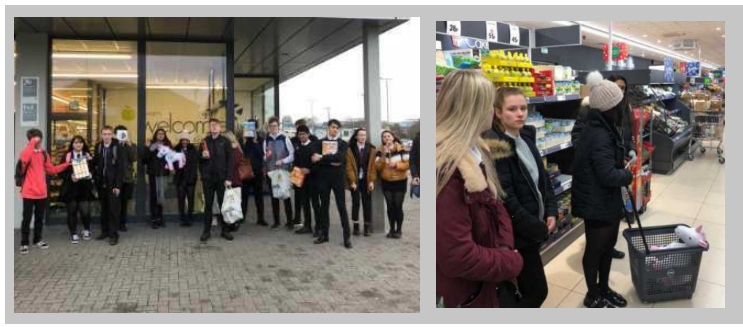


### Fr Simon says...

This coming Sunday, on the 2nd Sunday of Advent, John the Baptist makes his appearance with his message of "CHANGE!" Faith is not something that can be imposed on us or done to us, we have to actively engage with God's Love for ourselves. How can we respond to John the Baptist's call this Advent?



Advent Mass at Peacock Nursing Home  
Thanks to our Senior Choir and S3 pupils for their help



Senior RE pupils buying items for the St Margaret's Advent Charity appeal

### Advent charity appeal

The school will be raising money and collecting items for the St Vincent De Paul Christmas Hampers appeal, and buying toys for the Radio Forth Mission Christmas Toys appeal. Pupils will be involved in the charity appeals through their RE class. All support gratefully received.

### Christmas by Candlelight concert

The Christmas by candlelight concert will be held on Tuesday 11th December.  
Some tickets still available!



### Parent Council Meeting

The next parent council meeting is on Monday evening from 7-8pm in the school. Previous minutes are attached to this bulletin. Agenda includes Home learning and Better eating, better learning.

**S4-6 reports were issued last week. If you have not received your child's report then please contact the school. If you have any concerns or queries then contact Mrs Crookston or Mrs Boyd.**

### Entrepreneurship programme

Our senior pupils had an exciting motivational speaker from Orbit join them last Friday. Fifteen S5/6 pupils have the opportunity to start their entrepreneurial journey! Well done everyone! If you think you could help the school in any way to promote entrepreneurship or self-employment then please get in touch. Miss O'Hare & Miss McIlwraith (Employer engagement coordinator)

### Top of the bench competition

St Margaret's Academy attended the Royal Society of Chemistry's Top of the Bench competition on Wednesday. Our four S2-S4 pupils, who were selected by different science teachers, performed at the best of their ability. Unfortunately they did not win but they had a good time and are excited to try again next year! Miss Christmas (Chemistry teacher)



app - St Margaret's RC Academy available for iPhone and Android



stmargaretsacademy.org.uk



@StMargaretsAcad



@StMargaretsAcademyLivingston

## Extra Curricular activity spotlight - WAR-GAMES

The St Margaret's Academy War-games club meets every Wednesday after school in the science department.

Club members take part in a range of activities including miniature painting and gaming. We are currently in the third week of our first ever 'Winter War' League. Pupils compete against each other weekly for points in their games, with the winner receiving a prize at the end of the League in the new year.

The club is always very busy and gives pupils a chance to apply their literacy, numeracy and creative skills in measuring distance, calculating probability and painting models. The club has grown quite a bit over this term, welcoming several new members from S1 and S2.

Special shout-out to Ben Rafferty in S1 who is the first ever winner of the monthly Model of the Month painting competition with his Ork model

We are always welcoming new members, and the club is open to every one! If you fancy coming along and trying out a new hobby, come and ask Mr Miller for more information.



