



Friday, 11th May, 2018

Dear Parents

From a personal perspective this has been a very unusual week; a four day week is in itself an oddity. Having a school without Year 6 and, very importantly, without the Deputy Head is also rather unnerving. Year 6 have had a fantastic time on their week long residential and I hope you have been able to follow some of the photos on Facebook and Twitter. My thanks to Mrs Moss, Mrs Blackburn, Mr Clinch and Miss Carter for accompanying the children and helping to ensure they had a wonderful week. I've then spent two days this week in London meeting with all the other UK Cognita heads, and a more supportive and engaging group one could not wish to meet. I always pity any non-teacher who has to present at these conferences as teachers are generally terrible audiences who are very prone to asking deeply irritating questions at awkward moments. It was however very useful to engage more with the organisation on the central pillars of a Cognita education:

- Academic excellence
- Developing character
- Nurturing a global perspective

However, being in school on Tuesday and Friday did give me the chance to see the 4C and 4H music assemblies both of which were, predictably, fabulous. I shared with the children and parents at Friday's 4H assembly that I was particularly struck by those children who had made mistakes at the start of their pieces but had either pressed on, or calmly taken stock and restarted. Very impressive self-control under pressure and something that links nicely to the development of character mentioned above.

Next Thursday is our whole school and class photographs so please could I ask you to help ensure that your child has neat and tidy hair, polished shoes and a blazer on that day. Thursday is also International Outdoor Classroom Day. St. Margaret's will be having an Outdoor Classroom week next week where we will be endeavouring to deliver our curriculum outside where possible. I am sure this will be an enriching experience for the pupils and staff.

Having been away so much this week I took the opportunity to visit a couple of classrooms on Friday morning and particularly enjoyed a Year 1 maths lesson with Ms Salmon. The Inspire Maths scheme which we now follow in Years 1 and 2 encourages the children to develop a far deeper understanding of maths and this came through very clearly in the short snapshot I witnessed. Most importantly the children were loving it. Very well done Ms Salmon. Finally, Friday ended with another Mrs Crowley English workshop, this time focussed on creative writing. I know that those of you who were able to attend will have found this a really useful session and my thanks to Mrs Crowley as ever for leading our English department so brilliantly.



Callum Douglas @HeadStMargsPrep

For regular snap shots of 'a day in the life' of St. Margaret's please follow us on [Facebook](#) and Twitter

[@StMargsPrep](#)

[@HeadStMargsPrep](#)

BRONZE

Well done to
Orlaith (4C)
For achieving her
Bronze Merit Badge

French Certificate

The French certificate this week goes to **Amelie J (3F)** for consistently good work and behaviour



Spanish Certificate

The Spanish certificate this week goes to **Isabella P (5C)** for excellent listening to a Spanish story



Gosfield Hall Park, Gosfield, Essex, CO9 1SE

Tel: 01787 472134

admin@stmargaretsprep.com

www.stmargaretsprep.com

[@StMargsPrep](#)

Everytime you shop online



Generate a donation for a charity that is close to your heart



The Giving Machine

The St Margaret's PA are now signed up to The Giving Machine, which means once you have signed up, every time you shop a donation is made to them.

Please take a few minutes to register by using the below link and get shopping: <https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/causes/st-margarets-prep-school-parents-association>

King's Ely Wind, Brass and Percussion Day

On Thursday 3rd May, six Year 6 musicians travelled to King's Ely School to take part in a 'Wind, Brass and Percussion Day'. It was brilliant – despite the best efforts of road-works and traffic jams trying to stop us getting there and back!

Evie, Leo, Oscar, Sam, Skyla and Theo were amazing. We arrived too late for the sectional rehearsals and so the group were thrown straight in at the deep end – sight-reading for the afternoon rehearsal with the full wind band.



They all did very well indeed. Leo was selected to play a horn solo and the percussion teacher singled out Oscar as 'man of the match', surrounded by Year 8 pupils, yet able to perform his part confidently and without help.

At the end of the afternoon, the whole band performed three pieces to an audience of teachers and parents. I have to say, I was bursting with pride at the way our children coped, performed and behaved with the whole event. I'm a very lucky music teacher!

Mrs Morgan



'Crowns and Cakes' - Royal Wedding Celebrations Appeal!

May we please make an appeal for supplies of 'junk modelling' material which can be used by the children to create crowns to wear at our celebration on 18th May?

