



St Margaret's Academy Snippets

30th August 2019

Message from the Headteacher

Welcome back everyone to the start of a new academic year which I would like to extend a special welcome to parents and carers of the children who have just joined us in S1 and I hope you are hearing lots of positive stories about their experience so far. At the start of August our pupils in S4-6 received their exam results and I was delighted to see further improvements in attainment across a number of subjects. Overall, our young people attained exceptionally well, particularly at Higher level and I will share some of their success with you over the coming weeks in this 'subject spotlight' section of this bulletin.

Last Wednesday morning, we welcomed 200 new S1 pupils through the doors at St Margaret's Academy. It was a delight to see their high levels of enthusiasm and excitement as they begin their secondary school journey. For parents supporting their child through this transition from P7 to S1 for the first time, I fully appreciate that it can be a very nerve wracking experience for both you and your child. However, please be assured that we take every possible step to ensure your child has the best possible start to secondary school, and I would encourage you to come and talk to us if you have any concerns or queries.

As some of you will be aware, this is a very important year for the school as we celebrate 25 years of St Margaret's Academy. We are in the process of planning a number of events and celebrations throughout the year and more details will follow. There will also be an opportunity for former students of St Margaret's to take a step back into school life with a high school reunion! Watch this space for more details.

Finally, I would like to thank you in advance for continuing to support the work of the school and I look forward to a happy and successful year for all our young people

Mr G. McDowall

What you need to know...

- 1 The school calendar is now available to view online via our school website. You can also download a copy.
- 2 Please sign up for parentportal.scot and iPay to access your child's school details, attendance etc... Full details attached.
- 3 Update the school app to receive direct messages, report absence etc... Search 'School App for Parents' in Appstore
- 4 The extra curricular programme is now up and running. Please see full calendar attached and remember that all pupils are welcome.

Key dates...

- Tuesday 3rd Sep -**
UCAS parent info evening 7-8pm - see below
- Friday 13th Sep -**
Non-uniform Day
- Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th**
Holiday
- Thursday 19th**
-Family Learning event - Supporting your child online - Social Media 7-8.30pm
-Senior Management Surgery 4-6pm
- Friday 20th**
Cuppa in the cafe 9-10am

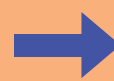
Getting in touch...

If you have any concerns or queries then please call (01506) 497104 or email wstmargarets-ac@westlothian.org.uk



Your first point of contact should be your son/daughter's Head of House

- Aidan**
Mrs Brennan PTC
- Columba**
Mr Shafat PTC
- Sinclair**
Miss Watson PTC
- Teresa**
Miss Pettigrew PTC



You can also speak to your son/daughter's year head

- S1,2,6**
Mrs Crookston DHT
Mrs Melville DHT
- S3,4,5**
Mrs Wright DHT

We also have drop in surgeries if you want to sit down and discuss any issues with the Senior Leadership Team or the Headteacher

'Cuppa in the Cafe' is an informal drop in session to meet your son/daughters Head of House

School Captains

Congratulations to our new School Captains Tobe, Thomas, Kirstin, Andrew and Chelsea.

We wish them all the best for a busy year ahead!



app - School App for Parents available for iPhone and Android



stmargaretsacademy.org.uk



@StMargaretsAcad



@StMargaretsAcademyLivingston



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30th August 2019

Fr Simon says...

Booo! Back to work for me. I wish I could report I'd been at a hiking resort in Greece for 3 weeks...truth is, I was in Carlisle mostly trying to keep warm. Well, a rest is a rest wherever one is! Looking forward to seeing everyone again next week.

Children from Chernobyl visit St Margaret's Academy

On Wednesday, St Margaret's Academy welcomed a group of wonderful children who are visiting Scotland with the charity 'Friends of Chernobyl's Children'. The S6 Pupil Leadership Team organised a fun day with many activities for the children to enjoy, including science experiments, painting and traditional music and dance. Both the children and S6 helpers left with wide smiles on their faces and many happy memories.