## S6 Christmas trip

Mr Bennett organised an annual S6 trip to the Edinburgh Christmas Market. We walked around the markets, intrigued by the wonderful smells each stall had. Everything smelt so nice like roasted chestnuts and mulled wine giving off a warm Christmassy feel. There were so many things to see in this winter wonderland. After the market we all then went to the King's Theatre, to enjoy the pantomime, 'The Beauty and the Beast'. It was hilarious; there were lots of adult humour, which made us all roar with laughter. We then went to Cosmos, a world buffet restaurant where there was a feast of delicious foods from a range of world cultures. After 8PM, we all went home via our local coach bus. During the trip back home, we all had a sing-along session to pass the time and this was definitely one of the best excursions we have ever experienced. Francesca, Jordan and Zoe S6.



## S6 Young Enterprise success

Our Young Enterprise teams have been busy this week competing in the Young Enterprise Scotland Christmas market against 16 other Young Enterprise companies from schools across Edinburgh and the Lothians. Congratulations to Charitable Hearts winning the Best Display Stand and coming 3rd place in Best Sales and Marketing.



# **St. Margaret's Academy**



## **Pupil Bulletin**

4<sup>th</sup> December 2018

### **General**

#### **Wise up to Well-being**

Our well-being focus this week is ACTIVE. ACTIVE means having opportunities to take part in activities such as play, recreation and sport, which contribute to healthy growth and development, at home, in school and in the community.

Quote from S2 pupil: "Being active is when you participate in sport, enjoy walking and do at least 3 activities per week that gets you heart going. I like being active as it makes me feel good."

If you don't feel ACTIVE please speak to an adult in school. This could be your Smart Time teacher, one of your class teachers or Pupil Support. Also, please see our extra-curricular programme in school, there is lots on offer.

#### **Equalities Group**

The Equalities group will be meeting for their first proper meeting on Wednesday 5th December in the Oratory. This will run over ALL 3 LUNCHES. Anyone who wants to improve representation and decrease discrimination is welcome. Tell your friends! Tell your enemies! Tell everyone!

#### **Geography Naples Trip 2019**

The deadline for the initial deposit is this week. Please use iPay as the payment method if you are still to pay. Any issues please see Miss Stone (U19).

#### **Ski Club BLOCK 2**

After the holidays there is another opportunity to join ski club. Ski Club is for anyone so for pupils who have never skied before or people who just enjoy skiing. It is on a Thursday (3:30pm-6:30pm) and it takes place at Hillend Snowsport Centre. The school organise transport and you get ski lessons from one of the instructors. This club cost £60 -£70 as you will participate in 6-7 sessions (£10 per lesson). If you are interested can you speak to Mr Haynes in PE.

#### **School Show: Hairspray**

Castings for the school show will be up in Music and Drama on Thursday. Thanks to all who auditioned. We had an overwhelming amount of talent and look forward to seeing you all at rehearsals after Christmas.

### Christmas Concert

Tickets are now on sale in the Music Department for the Christmas Concert on Tuesday 11th December @7pm.

£5 Adults

£3 Child/Concession

### School Photographs

The deadline for any order forms to be handed into the school office is Monday 10.12.18. Thank you.

### Behavior at Social Times

Pupils are reminded to behave appropriately at social times. Playing on the hill is not allowed. Thank you, Mrs Melville.

### Late Pupils

Please sign in with Mrs Whitelaw U7 Library Office, when you arrive late into school. If you are late due to the school bus please indicate this when you sign in. Thank you.

### Bus Tickets

Bus tickets should be purchased from the School Office at break and lunch time only. The cost of a 10 journey ticket is £6.73, please try to bring the exact money with you to the School Office.

### School Tie Return

If you have borrowed a tie from the School Office could you please ensure that it is returned by the end of the day.

### Weekly Mass

Just a reminder that Mass takes place every Thursday morning at 8.15am in the Oratory.

### Procedure for Leaving School for Appointments/Sent Home from Sick Room

If you have to leave the school premises for any reason e.g. medical appointment, sent home from sick room please remember to sign yourself out on the black folder at the school office window.

### Lidl

Pupils should be reminded to remain on school grounds during break and lunch time. Please advise pupils that they will no longer be served at Lidl during these times.

### Lost Property

Please be reminded that the lost property basket is located outside the Janitors Office. If you have lost any items of clothing etc. please check this basket in the first instance.

