-olds

Although this doesn't involve the school in anyway, you may be aware that the government announced changes to support families and their childcare arrangements. From the 2nd January 2024, eligible working parents can apply for 15 hours of childcare for their two-year-old. Parents have until 31 March 2024 to apply for a code, with mid-January to the end of February being the optimum time to apply in case you need to provide further information to support your application. More information can be found at [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk)

On behalf of everyone at the school, thank you for your support over the last 2 terms and may I wish you all a very joyful Christmas. We look forward to seeing everyone at the church service this Friday and then on Wed 3rd January 2024.