

ST MARGARET CLITHEROW ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher:
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Friday 27th March 2027

Dear Parents and Carers

Although this half term has only been five weeks long, it has certainly felt much longer with everything that has been happening in school! It has been a very busy and reflective time as we continue our journey through Lent together. Throughout the weeks of Lent, the children have spent time in prayer, reflection and acts of kindness, thinking about how they can support others and live out our school values.

A highlight of this half term was our Lenten fundraising sponsored walk around the football stadium. The children showed fantastic enthusiasm and determination throughout the event. Our older classes were even allowed to run and were very proud to beat last year's total of nine laps by completing an impressive ten laps! Thanks to the generosity of our families, we have raised £2763, which will support the Catholic Children's Society (Westminster), CAFOD, and Father Kakuba's Kanyike Project in Uganda.



A big thank you to the PSFA for helping us during the walk and for arranging the flag sticks - they looked incredible and created a wonderful atmosphere as the children made their way around the stadium. Your continued support for our fundraising and community events is always greatly appreciated.

Academy update

Governors are currently reviewing the consultation report and the feedback received from stakeholders. In the meantime, work is continuing behind the scenes with the Trust and our law firm as we move into the next stage of the process. We will continue to keep you updated as things progress.

Year 3 and 4 Easter Play

Last week, our Year 3 and Year 4 pupils treated us to a truly incredible Easter performance, retelling the story of Holy Week and the Resurrection. The



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

children spoke and sang beautifully, helping us all to reflect on the true meaning of Easter. Their confidence, reverence and teamwork were wonderful to see, and we are very proud of them. Thank you to the staff who worked so hard with the children to bring the story to life.

Welcome Archbishop, Richard Moth

On Wednesday 11th March, I had the pleasure of attending a special Mass with some of our children and their families to welcome our new Archbishop, Richard Moth, at Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church. Before Mass, headteachers from the Stevenage Deanery and Lea Valley Deanery had the opportunity to meet Archbishop Richard, after which he met with the clergy. The Mass that followed was a beautiful and prayerful occasion, and it was lovely to see members of our school community there representing the school so proudly.

Update from the Governing Body

As we come to the end of another busy and productive term, I would like to take a moment, on behalf of the Governing Board, to thank our staff, children, and wider school community for their continued dedication and hard work. It has been a pleasure for some governors to spend time in school to hear the children read this term. These visits are always incredibly rewarding and provide valuable insight into the enthusiasm, confidence, and progress our pupils are making.

Governors have also continued to work closely with school as we move forward with the important transition towards becoming an academy with the DoWAT. This is a significant step in the school's journey, and we are committed to ensuring that the process is thoughtful, well-planned, and focused on securing the very best outcomes for our children both now and in the future.



Thank you to our staff for their professionalism and commitment, to our parents and carers for your ongoing support, and most importantly to our children, who make us proud every day. May God bless you all with a wonderful Easter break.

Parent consultations

Thank you for attending our recent parent consultation meetings. These are always valuable opportunities to talk about the children's progress and celebrate their achievements together. As always, we were incredibly proud of our children and the positive attitudes they show towards their learning each day. We hope you also had the chance to enjoy the beautiful new violin art installation on the library wall, which was kindly funded by the PSFA.

Attendance and Lateness

While the Local Authority attendance figure currently stands at 96%, we have decided to set ourselves a higher target of 97%, reflecting our commitment to excellent attendance and learning. **Our current whole school attendance figure since September is 96.7%.** Attendance figure includes unauthorised absences, absences related to illness, medical appointments, and lateness. We must all work together to ensure children are in school providing they are well enough. Please find current class attendance below.

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
94.6%	96.4%	96.6%	97%	97.6%	97.5%	97.3%	96.4%

A reminder that your child's school day starts at 8:45am. Once the children enter the building, their learning begins, and every moment is important. If your child arrives at 9am, they miss out on valuable learning time - over a week, that's 1 hour and 15 minutes, and it adds up quickly over time. **Also, please note the end of day timings: Nursery to Year 2 finish at 3:15pm, and Year 3 to Year 6 finish at 3:20pm. Arriving late for pick-up affects staff, as they need to stay with the children when they should be in meetings or training. Lastly, after-school clubs end at 4:30pm - please be mindful of staff time and collect your child on time. Thank you for your cooperation!**

Highlights this term:

Despite the half term being just 5 weeks long, we have managed to enjoy the following:

- St. Joseph Feast Day celebration for Nursery
- St. Oscar Romero Feast Day celebration for Year 3
- Catholic Children's Society Assembly
- K'NEX Challenge for Year 5 and 6
- Year 5 maths challenge for selected children
- Year 3 and 4 school football team friendly matches
- Whole School Lent Mass
- Big Walk and Wheel fortnight include a litter pick after school
- PSFA Mother's Day Market
- Year 5 took part in Bridgebuilder's Easter Journey at Longmeadow Church
- Year 6 were invited to watch 'Hairspray' at The Saint John Henry Newman School
- First netball match of the season for Year 5 and 6
- Eco-committee attendance at Stevenage School Parliament meeting
- Love your heart session for Year 5
- Introduction of a lunchtime gardening club
- Charlie Chicks sale for Garden House Hospice
- World Book Day celebrations
- Stevenage Museum workshop for Nursery and Reception
- Bridgebuilders Assembly – Easter



Update from the PSFA

Thank you all for your continued support throughout the school year. Without your support we wouldn't be able to keep up with all the events. We have had a wonderful term. It was so nice to see the children attend the Mother's Day market and pick out the gifts for their loved ones. They were so well behaved and excited to take part. Our Easter competition was a success with some really creative, outstanding and unique designs. Well done to all the children who took part. We have a coffee morning on Friday 17th April and would love for you to join us if you can. We are holding a Culture Day on Monday 18th May and if you would like to represent your culture and country please let us know, we will also share more information at the coffee morning. Please follow us on Facebook and join

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our WhatsApp community; we share regular updates on there. We will also be sharing information about EasyFunding and the School Lottery scheme which helps us receive additional funds.