### Extra-Curricular Timetable

Please see attached sheet for details.

**S1 – S3**

**S4 – S6**





## ST MARGARET'S ACADEMY

**PARENT COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Monday 12 November 2018**  
**1900-2000**

### Minutes of Meeting

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Present</b><br>Warwick Dredge<br>Denise Lawson<br>Mike Batley<br>Caroline Batley<br>Susan Fleming<br>Doug Hook<br>Annabel Drummond<br>B J Hain<br>Caroline Wilson<br>Roz McCracken<br>Michelle Rodgers<br>Ebun Amadin<br>Christine Cooper<br>Fiona Chatterjee | <b>Absent</b><br>Elizabeth Traynor<br>Claire Roy<br>Audrey Devlin<br>Jo Taylor<br><br><b>Staff Present</b><br>Greg McDowall, Headteacher<br>Tina Melville, Depute Headteacher<br>Maureen Casey, PTC RE<br>Martin Dobie,<br>Lynn Hynds |
|--|---|

### Welcome & Opening Prayer

### Fundraising

Mrs Casey proposed to the Council that the Annual Burns Supper 25 January 2019 be held in aid of Malawi. Those participating in the Malawi visit will do all preparation for the Ceilidh including food arrangements and tickets. Due to time constraints tickets will go on sale before Christmas and be promoted throughout school and parishes. Funds raised will be for the build costs only.

### HT report

Staff update:

- Vera Perl appointed to Modern Languages.
- Recruitment still an issue across certain subjects. No supply staff available.
- Mrs Shaw (English) on long term absence – classes absorbed within Department.
- Mrs Wright (DHT) has now gone on maternity leave.
- PTC Science will be interviewed from 10 applicants in next few weeks.

S4 Parent night:

- New system across whole authority which is easier to use

- Layout of tables needs to be looked at as little/no privacy
- Some staff names missing on booking form

#### Homework:

- Still being addressed across collaboratives and parents confirmed not enough coming through

#### Study/Prelims

- Study Lates being coordinated by Mrs Crookston – more information will be available on Snippets/Bulletin
- Prelims will be held in January – more exams being set by SQA. Some pupils may have 2 prelims in a day over the 2-week prelim diet.
- Main exams will cover a 5-week period straight after Easter holiday. Work folios must be submitted before Easter holiday.
- Would actively encourage all pupils to attend Study Lates
- Some parents highlighted that some pupils are self-marking tests and not receiving follow-up or feedback on results.

#### **Positive Mental Health & Wellbeing**

Mrs Melville asked parents present to complete draft questionnaire to improve PMH/EMB amongst staff and pupils.

#### **AOB**

- Encourage more pupils to cycle to school – possible cycle club, increased cycle storage, SPOKES maps for Livingston and surrounding areas. Activities week cycle days were well received. Offer bicycle maintenance course and proficiency course
- Toilet/Class pass – lanyard too long and unsanitary – to be revised

#### **Closing Prayer**

|                            | Monday   | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday  |
|----------------------------|--|--|--|--|---|
| <b>Before school/break</b> | <p>RE Youth Club</p>  <p>RE department</p>      | <p>RE Youth Club</p>  <p>RE department</p> | <p>RE Youth Club</p>  <p>RE department</p>                | <p>RE Youth Club</p>  <p>RE department</p>  | <p>RE Youth Club</p>  <p>RE department</p> |
|                            |  |  |  |  |   |
| <b>Lunchtimes</b>          | <p>S2 Choir</p>  <p>Miss Saunders<br/>U46</p>   |  |  | <p>S3 Choir</p>  <p>Mrs Allan<br/>U47</p>   |   |
| <b>Lunchtimes</b>          | <p>S1 Choir</p>  <p>Miss Saunders<br/>U46</p> |  | <p>Creativity Hub</p>  <p>P5a lunch<br/>Mrs Mabhena</p> | <p>S4 Choir</p>  <p>Mrs Allan<br/>U47</p> |   |



