



For Learning That Lasts A Lifetime

3rd September 2026

Dear Parent/Carers

Welcome back!

I hope you've all had a lovely summer break. We're really excited to welcome our new families to St Margaret's, as well as catching up with everyone who's returning. A big thank you from all the staff for the cards, gifts and kind messages at the end of last term – they were much appreciated.

The children look fantastic in their uniforms – thank you for your support in helping them start the year looking so smart and ready to learn.

Before and After School Childcare Service bookings

If you would like to access this service, you will need to register your child. The Childcare Service will then be available for you to use either on a regular or ad-hoc basis. Please see our website or email/telephone the school office to request a registration form.

Bookings

Bookings will be made online through Parentmail. You will need to register to use these services. If you are already registered you do not need to do anything else as this service will be available to you. You will be able to book your child's place up to 12 weeks in advance, and pay for them at the time of booking.

How do I book and pay for childcare services

1. Go to **Accounts**, then for the required pupil, select the service.
2. From the calendar, select the date you want to book a place for, then make payment.

What are repeat bookings?

If you are making a booking for the childcare service, from the **Repeat Selections** window, select from the following options:

- **Repeat** – to make the same bookings for a different week.
- **Continue** – if you do not want to make the same bookings for a different week.
- **Cancel** – to return to the booking details and make any changes.

Select the weeks you want to repeat the bookings for from the listed options, then select **Continue**.

How can I make a payment?

To make payments in ParentMail, you can use:

- Credit and Debit Cards
- PayPal™

If you are using vouchers, such as childcare vouchers, or your child or children are entitled to funding from educational authorities, please let the office know the amount paid on the voucher together with

the voucher code so that your account can be topped up ready for you to make the bookings yourself through the Parentmail system.

If you need any additional information or assistance, please use the help site - www.parentmail.co.uk/help/parenthelp or please contact the school office.

'Meet the teacher' Open Afternoon

We'd love you to join us on **Wednesday 9th September at 3.15pm**. You'll get a chance to pop into your child's classroom, meet their teacher and take away some useful information (like PE days). If you've got more than one child here, don't worry – you'll be able to visit each class.

Classes for September are as follows:

Hedgehogs – Mrs Hoile & Miss Moloney
Rabbits – Miss Dann
Otters – Mr Ayers
Squirrels – Miss McGrory
Badgers – Mr Oliver
Woodpeckers – Mrs Byatt
Owls – Miss Brett & Mrs Helal

Sport

Every child has two PE lessons each week. Children may wear their PE kit to school on those days.

Once the term begins teachers will let you know which days each class has PE. As a minimum, children need a pair of blue shorts, a team coloured T-shirt, a pair of plimsolls for indoor PE and a pair of trainers to work outside.

The basics:

- Blue shorts
- Team-coloured T-shirt
- Plimsolls for indoors
- Trainers for outside
- Joggers/tracksuit top for colder months

Thanks for making sure your child has what they need so they can all take part.

A Few Quick Reminders

- Water bottles: Please send a named water bottle every day (plain water for lessons, other drinks can be brought for lunchtime).
- Tuck shop: Fridays – fruit-based snacks and drinks (30p–60p). Please put money in a named purse or envelope.
- Cars & parking: No cars on site between 8:30–3:30 unless agreed with us. Please avoid parking on zig-zags and don't use Portal House spaces.
- Dogs: Please don't bring dogs onto the playground or tie them to the fence.
- Mobile phones: Children mustn't bring phones into school or on trips.
- Play equipment: Only for school children (4–11 years) during break/lunch – not before or after school.
- Scooters/bikes: Please walk them in the playground.

School Day

Doors open 8:35–8:45am. Lessons start at 8:45 sharp, so please make sure children are in class on time. If you're late, come through the main office entrance.

Celebration Assembly

We will be continuing with our Celebration Assembly celebrating achievements from the week – and you're invited! Timings for this year may change so please look out for further information regarding this.

