

# 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](http://www.clitherow.herts.sch.uk)  
Email: [admin@clitherow.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@clitherow.herts.sch.uk)

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

I am delighted to share that our first few days back at school have been a wonderful success! It has been heartening to see the children settle in so quickly and to warmly welcome our new families into our school community. Meanwhile, our Nursery staff have been conducting home visits, fostering strong connections with our youngest learners and their families from the very beginning. We pray that all our new families already feel a true sense of belonging in our special community and we look forward to many happy years of partnership with you. The positivity and enthusiasm from both children and staff have created an excellent start to the year. Your children are a true credit to both you and the school.

You will soon receive a letter from your child's class teacher with further updates, including the class timetable and overview.

This morning, we marked the start of the school year with a Mass attended by staff and governors. We also prayed for the intercession of Blessed Carlos Acutis. It was a beautiful and meaningful occasion that brought us together as a school family and helped us set our intentions for the year ahead.

## Blessed Carlo Acutis

This Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 10 a.m. in Rome's St. Peter's Square, Carlo Acutis, a young man from our Diocese of Westminster, will be officially declared a Saint. Known for his deep faith and his use of technology to share the message of the Eucharist, Carlo's canonisation is a significant moment for our local Church community. His life continues to inspire young people, showing that holiness can be lived out in today's world.

## Welcome!

This term we welcomed Mrs Phillips to our team here at St. Margaret Clitherow. Mrs Phillips joins us as our new Year 5 Teaching Assistant.

## Early dates for your diary

As mentioned in the ParentMail last week, on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September (Year 6) and Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September (Reception to Year 5), we will be holding a 'meet the teacher' session from 3:20pm - 3:50pm. This will be an informal opportunity to see your child's classroom, say 'hello' to their new teacher and ask any questions that you might have. We hope you can make it! Face to face parent consultations will take



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

place on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October. On this day, school will finish at 1:15pm for the meetings to take place. We will continue to use the ParentMail system to book appointments and you will be given further information nearer the time to book your preferred time slot.

### Some gentle reminders

Please remember the following guidelines, which aim to keep our school a safe place to be:

- **Only park in designated spaces in the car park – not on the yellow lines or in the open space near the entrance or in front of the school gates.**
- All children must be accompanied by an adult through the car parks.
- The climbing frames **must not be used by anyone before or after school.**
- Small play equipment (balls etc) must not be taken from the containers before or after school.
- **Bikes and scooters must be walked through the playground.**

### Remember – no problem is too big or too small!

We are always keen to work with parents as a problem arises. Please do not let things fester. Whether it is perceived as a big problem or a minor one – please do make contact and we'll try to help you! Initially a word with the class teacher either in person or on the phone can help to share the worry; if after this point it still remains a worry, please make an appointment to discuss the matter with a member of the Senior Leadership Team via the school office. Remember – if it is a worry for you or your child then it is a worry for us! Please do not be concerned about bothering busy staff – it's what we are all here for.

### Nursery Admissions 2026 - 2027

#### Was your child born between 1/9/2022 - 31/8/2023?

This year our governors intend to offer 15 hours (morning only) or 30 hours (morning and afternoon) in our Nursery. The application process is now open and will close on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November. Please contact the school office for an application pack or visit our school website for further details.



### 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 only 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.

We encourage you to follow us on X (Twitter) @StMClitherow for regular updates. We aim to tweet snapshots of school life to keep you informed and engaged with what's happening at school. Please find below the key dates for your reference; kindly note they are subject to change.

I feel privileged to be the headteacher of St. Margaret Clitherow School and look forward to working together with you all to make this school year both successful and enriching for our children.

God Bless

Carmela Puccio  
Headteacher

## **KEY DATES**

### **Please check the school website for any changes to dates**

Tuesday, 9 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Year 6 meet the teacher (3:20pm – 3:50pm)
Wednesday, 10 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Reception – Year 5 meet the teacher (3:20pm – 3:50pm)
Thursday, 11 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Swimming for Year 3 & 4 commences
Tuesday, 16 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Emotional wellbeing and coping strategies workshop Year 5 and 6
Monday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2025	Flu vaccinations Reception – Year 6 (details to follow)
Wednesday, 24 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Year 6 Height and Weight
Wednesday, 1 <sup>st</sup> October 2025	EYFS Curriculum Evening: 5pm in the school hall
Thursday, 9 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Harvest Mass: 9:30am in the school hall
Thursday, 9 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Year 5 Feast Day – St. John Henry Newman
Monday, 13 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Racial Equity Week
Thursday, 16 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Reception and Year 1 phonics workshop for parents: 9:30am in the school hall
Friday, 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Wear Red for Show Racism the Red Card: £1 donation
Wednesday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2025	Reception Feast Day - St. Pope John Paul II
Wednesday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2025	Parent Consultations (school finishes at 1:15pm)
Friday, 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Finish for October break (normal time)

### **Half Term: Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> October to Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025**

Monday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025	Return to school: 8.45am
Monday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025	Individual and sibling photos
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025	Other Faiths Week
Friday, 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	EYFS (Nursery & Reception) Nativity: 9:30am in the school hall
Thursday, 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Advent Mass: 9:30am in the school hall. Confession for Yr 4-6
Tuesday, 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Travelling Theatre in school – Christmas jumpers can be worn
Tuesday, 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Year 5&6 Carol Concert: 6:30pm at St. Hilda's Church
Friday, 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Key Stage 1 Christmas play: 9:30am in the school hall
Friday, 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Finish for Christmas break: <b>1:15pm</b>

### **Christmas Break: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December to Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2026**

Monday, 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Return to school: 8.45am
Future date	
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Year 3&4 Easter Play: 9:30am in the school hall