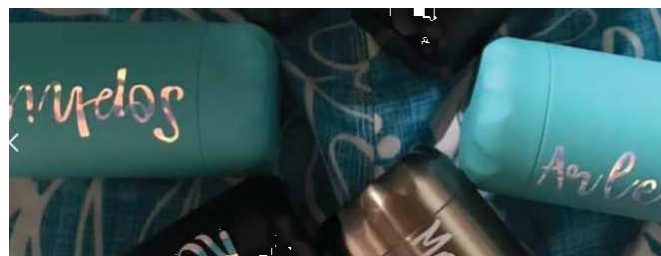
Westdrive 2019

This week, sixth year pupils attended a driving safety event presented by Police Scotland. The day consisted of many interactive workshops highlighting the tragic consequences of dangerous driving. We had the opportunity to speak to members of the emergency services and some pupils even got to sit on a police motorbike, including Mr Bennett! We experienced a simulated car crash using VR technology and practiced our emergency braking at one of the workshops. The trip definitely emphasised the importance of driving safely and taught us about the importance of individual responsibility. Thomas/Tobe(S6)



Enterprising young people- Bopa personalised products

Reducing plastic is something that I care about as I am a big supporter of the the environmental movement. I believe that plastic should not be littering our oceans so I decided to do my bit . I came up with an idea for Bopa - my business, I create non plastic water bottles and jars personalised for you with names and logos at reasonable prices. I am delighted to have the support of Mr McDowall who has bought bottles for the Senior Leadership Team . If you want to know more contact me @bopa_personalised on instagram and @bopapersonalisedproducts on Facebook
Niamh -S2



UCAS Information Evening - Tuesday 3rd Sep from 7-8pm in the cafe

If your child is applying to University or College this year then this session will help you to support them in preparing their application. You will find out about the UCAS application process and how to support your child in developing their personal statement.



app - St Margaret's RC Academy
available for iphone and android



stmargaretsacademy.org.uk



@StMargaretsAcad



@StMargaretsAcademyLivingston

Dear Parent/Guardian

parentsportal.scot

In support of West Lothian Council's ambition to transform communications between parents/carers we have been working with national partners to develop a "Parents Portal".

The portal is designed to replace the 'schoolbag run', giving parents online access to a range of school-related services. At the heart of the system is a secure online account through **mygov.scot** which is referred to as a '**My Account**', and this is already used in all West Lothian schools to enable parents to make online payments.

Initially, this new service will introduce basic information about your child's school and will allow you to:-

- link to your child
- view school calendar
- view your child's class timetable (for pupils in secondary school) *
- view your child's attendance
- access Parent Zone and MyWestLothian
- access online school payments (iPayImpact)

As the product develops we hope to see more services introduced including replacement of the current paper-based annual data check.

This is an exciting first phase of a new initiative which enables and creates a digital relationship between parents, pupils and schools, and the Linlithgow cluster has been chosen to participate in a pilot prior to launching to all other West Lothian schools.

For further information, guidance and access to **parentsportal.scot**, please click on the link below:-

parentsportal.scot

On signing up to the portal, you will be able to link to your child and gain access to the above named services which are currently available. In order to link to your child the data you provide during the sign up process **must** match the most up-to-date data that your child's school holds.

We hope that **parentsportal.scot** and its services will become an integral part of you and your child's school experience.

Yours sincerely



James Cameron
Head of Education (Learning, Policy and Resources)

* Please note that your child's new timetable will not be reflected until the start of the new session (August 2019)

S1 – S3







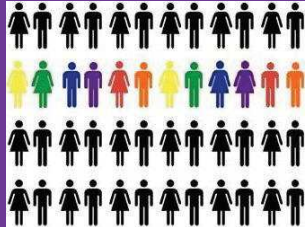





S4 – S6



Senior Basketball

Is on Tuesday after school from 3.30pm to 4.30pm.

