

# ST MARGARET CLITHEROW ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Monkswood Lane (off Monkswood 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 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

As we head towards February half term, we can finally say goodbye to what has felt like a very long January! Despite the dark mornings and chilly days, it has been a positive and busy start to the year. Our children have shown great enthusiasm for their learning, and it has been lovely to see so many smiles, achievements and moments of kindness across the school. We are now looking forward to a well-earned break and returning refreshed for another exciting half term ahead.

## Welcome Mrs Williams

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Williams to our school team as a Teaching Assistant. She has settled in extremely well and has already become a valued member of our school family. Mrs Williams has made a positive impression with her warm approach and commitment to supporting the children, and we are very pleased to have her working with us.

## Marvellous Maths!

We were pleased to celebrate NSPCC's Number Day at SMC, welcoming parents into school to see mathematics learning in action. Children and staff fully embraced the day by wearing their digit-themed outfits, which added to the excitement and enjoyment across the school. In total, we raised £292.18 for the NSPCC. Families enjoyed the opportunity to explore how maths is taught and see the children engaging enthusiastically in their learning. We were also pleased to be joined by members of our Governing Body, who enjoyed seeing maths learning in action across the school.

Earlier this term, we also held Reception and Year 1 workshops for parents, focusing on how maths fluency can be developed at home through practical activities and games. These sessions provided families with useful ideas and strategies to support learning beyond the classroom.



## Academies Update

The last four weeks have been dedicated to our academy consultation. As part of this process, we engaged with staff, parents and external stakeholders, to gather their insights and feedback. With the consultation closing today, we now move to the next stage, which is awaiting a report from the Diocese, which will be shared with our Governors. They will

**DoWAT**

review the findings and decide whether to progress to the following stage. Throughout this process, it remains important to continue communicating openly, keeping everyone informed and involved in shaping the future of our wonderful school.

### Update from the Governing Body

As we come to the end of another busy and productive term, the Governing Body would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who contributes to the life of St Margaret Clitherow school.

It is wonderful to see how engaged the children are each day on the school social media pages and when governors visit the school, promoting positive attitudes, and commitment to learning throughout the term. Their achievements, both in and out of the classroom, continue to make us proud and reflect the strong values of our school community.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to all staff for their dedication, professionalism, and care. Thank you to parents and carers for your ongoing support and partnership with the school. Working together remains vital in helping the children succeed and thrive.

The Governing Body is pleased with the progress the school is making towards the transition to Academy status and remains committed to supporting the leadership team in providing a safe, inclusive, and ambitious learning environment for all. As the half term draws to a close, we wish everyone a restful and enjoyable break. God bless.

### 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 96.5%.** 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
93.8%	96.3%	96.5%	96.9%	97.5%	97.2%	97%	96%

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 6 weeks long, we have managed to enjoy the following:

- Year 4 mental health and wellbeing workshop delivered by Stevenage Sporting Futures
- Year 1 Stevenage Museum workshop – Toys from the past
- Year 3&4 competed in friendly football matches



- Year 5&6 represented the school in league and cup football matches
- Bridgebuilders Assembly – 10 Lepers
- Year 5 Stevenage Museum visit – The Tudors
- Elvie-Lee (Year 3) won Stevenage Borough Council's Superhero competition - her design is on the sides of their new food waste collection vehicles. Keep an eye out and see if you can spot them around town!
- PSFA Coffee Morning
- Introduction of our new Wellbeing Committee
- Nursery school trip to Radlett Theatre to see 'The Tiger Who Came To Tea'
- A fantastic PSFA Disco!
- Year 6 class Feast Day celebration
- Participation in Safer Internet Day
- Year 6 Stevenage Museum visit – World War 2
- A recycling assembly delivered by Stevenage Borough Council
- The start of a new violin art installation in our library



### Update from the PSFA

Another half term has passed us by, and we held a coffee morning, a disco and a bake sale. The disco is always a fun event and it's great to see the children dancing with their friends and singing along to all the songs. This half term, we have donated £1,250 to the school for new reading books for the Juniors.

We are already busy planning for next term to make sure we have more fun activities for the children. We have started to plan our Summer Fete, which will be held on Saturday 20th June. We are already reaching out to local companies for sponsorship and prizes. If you are interested in helping on the day of the event or can help with prizes please let us know as this is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your continued support and we are grateful to all our volunteers and helpers. We always welcome feedback and if you wish to contact us, please do so, our email address is [stmargaretclitherowpsfa@gmail.com](mailto:stmargaretclitherowpsfa@gmail.com)

Have a good half term. 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.

