

ST MARGARET CLITHEROW ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Monkwood Lane (off Monkwood Way) Stevenage Herts SG2 8QJ

Headteacher:
Carmela Puccio BA (Hons)



Tel: 01438 352863
Website: www.clitherow.herts.sch.uk
Email: admin@clitherow.herts.sch.uk

Friday 26th May 2023

Dear Parents

It has been another busy half term in school, and you will see we have still managed to fit a lot in as you will see below!

Congratulations Year 6!

I would like to congratulate our children in Year 6 for their diligence, resilience and exemplary attitude in response to their Standard Assessment Tests (SATs) earlier this half term. Despite some challenging papers (I am sure you have seen the information in the press), I have been incredibly proud of our children. I have been present for all the tests and the children were confident and ready to shine! The tests have all been sent off for marking and we await the results with anticipation. We are all so proud of you, Year 6 ~ your SATs, however, do not give the full story about you; most of your achievements over this past year and indeed your whole time with us cannot be tested or measured. I thank Year 6 for being such superstars!



A huge well done to our children in Year 2 for completing their Key Stage 1 SATs this half term. Once again, our children presented themselves incredibly well during the assessments and we are very proud of them. Later this term our children in Year 4 will be completing their Multiplication Times Tables Check and our Year 1 children will complete their phonics assessments.

And finally, a thank you to our committed and dedicated team for preparing the children. Not only for ensuring that the curriculum is taught in an engaging and memorable way but also for supporting our children to live our school values and rights by being the best that they can be!

First Holy Communion Celebrations

Congratulations to our children who celebrated their First Holy Communion this year. Well done to all the children and families for being so prepared for such a special Sacrament. Our Year 3 children will be leading their own special First Holy Communion Mass next half term and they will also be leading our Corpus Christi Procession in June (weather permitting). As this procession takes place outside, all parents are invited to attend. Please see important dates below for dates and times.



Jesus lives in us, our families, our school, our Church, our world. Jesus is our guide, let us follow Him
At St Margaret Clitherow School we are committed to Safeguarding Children

Some highlights this half term:

- Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 maths workshop for parents
- Youth Leadership Team cake sale for Stevenage School Bake
- PSFA School Disco
- Year 3 maths Challenge
- Nursery school trip to watch the Smeds and the Smoos at Radlett Theatre
- Parent talk for new Nursery and Reception children September 2023
- Coronation Day celebrations
- Governor open morning
- Bridgebuilders assembly
- PGL Year 6 parent session
- Year 5 school trip to London – Shrek Adventure, 10 Downing Street and Sea Life Centre
- Year 3 and 4 football tournament
- Class and Year 6 leavers' photos
- BMX workshop for Year 5 and 6
- Fire Pit Friday!
- Reception school trip to Knebworth
- PSFA non-uniform day – bring a bottle for the Summer Fair



A message from the Governing body

Governors recently spent the morning in school exploring the curriculum and its implementation. These sorts of visits enable governors to effectively report on the impact of the school and its work on key priorities.

Our key priorities for 2023-2023 are –

- Implement the new RE curriculum directory to improve religious literacy
- Further strengthen curriculum implementation ensuring a positive impact on outcomes in all subject areas
- Strengthen the quality of writing to positively impact on outcomes across the school. Secure consistent, high quality handwriting across the school
- Strengthen the quality and impact of phonics provision

As well as learning walks throughout the school, we had the opportunity to speak to many of your children all of whom talked happily and confidently about their learning and our school. It was a pleasure for governors to be in school and see our school in action.

We are keen to share with parents and the wider community that it is our intention to seek consent from the Diocese of Westminster to apply for an Academy Order from the Department for Education to convert our school to an academy. A full and proper consultation with parents will take place in the next academic year to explain the process and include FAQs. However, should you have any concerns or questions in the meantime please email academies@clitherow.herts.sch.uk

We look forward to sharing key milestones with you along the way and ask that you keep the school in your prayers as we begin this period of transition.