Higher Sociology

Anyone interested in doing Higher Sociology after school: please come to a quick meeting at break on Thursday 29th August in U16.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before school/break	<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>
Lunchtimes	<p>S1 & S2 Choir</p>  <p>Miss Saunders U46</p>		<p>Equalities Group</p>  <p>Miss Morton</p>	<p>S3&4 Choir</p>  <p>Mrs Allan U47</p>	
Lunchtimes	<p>Craft Club</p>  <p>Green Room – P5a Ms Brennan</p>	<p>Craft Club</p>  <p>Green Room – P5a Ms Brennan</p>	<p>Creativity Hub</p>  <p>P5a lunch Mrs Mabhena</p>	<p>German Club</p>  <p>P5a & 5b Miss Perl – E5</p>	

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtimes	RE Youth Club  RE department	RE Youth Club  RE department	RE Youth Club  RE department	RE Youth Club  RE department	
After school	Debate Club  Miss Nisbet U21	Basketball (S4-6)  Mr Downham Games Hall	Badminton  Mr Murray Games Hall	Fit for Girls  Mrs Rafferty Games Hall	Duke of Edinburgh  S3-6 Mr Hill
After school	Creative Technology Club  U31 Mr Stewart	Board Games Club  Mr Bringhurst	Wargames Club  Mr Miller L42a	Swimming Club  Mr Locke Pool	Water polo  Mrs Melville/Mr Hopkins Pool

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
After school	<p>Basketball (S1-3)</p>  <p>Mr Bradley Games Hall</p>	<p>Rugby</p>  <p>Mr Haynes Grass</p>	<p>Football</p>  <p>Mr Bradley Astro</p>	<p>Dance & Gymnastics</p>  <p>Miss Stryke Dance Hall</p>	<p>S1 Football Team</p>  <p>Mr Cumming</p>
After school	<p>Hockey Club</p>  <p>Mr McCurdy Astro</p>	<p>Electronic Games Club</p>  <p>RE Department</p>	<p>Running Club</p>  <p>Mr Hopkins</p>	<p>Skiing</p>  <p>Mr Haynes Hillend</p>	<p>Girls Football Team</p>  <p>Mr Bradley</p>
After school	<p>School show</p>  <p>Drama department</p>	<p>Board Games Club</p>  <p>Mr Bringhurst</p>	<p>Move Night</p>  <p>Mr Stewart DMG Dept</p>	<p>Roller-skating Club</p>  <p>Mrs Sim</p>	<p>S3 Football Team</p>  <p>Mr Bradley</p>

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Other Teams
After school	<p>Fitness Club</p>  <p>Miss Mcilraith</p>		<p>Anime Club</p>  <p>RE department</p>		<p>Handball Team Cross Country Team County Sports Team Volleyball Team Gymnastics Team Giant Heptathlon Gymfest Team</p>
	<p>Water polo</p>  <p>Mr Hopkins Pool</p>		<p>School Brass Band</p>  <p>Mrs Downs Drama Studio</p>		

ST ANDREW'S

Admin Office:

126 Victoria Street
Craigshill
Livingston
EH54 5BJ
T: 01506 432141

ST PETER'S

9 Carmondean Centre
Deans
Livingston
EH54 8PT
T: 01506 438787

ST PHILIP'S

The Lanthorn
Kenilworth Rise
Dedridge, Livingston
EH54 6NY
T: c/o 01506 880918

ST THERESA'S

Kilronan Park
41 Main Street
East Calder
EH53 0ES
T: 01506 880918

Pastoral Team:

Fr Kenneth Owens, Fr Simon Hughes, Fr Peter Krakowiak SAC & Fr John Semnanke

Email: catholic126@gmail.com **PPC Email:** livingstoneastcalder_ppc@hotmail.com

Fr Peter Mobile: 07460 676 278 (text only) **Email:** katolicylivingston@gmail.com

Facebook: Livingston and East Calder Catholic Parishes

Website: www.livingstoncatholicparishes.co.uk

SVDP Contact Numbers:

St Andrew's & St Theresa's: 07342 793611

St Peter's: 07796 662264

St Philip's: 07502 031701

SUNDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2019

22nd Sunday of the Year - Year C

Jesus criticises those who thrust themselves forward and who engineer their way to the top. That's not the way to gain honour in the kingdom. Honour in the kingdom comes from the host, not from the guest. God confers honour on those who are humble.



If we want to know the quality of our love, all we have to do is look at the kind of people with whom we share it. Those who act out of motives of self-interest will receive no reward from God. But those who act from motives of disinterested charity will receive a reward at the resurrection. Here we also see Luke's concern for the poor and the afflicted.