Term Dates & Key Events

Please see the full list at the end of this letter for term dates, training days and upcoming events. A quick reminder – holidays during term time can't be authorised, and fines may be issued for absences.

Term Dates 2026-2027

TERM 1 2026 1 September 2026 - 23 October 2026
TERM 2 2026 2 November 2026 -18 December 2026
TERM 3 2027 4 January 2027 – 12 February 2027
TERM 4 2027 22 February 2027 – 25 March 2027
TERM 5 2027 12 April 2027 - 28 May 2027
TERM 6 2027 7 June 2027 - 21 July 2027

Our five staff training days are currently scheduled to be:-

1st September 2026
2nd September 2026
2nd November 2026
4th January 2027
28th May 2027

Dates for 2026/2027 Academic Year

I thought it would be helpful to give you advance notice of some of the events, meetings and festivals that will be taking place during this academic year. Please note however, that although events are planned, they may be subject to change or cancellation.

Term 1

09.09.26	Open Afternoon– 'Meet the Teacher' at 3:15pm
10.09.26	Kent Test Day for Year 6 children who have opted to take test
22.09.26	School individual photographs
02.10.26	Harvest Festival

Term 2

03.11.26	Year R Parent Workshop 'How we teach your child to read' 9am – 10 am
06.11.26	Woodpeckers Class Family Assembly at 9am
12.11.2026	Nasal Flu Vaccinations
w/b 16.11.26	Mental Health & Anti-Bullying Week
30.11.26 & 02.12.26	Parent/Carer Consultations from 3:30 (by appointment)
27.11.26	Year 6 Residential Trip Parent Meeting at 2pm
w/b 30.11.26	Enterprise Week for Squirrels, Badgers, Woodpeckers & Owls classes
01.12.26	KS2 Pantomime trip to The Marlowe Theatre
04.12.26	Christmas Disco & Non-Uniform Day
09.12.26 & 10.12.26	Christmas Nativity in the School Hall (PM) – Time to be confirmed

11.12.26	Enterprise Fair
15.12.26 & 17.12.26	Carol Concert at 2pm
16.12.26	Christmas Dinner Day & Christmas Jumper Day
17.12.26	KS1 & EYFS Pantomime trip to The Marlowe Theatre
18.12.26	'Party' Day

Term 3

15.01.27	Squirrels Class Family Assembly at 9am
03.02.27	Open Afternoon
05.02.27	NSPCC Number Day
10.02.27	Film Night

Term 4

22.02.27	Bikeability Training Level 1 – Year 6
24.02.27	Bikeability Training Level 2 – Year 6
25.02.27	Bikeability Training Level 2 – Year 6
26.02.27	Bikeability Training Level 2 – Year 6
04.03.27	World Book Day
12.03.27	Badgers Class Family Assembly at 9am
22.03.27 & 24.03.27	Parent/Carer Consultations from 3:30pm (by appointment)
25.03.27	Spring Concert. Class performances in the school hall at 9am and 2:45pm

Term 5

20.04.27	Squirrels Class Swimming Lessons start
03.05.27	BANK HOLIDAY– School Closed
w/b 10.05.27	KS2 SATs week for Owls Class
21.05.27	Otters Family Assembly at 9am
24.05.27 – 27.05.27	Year 6 Residential Trip

Term 6

11.06.27	Rabbits Class Family Assembly at 9am
14.06.27	School Class Photographs
21.06.27	Sports Day (PM)
28.06.27	Reserve Sports Day (PM)
02.07.27	Hedgehogs Class Family Assembly at 9am
09.07.27	Owls Class Production at 6pm
20.07.27	Owls Class Leavers' Service in the school hall at 2pm
20.07.27	Family Picnic at 3:15pm

We will, of course, let you know of any additions or changes as soon as possible.

We're really looking forward to another exciting and successful year. If you have any questions, worries or just want a quick chat, please catch me on the playground or speak to any of the staff – we're always happy to help.

Yours sincerely



Neil Brinicombe
Interim Headteacher