

St Margaret's C.E.P. School

Newsletter

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

Tues 22nd October

Issue No: 3

Harvest

Thank you for the terrific response we had requesting food and toiletries for Maidstone Day Centre. It really was impressive what had been donated from our 90 families. I would also like to thank everyone who attended the service and can only apologise that so many of you had standing room only!

Lego

Talking of donations, thank you for the huge amount of Lego that we have received. I know that it is very much enjoyed after school each Monday afternoon!

Wraparound Care

We received 30 responses to our recent questionnaire and these will now be used to identify the most effective way forward at a forthcoming governors meeting next term.



Online Safety

In a recent safeguarding update from the Safeguarding Advisory Service, they shared information about Internet Matters who have produced new 'ABC checklists' for parents focusing on 3 key areas to guide you through the basics of keeping children safe online.

These are;

Activate parental controls. This includes guidance and links to setting up parental controls, filters,

privacy and security settings on a variety of devices and platforms.

Balance screen time. Provides tips and advice to help parents manage their child's screen time and encourages families to find a balance with offline activities.

Check and chat. Encourages you to check in with your child regularly and communicate with them about the things they see and do online.

The checklists are broken down by age into under 5s, 6-10 and 11-13 to provide parents with relevant tools and advice to help develop good digital habits early. Here is the link: www.internetmatters.org/resources/abc-online-safety-checklist/#ABC-age-checklist

Parent/Teacher Consultations

A reminder that these are taking place on the first Tuesday and Thursday after the October break. We will have a Book Fair open in the hall from 3.15pm on the Tuesday and from 5.30pm on the Thursday.

I'm sure with preparations well underway, I can mention..Christmas!

Tues 10th and Wed 11th Key-Stage 1 Nativity in the school hall from 2.15pm. The gate will open at 2.00pm.

Fri 13th Christmas Jumper Day and at 9.15am, Santa Dash around the Parish Field.

Sat 14th 12.00–2pm FOCSS Christmas Fair held in the school.

Mon 16th Non-school uniform day for the class who wins the FOCSS chocolate tombola competition.

Tues 17th PM—Key-Stage 1 parties.

Wed 18th PM—Key-Stage 2 parties.

Thurs 19th PM—Pantomime.

Fri 20th 9.15am Carol Service in the church. Everyone most welcome with refreshments served from 8.45am.

Nurture

This term we have set up a Nurture group for a small group of pupils. The aim of the group is to enable children to be ready to learn and maximize their potential. A Nurture group can help to develop children's emotional literacy, language development and communication as well as developing and emotional well being and self-esteem. These in turn support children with academic achievement; ultimately the Nurture group is a place of learning.

This group is run by 2 trained members of staff, two afternoons a week in the Garden Room. Each session is planned carefully and has a predictable pattern. Each session involves a check in with emotions (using the Zones of Regulation), a creative or cookery activity, and a time to eat and drink together. If you would like to find out more please visit www.nurtureuk.org.

Year 6 Secondary School

A reminder that Year 6 need to have made their secondary school choices by 31st October which is in the middle of the forthcoming holiday. A leaflet with more details was issued last week.

When it arrives, I hope everyone has a good October holiday.