Confession:

St Andrew's: Sat 9am & 4.30pm

St Peter's: Sat 10am

St Philip's: Sat 9am

St Theresa's: Sun after 11.30am

Adoration:

St Andrew's: Tue 10am to 11am
Thu 7pm to 8pm
Sat 4.30pm to 5pm

St Peter's: Sat 10am to 10.30am

St Philip's: Sat 9am to 9.15am

Morning Prayer:

St Philip's: Tue, Thu & Sat
9.15am

Parish office opening hours:

Mon, Tue, Wed & Thu

9.30am to 12.30pm

Shared News ...

Fr Kenneth Writes: "Thanks to all for their prayers and good wishes. The operation went well and I was discharged from hospital on Sunday afternoon. Keep me in your prayers as the recovery period begins."

Weekday Masses: Please remember to keep an eye on weekday Masses as they may be subject to change over the coming weeks.

PPC: Will meet on Wednesday 4 September at 7.00pm in St Margaret's.

RCIA: The new session starts on Thursday 5 September at 6.45pm in St Peter's. Anyone who is interested is welcome to come along to the meeting.

Holy Family Lay Associates: The St Andrew's & St Peter's group will meet on Thursday 5 September at 7.30pm in St Peter's side hall. Everyone is welcome.

St John's Hospital Mass: Fr Simon will celebrate Mass in the hospital on Friday 6th. Everyone is welcome.

Celebrate Conference: Will be held on Saturday 7 & Sunday 8 September in Glasgow. Something for all the family. For more information, check the website www.celebrateconference.org

Relics of St Thérèse: The relics will visit Scotland this September and the Archdiocese will host them at the Cathedral from the evening of Saturday 7 September until Monday 9 September. Pilgrims are invited to attend a Holy Hour and Prayer Vigil on Saturday 7th at 7.30pm and Solemn Mass on Sunday 8th at 12 noon.

Family BBQ: Tickets are now on sale for the Family BBQ on Saturday 7 September from 1.00pm - 3.00pm in the Lanthorn. Tickets cost £5/£3/£10. Donations of raffle prizes are needed and can be given to any member of the Social Committee. The money raised from this event will go towards Kevin Farquhar's Malawi project.

Youth Club: Will start up again on Sunday 8 September from 6.00pm - 8.00pm in the Lanthorn and will meet every two weeks. Children in P4-P7 welcome to go along.

Safeguarding Training: Anyone who volunteers for regulated work within our parishes must have a PVG processed by the Church and are asked to complete training on a regular basis. New training was introduced in 2018 and a number of PVG volunteers have completed Induction Part 1. Opportunities to complete Induction Part 2 of the training are now available; this is essential in order to complete the training course. A reminder to PVG volunteers who last completed training prior to 2016, you should now complete Induction Part 1 and then progress to Induction Part 2. Induction Part 1 training will take place on Tuesday 17 September at Our Lady & St Bridget, West Calder (training will be in the Community Centre behind the church car park) from 7.00pm-8.30pm or on Friday 27 September at St Peter's, Livingston from 7.00pm-8.30pm. Induction Part 2 training will be on Friday 13 September at St John's, Fauldhouse or Tuesday 15 October at St Peter's, Livingston both from 7.00pm-8.30pm.

Men's Retreat Day: This will take place at Nunraw Abbey on 12 October. If interested, contact Brian Rolfe (Tel: 07538 153 582 or email: march2ndjuly19th@gmail.com)

Next Sunday's Readings (08.09.19): Wisdom 9:13-18; Psalm 89; Philemon 9-10. 12-17; Luke 14:25-33.

Recently Deceased: John McGuinness **Anniversaries (September):** Peter Cochrane

ST PETER'S ...

Second Collection: Today for ongoing property maintenance.

Rosary Group: Meet on Wednesday at 11.00am in the side hall.

Knit & Natter: Won't meet on Wednesday as the ladies are going for afternoon tea. Anyone who would like to join them, please speak to Moraig.

Altar Servers: Fr Simon would like you all to stay on after Mass next Sunday so we can sort out your albs.

Children's Liturgy: If possible, can the leaders stay behind next Sunday to see Fr Simon at 11.00am.