The children will have an opportunity in class during the day to make themselves a crown, so any suitable materials you can spare would be gratefully received!





Year 6 PGL Residential trip - a few photos sent in by Mr Clinch to show what a fabulous week they have had. There is an album on Facebook which we will update once all the photos are in.



Dates for your diary...

14th May

Year 1 Pirate Day

Maths Confidence for Parents' 2.45 - 3.45 (5M)

17th May

Whole School and Class photos

18th May

5C Music Assembly

'Crowns & Cakes' royal wedding celebrations

19th May

ABRSM exams

21st May

Maths Confidence for Parents' 2.45 - 3.45(5M)

22nd May

5M Music Assembly

Forest School for Reception finishes

23rd May

Year 2 Sandford Mill Trip

Year 1 Parents to lunch 12.00pm

24th May

Year 6 Team of 10 to The Leys Adventure Challenge

Friday 25th May

Sports Day

HALF TERM HOLIDAY 28th May - 1st June

4th June

Yr 5 moving to Yr6 meeting 3.15pm (6M)

Transition moving to Reception meeting 2.30pm (Rec L)

Maths Confidence for Parents' 2.45-3.45 (5M)

5th June

6B Music Assembly

Yr 2 moving to Yr 3 meeting 2.45pm (3G)

6th June

Yr 3 moving to Yr 4 meeting 3.15 - 3.45pm (4H)

Yr4 moving to Yr 5 meeting 3.15 - 3.45pm (5M)

7th June

Reception moving to Yr 1 meeting 2.30 - 3.30pm (1S)

Yr 1 moving to Yr 2 meeting 2.30 - 3.30pm (2L)

Moving into Nursery & Transition meeting 2.45pm (Nursery)

8th June

ISA Regional Athletics, Garon's Park, Southend

Thursday 28th June

Speech Day & Whole School Production

Friday 29th June

Second Performance & Summer Fete

Parents (and Grandparents) are always welcome to join us for Class Assemblies and for coffee afterwards in The Gallery

MONDAY

Dish of the day
Sausage and Mash Potato with
Red Onion Gravy

Vegetarian
Vegetable Tagine with Lemon
Cous-Cous

Lightly Seasoned Pasta
Roasted Red Pepper Sauce

Sides
Mashed Potato
Buttered Cabbage
Baked Beans

Freshly Prepared Salad Bar with
Cold meat platters

Soup of the Day with Freshly
Baked Bread

Fresh Fruit
Yoghurt
Pineapple Upside Down Cake

TUESDAY

Dish of the day
Green Thai Chicken Curry

Vegetarian
Stuffed Mushroom with a Herb
and Cheese Crust

Jacket Potato
Coronation Chicken

Sides
Egg Noodles
Seasonal Vegetables

Freshly Prepared Salad Bar with
Cold meat platters

Soup of the Day with Freshly
Baked Bread

Fresh Fruit
Yoghurt
Rhubarb Crumble & Custard

WEDNESDAY

Dish of the day
Baguette Day/Various Fillings
E.G Cold: Cheese, Ham, Egg
Mayo

Hot: Bacon
Chicken & Onion

Lightly Seasoned Pasta
Creamy Mushroom Sauce

Sides
Tortilla Chips
Crudités

Freshly Prepared Salad Bar
with Cold meat platters

Soup of the Day with Freshly
Baked Bread

Fresh Fruit
Yoghurt
Ice Cream with Chocolate
Sauce

THURSDAY

Dish of the day
Breaded Fish Finger with Tartar
Sauce and Crispy Potato Wedges

Vegetarian
Vegetable Sausage and
Mediterranean Tomato
Casserole

Jacket Potato
Tuna Mayo

Sides
Mashed Potato
Seasonal Vegetables

Freshly Prepared Salad Bar with
Cold meat platters

Soup of the Day with Freshly
Baked Bread

Fresh Fruit
Yoghurt
Courgette Cake

FRIDAY

Dish of the day
Roasted Gammon,
Yorkshire Pudding & Gravy

Vegetarian
Stuffed Pepper with Savoury
Rice

Sides
Roast Potatoes
Seasonal Vegetables

Freshly Prepared Salad Bar with
Cold meat platters

Soup of the Day with Freshly
Baked Bread

Fresh Fruit
Yoghurt
Choc Chip Shortbread