Thank you, The PSFA

Free School Meals

If your circumstances have changed or you believe 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 few minutes to complete. If you are eligible, please inform the school. Even if your child is in Reception to Year 2, where they automatically receive a government-funded free school meal, it's still worth applying as the school receives additional funding.

Stay connected and get a glimpse of school life by following us on Instagram @stmargaretclitherow

Finally, as we reach the end of term and prepare to celebrate Easter, we wish all our families a joyful and peaceful Easter break. Thank you, as always, for your continued support of the school community. We look forward to welcoming the children back next term, refreshed and ready for the busy months ahead. Wishing you all a blessed Easter!

God Bless



Miss Puccio
Headteacher

KEY DATES

Please check the school website for any changes to dates

Friday 27th March 2026

Finish for Easter holidays at 1:15pm

Easter Holidays: Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April 2026

Monday 13th April 2026

Return to school: 8.45am

Thursday 16th April 2026

Year 3 Stevenage museum visit

Thursday 16th April 2026

Year 4 water safety workshop

Friday 17th April 2026

Wear Green Day

Thursday 23rd April 2026

Year 4 trip to Hindu Temple

Wednesday 29th April 2026

Year 5 trip to London – Shrek Adventure, 10 Downing Street and London Aquarium

Wednesday 29th April 2026

PGL meeting for Year 6 parents 5pm

Thursday 7th May 2026

Year 3 trip to Celtic Harmony

Thursday 7th May 2026

Nursery and Reception September 2026 new parent meeting 5:30pm

W/beginning 11th May 2026

SATs Week – Year 6

Monday 18th May 2026

PSFA Culture Day

Monday 20th May 2026

Year 5 and 6 cyber crime and awareness session (Herts Police)

Thursday 21st May 2026

Reception trip to Knebworth House

Friday 22nd May 2026

Finish for half term (normal time)

Half term holiday: Monday 25th to Friday 29th May 2026

Monday 1st June 2026

INSET DAY (no school for children)

Tuesday 2nd June 2026

Return to school: 8.45am

Future dates

Thursday 18th June 2026
Saturday 20th June 2026
Thursday 25th June 2026
Friday 26th June 2026
Thursday 2nd July 2026
Friday 3rd July 2026
Thursday 9th July 2026
Tuesday 14th July 2026

PSFA Father's Day Market
PSFA Summer Fete
Corpus Christi Procession (school field)
Sports Day 9:30-11:00am
Year 6 Leavers' Mass 9:30am
PSFA Disco
Moving Up day and Secondary transfer day
Year 6 Leavers' Performance 6:30pm



PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) EASTER HOLIDAYS 2026



moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free

<p>ANGUS STEAKHOUSE Kids under 8 eat FREE daily, 12pm to 5pm</p> <p>ASDA Kids eat for £1 daily, with no adult spend</p> <p>ASK ITALIAN 2 Kids eat free from 27th March - 19th April 2026</p> <p>BELLA ITALIA Children eat free Sunday - Thursday</p> <p>BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE 2 Kids Eat Free Breakfast with one paying adult</p> <p>BILLS Kids eat free Mon 30th March - Fri 10th April</p> <p>BREWDOG Kids eat free 28th March - 12th April 2026</p> <p>CAFE ROUGE Kids Eat FREE 12-4pm every day of the week</p> <p>COCONUT TREE Kids eat free Mon 30th March - Sun 19th April</p> <p>CHIQUITO Kids eat free during all school holidays</p> <p>DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES Kids eat for £1 with an adult breakfast or lunch</p> <p>FARMHOUSE INNS Kids eat FREE weekdays 30th March - 17th April</p> <p>FRANKIE & BENNY'S Kids eat FREE daily from 30th March - 17th April</p> <p>FUTURE INNS Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal</p> <p>GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS Kids under 10 eat FREE all day, every day</p> <p>IKEA Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am</p> <p>LAS IGUANAS Kids under 12 eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App</p>	<p>MORRISONS Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend</p> <p>MARCO PIERRE WHITE Kids under 12 Eat FREE daily with an adult spend</p> <p>PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend all day</p> <p>PIZZA HUT Kids Eat Free Every Day after 3pm</p> <p>PREMIER INN 2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast</p> <p>PRETO Kids up to age 10 eat free with 1 paying adult</p> <p>PUREZZA Kids under 10 get free pizza with every adult meal</p> <p>SA BRAINS PUBS Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays</p> <p>SUBWAY Kids eat Free from the 6th - 13th April</p> <p>SIZZLING PUBS Kids eat for £1, Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm</p> <p>TABLE TABLE 2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult</p> <p>TGI FRIDAYS Kids Eat Free with any adult meal (Via App)</p> <p>THE REAL GREEK Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend</p> <p>TRAVELODGE 2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast</p> <p>TURTLE BAY Kids eat free with every £15 adult spend</p> <p>WHITBREAD INNS 2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast</p> <p>YO! SUSHI Kids eat free all day (weekdays) in school holidays</p>
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