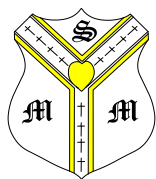


Saint Margaret Mary's Catholic Infant School Newsletter



Friday 5th September 2025



WELCOME BACK!

It has been a pleasure to welcome back all of our children this week. They all look so smart and grown up in their uniforms. We have missed them over the summer.

We've had lots of hugs and smiles as they have come back through our doors, with lots of tales and stories of their adventures over the holidays.

Welcome also to our new reception and nursery parents and children.

We are looking forward to watching all of children's journeys over their time with us.

If you need any further information about our school or dates, please remember there is a wealth of information on our school website.

<https://stmargaretmarysinfant.com/>

School Attendance Matters



As a school we pride ourselves on having a good attendance throughout the year. This year we have set an attendance target of 96% - which we want all of our children to achieve. All classes have been given a class target to strive to achieve. We can only achieve this with your help in sending your child into school, **ON TIME - EVERY DAY**. Pupils are expected to arrive at school between 8.40am and 8.50am. The gates will close at 8.50am.

Throughout the year there will be a number of incentives for the children to aim towards. These will change each term. For the **AUTUMN TERM** we will have the following, which is in line with the local authorities and national drive for improved attendance.

*If your child arrives **on time** every day at 8.40am and has no more than one day absence between Monday 8th September and Friday 24th October, **they will participate in a PIZZA CELEBRATION**.

*If your child attends school every day for the whole school year they will join us on a trip to Space World in July 2026.

*If your child is present for morning and afternoon registration every day for a whole term they will be rewarded with an Autumn Badge for a full attended autumn term, a Spring Badge for a full attended spring term and a Summer Badge for a full attended summer term.

NEW INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT

This year we have set up a new way to communicate with you through using social media. We have launched our new Instagram account which we will be used as a window into daily life in our wonderful school.

Please follow us on www.instagram.com/smmi.infants



COMMUNICATION—MOVING FORWARD

We have listened to your comments about how we communicate with you and hope that the changes we have made, you will see a difference.

We have sent home a letter today outlining how we as a school will communicate with our families.

These are in the following ways:

Newsletter - our weekly newsletter will continue to be sent out each week containing information about upcoming events and also things that have happened during our school week. It will also contain our award winners each week. This will be published on our **SCHOOL WEBSITE** and also sent via SEESAW. Families will also be able to click on QR codes around school to access this easily.

Seesaw - teachers will send out a QR code link, via a letter, to their Seesaw class page which will connect families to their child's class. Teachers will use this to communicate messages for their class, post pictures of children in class and also to celebrate events with their own class. It will also be used for homework. Families will be able to link to their child's class Seesaw page if they register.

Instagram - we are pleased to inform you that we will now be using Instagram as a whole school communication tool to tell you about our events, celebrations and important information and give you a window into our school life. We hope you will follow us on our page at

www.instagram.com/smmi.infants

This will replace our Twitter page.

Email - we appreciate that from time to time you will need to contact us via email. We ask that all email communication is sent to the school office. All emails will then be passed on to the relevant member of staff.

Our email address is: stmargaretmary@knowsley.gov.uk

HEALTHY SCHOOLS AWARD



We have exciting news to share!

We are currently applying for the bronze award as a 'Healthy School.'

Next week, pupils in Years 1 and 2 will be able to vote for two of their classmates to be Healthy School Ambassadors, who will work with our teachers and the local authority to achieve the award and make our school a healthier place to be.

We will also send more information next week about choosing healthy snacks for Snacktember.

To try and achieve the award here are some reminders about healthy packed lunches.

Please be mindful that we are now a Nut-Free School due to many pupils having serious allergies. This even includes food that may contain traces of nuts.

This will help us to keep all of our pupils safe.

Packed lunches should aim to include:

- At least one portion of fruit or one portion of vegetables (e.g. carrot sticks) every day.
- Meat, fish or other source of non-dairy protein (e.g. lentils, kidney beans, chickpeas)
- Oily fish, such as salmon, at least once every three weeks.
- A starchy food such as any type of bread, pasta, rice, couscous, noodles, potatoes or other cereals every day, including cereal bars.
- Dairy food such as milk, cheese, yoghurt or fromage frais everyday.
- Only water or milk to be consistent with what is offered in school.

Our Healthy School Ambassadors will help us to keep an eye on packed lunches and awards will be given for healthy lunchboxes!

Thank you for your support and we will hopefully receive our Bronze Award very soon!



St Margaret Mary's
Catholic Infant School



School Uniform:

The wearing of a school uniform fosters in our children a pride in their personal appearance and a belonging to our school community. We therefore expect ALL of our children to wear it. Our SUMMER Uniform is optional. Information about this and our normal uniform is below. This is from Reception to Year 2.

