

Friday 18th November, 2022



Dear Parent/Carer

Parental Update 104

Welcome to the latest *Parental Update*, our fortnightly newsletter for all St Margaret's families. I trust this edition finds you in good health and spirits, despite the challenging times. Rarely have I looked forward to the season of Advent, of the hope of better things to come, so keenly!

Farewell

One of our Learning Support Assistants ('LSAs'), Miss Rood, is leaving us today after just over 11 years' service to the school. We're so grateful for the hundreds of students she has supported over that time, and wish her every success in her future ventures.

It's been a busy couple of weeks in our Special Educational Needs and Disabilities ('SEND') team since I last wrote! We've welcomed Mrs Susan Warrior and Mrs Leah Matthews into school – they are supporting us in the short-term whilst we are in between substantive SEND Co-ordinators. We've resolved some initial teething issues with the SENDAdmin e-mail address and will be advertising shortly for two new LSAs to replace Miss Rood and Ms Kithan, who have left us recently. (In the meantime we have been able to welcome two 'cover' LSAs to the team).

Staff accident

Your son or daughter may have come home today telling you about an accident that took place in school this morning. A member of staff fell in the corridor and the corridor had to be closed for a while. The member of staff concerned is being well-cared for and I'm sure would value your thoughts and prayers at this time.

Our students responded to the situation very maturely, and a number of them have asked after the member of staff's welfare. Some students may be distressed over the weekend; please watch out for any signs of this, and let us know if you think they may need some additional support on Monday.

Vision and Values

Last week I asked for a few more responses to our Vision and Values questionnaire and challenged you to see if we could get to 100 responses. Thank you to everyone who responded – we've made it to 96 altogether!! If four more parents would like to offer their views over the weekend, the form to complete is [here](#). Thank you so much!

Car parking




If you drop your son or daughter off at school in the morning, or collect them from school in the afternoon, please could I ask you to do so away from the main school site? It can be particularly dangerous to park in the bus stop layby just the other side of St Anne's Church – so please don't do so. Thank you!

Maths Clinic

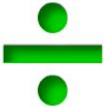
Our new Head of Maths, Mrs Geddes, has set up a Maths Clinic. I think the graphic below is self-explanatory! Do please encourage your son or daughter to come along if they would like any additional support with their Maths.

Are you having problems with Maths?
Is there an issue with your Maths homework?
Not sure what to do?


COME TO THE



Maths Clinic



Drop-in clinic
Every Tuesday Lunchtime
Room 20



You don't have to stay for the full lunch

Dr Silverstone writes:

"Over the last couple of years, I have shared with parents several resources to do with online safety. For the first time, I would like to share something specific for grandparents. We know that, for many of our students, time with grandparents is a regular feature of the week, and sometimes grandparents may not be as confident in matters to do with online safety as parents might like them to be. Internet Matters have put together a very useful guide aimed at grandparents, covering issues such as screen time, online gaming, managing money, sexting and peer pressure. Please do share [this link](#) with relevant family members if you think it will help them to both understand the online life of your children and to safeguard them."

Our next *Update* will be published on Friday 2nd December – the first Friday of Advent. I can't wait!

Yours faithfully



Stephen Brierley
Principal.