

ST MARGARET CLITHEROW ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

Headteacher:
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Diocese of Westminster Academy Trust

Friday 7th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

What a wonderful first week back! It has been lovely to welcome all our children and families back to school and to see our classrooms and corridors filled with excitement, smiles and the buzz of learning. A very warm welcome to all the new families who have joined our St Margaret Clitherow community this September. We are delighted to have you with us and look forward to getting to know you and your children throughout the year.

Our Nursery home visits have also been taking place this week as we begin to welcome our youngest children to school. These visits are such an important part of helping our Nursery children feel safe, secure and ready for their first steps into school life. We look forward to welcoming them into Nursery and watching them settle, grow and flourish over the coming weeks.

Next week, you will receive a letter from your child's class teacher with further information and updates, including the class timetable and an overview of the learning planned for the year ahead.

This morning, we marked the start of the school year with a Mass attended by staff and governors. As mentioned previously, the Mass was offered for Oliver Stafford and his family, as we continue to hold them close in our hearts.

Education Sunday - Sunday 13th September

Don't forget that Education Sunday will be celebrated this Sunday 13th September, and we would love to see as many of our children as possible attending Mass in their school uniform. It is always wonderful to see our school community come together to celebrate the start of a new academic year and to pray for all those involved in Catholic education. If your child attends Mass on Education Sunday, we would be delighted if you could email a photograph to the school office for us to share on our school's Instagram page to celebrate our school community.



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

Year 4 Class Saint

Today, Year 4 celebrated their class saint, St Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa), a day early as her feast day falls tomorrow. The children spent time learning about her life, her faith and her dedication to serving others, particularly those who were most in need. It was a wonderful opportunity for the children to reflect on how they can follow her example by showing kindness, compassion and love to others in our school and wider community.

Some gentle reminders

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

- Only park in the 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 2027 - 2028

Was your child born between 1/9/2023 - 31/8/2024?

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 20th November. Please contact the school office for an application pack or visit our school website for further details.



We encourage you to follow us on Instagram searching for 'stmargaretcclitherow' for regular updates. We aim to post 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 incredibly proud to be the Headteacher of St Margaret Clitherow and look forward to another wonderful year working together as a school community to ensure our children are happy, confident and able to thrive.

God Bless

Carmela Puccio
Headteacher

KEY DATES

Please check the school website for any changes to dates

Tuesday, 8 th September 2026	Swimming for Year 3 & 4 commences
Wednesday, 9 th September 2026	Meet the teacher (3:20pm – 3:50pm)
Monday, 14 th September 2026	RSE consultation to begin (further information to follow)
Wednesday, 23 rd September 2026	Flu vaccinations Reception – Year 6 (details to follow)
Thursday, 24 th September 2026	Harvest Mass: 9:30am in the school hall – all welcome
Thursday, 1 st October 2026	EYFS (Nursery and Reception) Curriculum Evening: 5pm in the school hall
Thursday, 8 th October 2026	Year 6 height and weight
Friday, 9 th October 2026	Year 5 Feast Day – St. John Henry Newman
Monday, 12 th October 2026	Racial Equity Week
Friday, 16 th October 2026	Wear Red for Show Racism the Red Card: £1 donation
Wednesday, 21 st October 2026	Parent Consultations (school finishes at 1:15pm)
Thursday, 22 nd October 2026	Reception Feast Day - St. Pope John Paul II
Friday, 23 rd October 2026	Finish for October break (normal time)

Half Term: Monday, 26th October to Friday, 30th October 2026

Monday, 2 nd November 2026	Return to school: 8.45am
Monday, 2 nd November 2026	Individual and sibling photos
Thursday, 5 th November 2026	Reception and Year 1 phonics workshop for parents: 9:30am in the school hall
Friday, 27 th November 2026	EYFS (Nursery & Reception) Nativity: 9:30am in the school hall
Thursday, 3 rd December 2026	Advent Mass: 9:30am in the school hall. Confession for Yr 4-6 – all welcome
Tuesday, 8 th December 2026	Travelling Theatre in school - Christmas jumpers can be worn
Tuesday, 8 th December 2026	Year 5&6 Carol Concert: 6:30pm at St. Hilda's Church
Friday, 11 th December 2026	Key Stage 1 Christmas play: 9:30am in the school hall
Wednesday, 16 th December 2026	Christmas Dinner Day (Reception – Year 6) – Christmas jumpers can be worn by all classes
Friday, 18 th December 2026	Finish for Christmas break: 1:15pm

Christmas Break: Monday 21st December to Friday, 1st January 2027

Monday, 4 th January 2027	Return to school: 8.45am
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Future date

Tuesday 16 th March 2027	Year 3&4 Easter Play: 9:30am in the school hall
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