Jesus lives in us, our families, our school, our Church, our world. Jesus is our guide, let us follow Him
At St Margaret Clitherow School we are committed to Safeguarding Children



Attendance and Lateness

Our school target for attendance is set by the Local Authority at 96%. Our current whole school attendance figure since September is 95.1%. Attendance figure includes unauthorised absences, absences related to illness, medical appointments, and lateness. The target of 96% is still achievable if we all work together to ensure children are in school providing they are well enough.

Please be reminded that your child's school day begins at 8:45am. As soon as the children enter the school building, their learning journey begins and every second counts. I have noticed several children arriving around 8:55am and some after 9:00am. They are missing key learning opportunities each day and over the weeks and months, the time soon adds up.

Please also be reminded that our Attendance Policy includes information about fixed penalty notices. The policy can be found on our school website.

Message from the PSFA

This half term your PSFA were excited to hand over a £4000 donation to the school to go towards the class wish lists.

We had a fantastic spring disco where we made an amazing £896.96 overall, we hope all the children had a great time.

With the continued fundraising and your ongoing support, this ensures that we make a real difference to our children's education. Over the next half term we can look forward to even more exciting events; we are of course busy planning the Summer Fair, with non-uniform bring-a-bottle day today.

We are also holding a Bag2School drop off, Father's Day sale, as well as planning some extra pop-up events... we hope you enjoy a sweet treat or two, more details to follow. Don't forget, we welcome any ideas so please email or speak to one of the committee members.

We can't run any events without the support of you, our fantastic Parents, Staff and Friends, so a massive thank you to you all. Your PSFA

Free School Meals

If your situation has changed, or you think you may be eligible for free school meals, please visit <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/at-school/free-school-meals/free-school-meals.aspx> The application takes a couple of minutes to complete. Please do notify the school if you are eligible. Even if your child is in a class (Reception – Year 2) that receives a Government funded free school meal, it is still worth making an application as the school receives additional funding.

Please follow us on twitter (@StMClitherow) to gain an insight into school life. Our twitter feed can also be accessed via our school website. I hope you all have a peaceful and relaxing half term holiday.

Yours sincerely

Carmela Puccio

Carmela Puccio
Headteacher



Jesus lives in us, our families, our school, our Church, our world. Jesus is our guide, let us follow Him
At St Margaret Clitherow School we are committed to Safeguarding Children

Important Dates this term

Fri, 26th May

Finish for Half Term

Half Term

Mon, 29th May - Fri, 2nd June

Mon, 5th June

Inset day (no school for children)

Tues, 6th June

Return to school (8.45am)

Wed, 7th June – Fri, 9th June

Year 6 residential trip to PGL

Thurs, 8th June

Corpus Christi Procession (9.30am) All welcome

Sat, 10th June

PSFA Summer Fair (12pm-3pm)

Wed, 14th June

NSPCC workshops for Year 5&6

Fri, 16th June

Year 5 Taster Day at The Saint John Henry Newman School

Wed, 21st June

Bags2School deadline day (PSFA)

Thurs, 22nd June

Year 2 school trip to Woburn

Thurs, 29th June

Holy Communicants Mass (9.30am) All welcome

Thurs, 29th June

Year 1 school trip to Standalone Farm

Fri, 30th June

Sports Day for all classes (9.30am)

Tues, 4th July

Year 6 Herts School Food and Farming Day

Thurs, 6th July

Year 6 Leavers' Mass (9:30am)

Tues, 11th July

Year 6 Leavers' Play (6:30pm)

Wed, 19th July

Finish for Summer holidays (1.15pm)

Mon, 4th Sep

INSET Day – no school for children

Tues, 5th Sept

Return to school (8.45am)



Jesus lives in us, our families, our school, our Church, our world. Jesus is our guide, let us follow Him
At St Margaret Clitherow School we are committed to Safeguarding Children