Last Sunday's Collection: £902.65; **Church Stall:** £49.90

ST ANDREW'S ...

Children's Liturgy: Will restart today at 11.30am Mass. All children welcome but please note that all under school age children must be accompanied by an adult. Rotas for catechists are now ready and can be collected from the sacristy.

Sunday Teas: There is still a slot available. If anyone is interested, please speak to Veronica Phair or contact the parish office.

Woollen Hats: Are on sale after the Vigil Mass in aid of Mary's Meals.

Help!: Does anyone know how to use a floor buffer machine and would be willing to help the cleaners once a month?

Loan Fund: The outstanding current loan figure is £4,062.95. Thank you.

Last Sunday's Collection: £853.06; **Building Fund:** £213.55; **Candles:** £174.10; **200 Club:** No 5 & No 16; **Sanctuary Candle:** Daniel Farrel Snr RIP

ST THERESA'S...

Coffee Morning: On Saturday 21 September from 10.00am - 12 noon in East Calder church hall in aid of the mental health ward at St John's Hospital

Last Sunday's Collection: £392.58;
Bonus Ball Winner: No 38 St Theresa's

ST PHILIP'S ...

Today: As well as welcoming Fr Simon to celebrate the Eucharist, we welcome Greg McDowall, Acting Head Teacher at St Margaret's Academy, who is here to speak with us.

Fairtrade: Stall today, Sunday 1st.

Holy Family Lay Associates: Will meet on Monday 2nd at 2.00pm in the Lanthorn.

Family Fun Night: Will be on Saturday 14 September at 7.00pm in the Lanthorn. Tickets available after Mass.

Last Sunday's Collection:
£468.49; **200 Club:** TBC;
Sanctuary Candle: God's guidance for a son



My name is Pawel Osinski, I am a seminarian from the order called The Society of Christ. In October, I will begin my second year in Seminary based in Poznan, Poland.

Although I now live in Poland, I spent the last 15 years of my adult life in Scotland. I arrived in 2002 initially for one year. At the beginning, I worked in Inverness for a charity called L'Arche Community (L'Arche is a French word for 'the ark') with people with learning disabilities and their carers. One of the goals of L'Arche is creating homes with a family-like atmosphere for people with disabilities.

After my first year with L'Arche, I felt I couldn't leave so I extended my stay. After two or three years I became a manager of one of the houses then a manager of another one. I really enjoyed this type of work.

Life in L'Arche was about supporting and assisting people with learning difficulties in their daily lives: we shopped, cooked and shared meals together, using it as an important way of bringing people together and fostering a sense of belonging between people with and without learning disabilities. Even though we often belonged to different Christian denominations, we had regular daily prayers and we lived in peace and respect for each other. Also, we helped our residents to participate in worship in their local churches. Some of our residents learned skills for independent living, as well as taking part in arts and crafts workshops. After spending seven years in Inverness, I moved down south to Edinburgh and continued working for L'Arche in Leith. I lived in three of their houses and was a manager of one of them.

After 2012 I wanted to live more independently and left L'Arche. I rented a flat in Edinburgh and got an administration job at RBS. I had always wanted to work for a large corporate bank so this was my dream job. I was an administrator for different bank systems and also a deputy manager in one of the teams. It was at this time I got involved in several Polish church groups playing in a band and attending different courses and Bible Studies where I met many interesting people.

However, I experienced a very difficult time: a few of my friends decided to leave the Catholic Church to create their own non-denominational church. I was left with many questions in my mind and I experienced a deep crisis. I was forced to go deeper in faith and to seek greater understanding of the Church, of who I am and what I believe. Soon I began receiving answers to many of my doubts and questions. My faith deepened and I began to see many things from a new perspective. My prayer life changed and I was interested in Catholicism like never before.

Surprisingly for myself, I began to be attracted to priesthood even though I never considered it before. I realised that I should allow God to act and if this is His will to let me follow this way. This process took about three years. At the end of 2017 I began formation in the Society of Christ in Poland. I felt that I was a Pole living abroad and the Society works among Poles living abroad often running bi-lingual parishes in the US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Ireland, UK, and many other countries.