<u>Boys:</u>	<u>Girls:</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Black and gold striped school tie *White shirt (winter months) *Grey pullover *Grey shorts or trousers *Black school shoes *White/grey socks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Black and gold striped school tie *White blouse (winter months) *Grey pullover/cardigan *Grey skirt, pinafore or trousers *Black school shoes - for safety reasons, girls should wear shoes without high heels *White/grey socks
<p><u>SUMMER (optional)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Black trousers or optional shorts *Yellow Polo T-Shirt *Black shoes - NO TRAINERS 	<p><u>SUMMER (optional)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Optional yellow gingham checked <u>Summer</u> dress *White polo shirt with skirt/pinafore *Black or white flat shoes - NO TRAINERS
<p>Nursery Uniform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • grey tracksuit bottoms • yellow t-shirt • grey jumper • accessible shoes for children to remove and put back on by themselves (Velcro preferably) 	

PE Kit:

- *Black shorts
- *Black leggings or jogging bottoms (OPTIONAL)
- *Black jumper with school badge (OPTIONAL)
- *Yellow crew neck t shirt
- *Black slip-on pumps or trainers

PE KIT IS TO BE WORN TO SCHOOL ON ONLY CLASS PE DAYS FOR THE WHOLE DAY
Please ensure that all items are labelled with your child's name. All PE kits can be purchased through our uniform suppliers. Details below.

FOOTWEAR:

Shoes need to be BLACK - and children need to be able to put them on and take them off by themselves. Slip-ons, Velcro or simple buckle fastenings are much easier for your child to manage, in our younger year groups. NO TRAINER like shoes are acceptable i.e. named brands. Your co-operation in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

NOTE: All garments should be clearly marked with your child's name.

Uniform is available to purchase from Lisa's ~~Schoolwear~~, East Prescott Road,

West Derby ~~Schoolwear~~, 239-241 Eaton Road

<https://alphaschoolwear.com/schools/primary-schools/st-margaret-marys-catholic-infant-school/>

DO JO'S and rewards

You may have heard your child talking about receiving Do Jo's at home over this week. This is our rewards system that we have in place to encourage good behaviours around school and from the children towards each other.

Behaviours rewarded are some of the following:

- *Helping Others
- *Showing Team work
- *Tidying up
- *Honesty
- *Being On Task
- *Try their best
- *Walking sensibly
- *Politeness
- *Kindness
- *Setting a good example
- *Listening

Children are rewarded points for showing the above behaviours and others from staff, which are collated on line by teaching staff. The children have responded well to these and are pleased at getting their Do Jos.

At the end of every month the children's Do Jos are tallied up and they receive a certificate for obtaining the following amounts:

30 Dojos: Bronze certificate

60 Dojos: Silver certificate

90 Dojos: Gold certificate

100 Dojos: Platinum certificate

Do Jo's are reset every month. Posters are in class and around the school to remind the children about how they can achieve Do Jos.

The children are also still receiving our weekly loving, learning and growing certificates in assembly each week. Names of our winners appear on our newsletter each week.

We have also introduced a writing star of the week for each class. Names will appear on our newsletter also.

We hope the children enjoy receiving these rewards and take pride in their certificates.

Parent Pay

Parents are reminded that we are a cashless school and use ParentPay as our paying and booking in system for school trips, events and school dinners.

Parents will receive a letter with a link and password to register for this from us, if they are new to the school.

Nursery extended hours

We offer extended hours to our Nursery provision from 2.30pm till 3.15pm every day for those who wish to use it. This is costed at £4.50 each day. If you wish to know more about this please ask at the school office.

Breakfast and After School Club

Just a reminder that we offer Breakfast and After School Club for all our children. This is run by our own staff in school.

Breakfast Club is charged at £3.25 per session.

After School Club is charged at £8.50 per session.

If you would like more information please speak to the school office, Mrs Harris or Miss Mahoney.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – THESE ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Monday 8th September	Reception children in school ALL DAY
Tuesday 9th September	9.00am Class 3 and 4 Prayer and Liturgy (Parents and grandparents welcome to attend in the School Canteen)
Tuesday 16th September	9.15am Year One Coffee Morning and information for parents event
Wednesday 17th September	9.15am Year Two Coffee Morning and information for parents event
Thursday 18th September	9.15am Reception Coffee Morning and information for parents event
Tuesday 23rd September	9.00am Class 1 and 2 Prayer and Liturgy (Parents and grandparents welcome to attend in the School Canteen)
Friday 26th September	MacMillan Cupcake Day (more info to be sent)
Wednesday 1st October	9.00am Nursery Stay and Play - Session 1 12.30pm Nursery Stay and Play - Session 2
Thursday 2nd October	9.00am –11.00am POPP session 1 in the Juniors
Tuesday 7th October	9.00am Class 7 and 8 Prayer and Liturgy (Parents and grandparents welcome to attend in the School Canteen)
Thursday 9th October	9.00am –11.00am POPP session 2 in the Juniors
Wednesday 15th October	9.00am Reception Stay and Play sessions in classes
Thursday 16th October	9.00am –11.00am POPP session 3 in the Juniors
Friday 17th October	2.00pm Welcome service for Reception children and parents led by Year 2
Tuesday 21st October	9.00am Class 5 and 6 Prayer and Liturgy (Parents and grandparents welcome to attend in the School Canteen)
Thursday 23rd October	9.00am –11.00am POPP session 4 in the Juniors
Friday 24th October	Own clothes day Food bank collection day