|                     |  |  |   |  |   |
|---------------------|--|--|---|--|---|
| <b>Lunchtimes</b>   | <p><b>RE Youth Club</b></p>  <p><b>RE department</b></p>             | <p><b>RE Youth Club</b></p>  <p><b>RE department</b></p>                        | <p><b>RE Youth Club</b></p>  <p><b>RE department</b></p>                | <p><b>Anime Club</b></p>  <p><b>RE department</b></p>                          |   |
|                     | <p><b>Monday</b></p>   | <p><b>Tuesday</b></p>  | <p><b>Wednesday</b></p>   | <p><b>Thursday</b></p>   | <p><b>Friday</b></p>  |
| <b>After school</b> | <p><b>Debate Club</b></p>  <p><b>Miss Nisbet</b><br/><b>U21</b></p> | <p><b>Basketball (S4-6)</b></p>  <p><b>Mr Downham</b><br/><i>Games Hall</i></p> | <p><b>Badminton</b></p>  <p><b>Mr Murray</b><br/><i>Games Hall</i></p> | <p><b>Fit for Girls</b></p>  <p><b>Mrs Rafferty</b><br/><i>Games Hall</i></p> | <p><b>Duke of Edinburgh</b></p>  <p><b>S3-6</b><br/><b>Mr Hill</b></p> |
|                     |  |  |   |  |   |
| <b>After school</b> | <p><b>Creative Technology Club</b></p> <p><b>U31</b><br/><b>Mr Stewart</b></p>   | <p><b>Swimming Club</b></p>  <p><b>Mr Locke</b><br/><b>Pool</b></p>           | <p><b>Wargames Club</b></p>  <p><b>Mr Miller</b><br/><b>L42a</b></p>  | <p><b>Boxercise</b></p>  <p><b>Mr Locke &amp; Mr Shafat</b></p>             | <p><b>Water polo</b></p>  <p><b>Mrs Melville</b><br/><b>Pool</b></p>  |
|                     |  |  |   |  |   |

|                            |   |  |  |   |  |
|----------------------------|---|--|--|---|--|
| <p><b>After school</b></p> | <p><b>Basketball (S1-3)</b></p>  <p><b>Mr Bradley</b><br/><i>Games Hall</i></p> | <p><b>Rugby</b></p>  <p><b>Mr Haynes</b><br/><i>Grass</i></p>      | <p><b>Football</b></p>  <p><b>Mr Bradley</b><br/><i>Astro</i></p>        | <p><b>Dance &amp; Gymnastics</b></p>  <p><b>Miss Stryke</b><br/><i>Dance Hall</i></p> | <p><b>S1 Football Team</b></p>  <p><b>Mr Locke/Mr Haynes</b></p> |
|                            | <p><b>Monday</b></p>  | <p><b>Tuesday</b></p>  | <p><b>Wednesday</b></p>  | <p><b>Thursday</b></p>  | <p><b>Friday</b></p>   |
| <p><b>After school</b></p> | <p><b>Hockey Club</b></p>  <p><b>Mr McCurdy</b><br/><i>Astro</i></p>           | <p><b>Electronic Games Club</b></p>  <p><b>RE Department</b></p> | <p><b>Running Club</b></p>  <p><b>Mr Hopkins</b></p>                    |   | <p><b>Girls Football Team</b></p>  <p><b>Mr Bradley</b></p>     |
| <p><b>After school</b></p> |   |  | <p><b>Move Night</b></p>  <p><b>Mr Stewart</b><br/><b>DMG Dept</b></p> |   | <p><b>S3 Football Team</b></p>  <p><b>Mr Bradley</b></p>       |
|                            |   |  |  |   |  |
|                            |   |  |  |   | <p><b>Handball Team</b></p>  |

|              |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------|--|--|--|--|--|
|              |  |  |  |  | Cross Country Team<br>County Sports Team<br>Volleyball Team<br>Gymnastics Team<br>Giant Heptathlon |
| After school |  |  |  |  |  |