### 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 bend, yellow zig zag lines, in the open space near the entrance or in front of the school gates.**
- Please drive slowly when entering the car parks
- All children must be accompanied by an adult through the car park. **Children are encouraged to dismount their bike/scooter when entering the Stevenage FC carpark.**
- The climbing frames must not be used by anyone before or after school.
- Bikes and scooters must be walked through the playground

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

Wishing you all a wonderful half-term with your families! It may not always be the quietest time, but it's a great opportunity to focus on loved ones and enjoy some quality moments together. Have a lovely break, and I look forward to welcoming you back as we begin our Lenten journey towards Easter - coming sooner than we think!

God Bless

*Puccio*

Miss Puccio  
Headteacher



## KEY DATES

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

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Finish for half term (normal time)

Half term break: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026

Return to school: 8:45am

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Lunar New Year special lunch menu (Rec-Year 6)

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Year 5 Love your Heart session

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2026

K'NEX Challenge – Year 5 and 6

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Whole School Sponsored Walk – SBFC stadium

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Lenten Mass & confessions: 9:30am in the school hall

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026

World Book Day (details to follow)

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026

EYFS Stevenage Museum workshop

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2026

PSFA Mother's Day gift sale

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Year 5 walking to Longmeadow Church for Easter Journey

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Year 3&4 Easter Play: 9:30am in the school hall

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2026

St. Joseph's Feast Day – Nursery non-uniform day

Monday 23rd March 2026

PSFA Easter Competition ends

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2026

St. Oscar Romero Feast Day – Year 3 non-uniform day

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Parent Consultations. School finishes at 1:15pm (details to follow)

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Finish for Easter holidays at 1:15pm

Easter Holidays: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Return to school: 8.45am

### **PSFA Future Dates**

Monday 18th May 2026

Culture Day

Thursday 18th June 2026

Father's Day Market

Saturday 20th June 2026

Summer Fete

Friday 3rd July 2026

Summer Disco



### **ANGUS STEAKHOUSE**

Kids under 8 eat FREE daily, 12pm to 5pm

### **ASDA**

Kids eat for £1 daily, with no adult spend

### **ASK ITALIAN**

Kids under 10 eat for £1 during school holidays

### **BELLA ITALIA**

Children eat free Sunday - Thursday

### **BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE**

2 Kids Eat Free Breakfast with one paying adult

### **BILLS**

Kids eat free Monday 17th - Friday 28th Feb

### **BREWDog**

Kids eat free this Feb Half Term

### **BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE**

2 under 16s get free breakfast daily with 1 adult!

### **COCONUT TREE**

Kids eat FREE from 10<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> of Feb 2026.

### **CAFE ROUGE**

Kids Eat FREE 12-4pm every day of the week

### **DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES**

Kids eat for £1 with an adult breakfast or lunch

### **FRANKIE & BENNY'S**

Kids eat FREE during all school holidays

### **FUTURE INNS**

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal

### **GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS**

Kids under 10 eat FREE all day, every day

### **IKEA**

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

### **LAS IGUANAS**

Kids under 12 eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App

### **MARCO PIERRE WHITE**

Kids under 12 Eat FREE daily with an adult spend

### **MORRISONS**

Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

### **PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM**

Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend all day

### **PREMIER INN**

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

### **PRETO**

Kids up to age 10 eat free with 1 paying adult

### **PREZZO**

Kids eat for £1 from 6th Jan to 11th February 2026.

### **PUREZZA**

Kids under 10 get free pizza with every adult meal

### **PIZZA HUT**

Kids Eat Free Every Day after 3pm

### **SA BRAINS PUBS**

Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays

### **SIZZLING PUBS**

Kids eat for £1, Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm

### **TABLE TABLE**

2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult

### **TGI FRIDAYS**

Kids Eat Free with any adult meal (Via App)

### **THE REAL GREEK**

Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

### **TRAVELODGE**

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

### **TURTLE BAY**

Kids eat free with every £15 adult spend

### **WHITBREAD INNS**

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

### **YO! SUSHI**

Kids eat free all day (weekdays) in school holidays

### **ZIZZI**

Kids eat free all day Feb 16th - 20th 2026

Copyright of MONEY SAVING CENTRAL