ST MARGARET MARY'S CHURCH

SUNDAY MASS TIMES- Saturday evening at 5.30p.m. and Sundays (including Children's Church) at 10.00a.m.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Saturday at 5pm.

Please follow this link for the parish newsletter

[St Margaret Mary's Catholic Infant School - Parish Newsletters \(stmargaretmarysinfant.com\)](http://stmargaretmarysinfant.com)



REMINDER – NUT ALLERGIES OF CHILDREN

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This is just a polite reminder about not sending your child into school with foods containing nuts.

We have several children in school who have a very serious nut allergy that can develop into a potentially life-threatening allergic reaction in a matter of minutes. For this reason, all nut-based products are not allowed on the school premises.

An allergic reaction or anaphylaxis can occur as a result of digestion, inhalation or any other contact with nut-based products.

Please remember to check the labels of all food and even if it says may contain nuts, then please do not send that food product into school.

For example:

- Spreads, e.g. chocolate spreads like Nutella
- Cereal bars
- Biscuits
- Cakes containing nuts
- Condiments e.g. sauces

In the event that a member of staff notices a pupil eating an item that may contain nuts, the item will be removed politely, the adult will explain why this has been done and the item will be disposed of. This is to protect any child who may have a nut allergy. An alternative or additional food will be offered for that child, if available. To protect all of our pupils, staff will routinely monitor what pupils bring in for their packed lunches on an ad hoc basis.

We ask that all parents please make sure that you have ***no nut products or products that may contain traces of nuts in the lunch boxes of your child or brought into the school as treats.*** We thank you for your ongoing support and co-operation regarding this matter.

Kind regards,

Miss Carroll

St Margaret Mary's Catholic Infant School

Terms and Holidays

Academic Year 2025-26

Autumn Term 2025 Tuesday 2nd September 2025 – Friday 19th December 2025

Autumn Half Term Break up Friday 24th October 2025

Return Monday 3rd November 2025

Christmas Holiday Break up Friday 19th December 2025

Return Monday 5th January 2026

Spring Term 2026 Monday 5th January 2026 to Thursday 2nd April 2026

Spring Half Term Break up Friday 13th February 2026

Return Tuesday 24th February 2026

Spring Holiday Break up Thursday 2nd April 2026

Return Tuesday 14th April 2026

Summer Term 2026 Tuesday 14th April 2026 to Tuesday 21st July 2026

May Day Bank Holiday Monday 4th May 2026

Summer Half Term Break up Friday 22nd May 2026

Return Monday 8th June 2026

Summer Holidays Break up Tuesday 21st July 2026

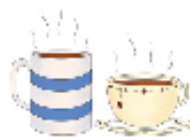
Inset Days

Monday 1st September 2025 / Friday 28th November 2025 / Monday 23rd February
2026 / Monday 13th April 2026 / Friday 5th June 2026

Power Of Parenting

pop in to our Power of Parenting group

Fancy a
cuppa?



**Have a cuppa and a chat with other parents
in an informal and relaxed atmosphere**

Group run by Learning Mentors Jackie Harris & Carmel Perry

Session 1	Thursday	2nd October 2025	9 — 11am
Session 2	Thursday	9th October 2025	9 — 11am
Session 3	Thursday	16th October 2025	9 — 11am
Session 4	Thursday	23rd October 2025	9—10am

Venue: St Margaret Marys JUNIOR School

Being a parent is one of the toughest jobs in the world.
Parents are teachers, carers, guides, leaders, protectors, providers
and motivators for their children.

The POPP programme aims to build on parenting skills, increase
confidence and further develop strategies to guide, nurture and
encourage positive behaviours in children.

**On Thursday 23rd October (4th session) your child will accompany
you in taking part in some fun practical activities that will help to
support them to reduce stress, anxiety and feel a sense of calm.**

If you are interested in attending the **Power Of Parenting Programme**
please complete below or contact Mrs Harris or your child's class
teacher no later than - **Monday 29th September 2025.**

***Places are limited and will be offered on a
'first come first served' basis***

Power Of Parenting Programme

Parent's name _____
Contact number _____
Childs name _____ Class _____