Perhaps some young people from your parishes should consider vocation to the priesthood or religious life? Please pray for vocations in your personal prayer and in your families.

Seminarian Pawel Osinski, The Society of Christ





Gdy Jezus zauważył, jak zaproszeni goście wybierali sobie najlepsze miejsca przed ucztą, powiedział: «Jeśli cię kto zaprosi na ucztę, nie zajmuj pierwszego miejsca, by czasem ktoś znakomitszy od ciebie nie był zaproszony przez niego. Wówczas przyjdzie ten, kto was obu zaprosił, i powie ci: "Ustąp temu miejsca!"; i musiałbyś ze wstydem zająć ostatnie miejsce. Lecz gdy będziesz zaproszony, idź i usiądź na ostatnim miejscu. Wtedy przyjdzie gospodarz i powie ci: "Przyjacielu, przesiądź się wyżej!"; i spotka cię zaszczyt wobec wszystkich współbiesiadników. Każdy bowiem, kto się wywyższa, będzie poniżony, a kto się poniża, będzie wywyższony». [Łk 14, 8-11]

Pokora jest cnotą potrzebną zwłaszcza ludziom bogatym i wpływowym. Chroni ona przed pychą, pozwala doświadczyć Bożego miłosierdzia, umożliwia poznanie tajemnic Boga, skłania do oddawania Mu należnej czci.

Pokora pozwala ustrzec człowieka przed błędnymi dociekaniem, które są skazane na niepowodzenie. To dzięki pokorze człowiek podoba się Bogu, który pokornym chętnie objawia swoje tajemnice.

W pierwszym czytaniu z Mądrości Syracha czytamy: „O ile wielki jesteś, o tyle się uniżaj, a znajdziesz łaskę u Pana. Wielka jest bowiem potęga Pana i przez pokornych bywa chwalony. Na chorobę pyszałka nie ma lekarstwa, albowiem nasienie zła w nim zapaściło korzenie. Serce rozumnego rozważa przypowieści, a ucho słuchacza jest pragnieniem mędrca.” [Syr 3, 18 + 28-29]

Wzorem uniżenia i pokory jest nasz Pan – Jezus Chrystus, który uniżył samego siebie, przybrał postać sługi, umywał nogi swoim uczniom i poniósł poniżającą śmierć za nasze grzechy. Uczmy się Go naśladować.

Kl. Paweł Osiński

DATE	ST ANDREW'S	ST PETER'S	ST PHILIP'S	ST THERESA'S	FEAST DAY
Sun 1 Sept	9.30am Polish PK 11.30am Mass JS <i>Rose Fairley RIP</i>	9.30am Mass MM <i>People of the Parish</i> 5.30pm Mass JB	9.30am Mass SH <i>Ramsell Salazar RIP</i>	11.30am Mass PK <i>People of the Parish</i>	22nd Sunday of the Year - Year C
Mon 2 Sept	No Service	No Service	No Service	9.00am Mass PK <i>Donor's Intention</i>	Monday 22nd week of the year
Tue 3 Sept	No Service	6.00pm Mass SH <i>Mary McDonnell RIP</i>	9.30am Mass PK <i>Donor's Intention</i>	No Service	Memorial of St Gregory the Great
Wed 4 Sept	No Service	9.30am Mass SH <i>Barry Beaotts</i>	No Service	No Service	Wednesday 22nd week of the year
Thu 5 Sept	No Service	9.30am Mass SH <i>Gina Ritchie</i>	No Service	No Service	Thursday 22nd week of the year
Fri 6 Sept	No Service	9.30am Mass SH <i>Irene Gill</i>	No Service	No Service	Friday 22nd week of the year
Sat 7 Sept	5.30pm Vigil SH <i>Bill McArthur</i>	9.30am Mass SH 6.30pm Polish PK	No Service	No Service	Saturday 22nd week of the year
Sun 8 Sept	9.30am Polish PK 11.30am Mass IW <i>People of the Parish</i>	9.30am Mass SH 5.30pm Mass SH <i>Jim Baxter</i>	9.30am Mass IW <i>People of the Parish</i>	11.30am Mass PK <i>Rose Fairley RIP</i>	23rd Sunday of the Year - Year C