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Friday 5th September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer[s],

A very warm welcome back to everyone on behalf of myself and all of the staff at St Margaret Mary's. I hope your summer holidays were a restful and enjoyable one. It really has been lovely to see everyone this week and return together, as we begin the new academic year as a school family. A special welcome also, to pupils and families who are new to the school and joining us over the coming weeks.

General Matters

Uniform: It has been lovely to see the children looking so smart in their full uniform, on their return to school this week. Thank-you so much for your support with this. As we start the new school year please continue to work with us, to ensure that these high standards remain.

PE: PE lessons will formally start again next week. Can you please arrange for your child to bring their PE kit into school at the start of the week, so that it is available at all times. PE timetables and further details will be shared by classteachers with all parents from Monday.

As highlighted above, a reminder that the school PE kit for this time of year is a plain white t-shirt, plain black shorts and black pumps/trainers [tracksuits not required]. PE uniform must not be branded.

Water Bottles - Year 1-6 Pupils Only: A reminder that if you wish to, your child is able to bring an appropriately sized water bottle into school for use in class. This will be stored in the classroom so that pupils can access this as and when needed during the day. This is strongly recommended for hydration reasons, but all children will have access to the water fountains throughout the day. A reminder that pupils are only allowed to drink water in the classroom and not juice. They are permitted to have juice in the dining hall if having a packed lunch, with low-sugar/sugar-free drinks recommended.

Key Rings/Soft toys: Just before the summer holidays and at the start of this term we have noticed a number of pupils having small cuddly toys and other objects attached to key rings and book bags. Could you please ensure that these do not come into school.

Thank-you for your support with this and all of the above matters.

Building Works: During the summer holidays we have completed an intensive programme of redecoration and building works across the school. This has included classroom redecoration from Years one to six and a corridor refurbishment in the Main Building, including a suspended ceiling, new flooring and painting. The school looks lovely and is in a really good position to be maintained over the coming years.

Gospel Reflection: The Parable of the Great Banquet

“But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you.” Luke 14:13

In Luke’s Gospel Reading from last Sunday, Jesus teaches us the importance of thinking of others and including everyone, particularly those most in need. He asks us to prioritise those in our society who are often ignored, judged, marginalised and prejudiced against. I am sure we can think of many examples today, just as Jesus did in His time, of those who in our country and communities; have no home or place to live, who are fleeing wars and persecution, who are treated unfairly, through no fault of theirs, because of who they are.

Jesus challenges us to prioritise those people, because they are most in need and unable to pay us back. In following Jesus’s teaching we will be blessed and rewarded in Heaven. In doing so we can demonstrate God’s love. We are reminded that God’s Kingdom is about humility, kindness and generosity. Thinking of others first, is what matters to God. God blesses those who love and care for others, especially those who are the most overlooked.

The Parable of the Great Banquet by Hyatt Moore



The mural above, depicts Hyatt Moore’s take on Jesus’s parable in Luke 14, where a man prepared a grand banquet but everyone invited was too busy to come. So he instructed his servants to go out and get people from among “the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.”

The above artwork shows real people depicted in the mural, including a man from Jamaica blinded and disfigured, a scarred soldier without an ear, a little Guatemalan boy with severe cerebral palsy, a young (pregnant) woman who suffered a stroke, a homeless person . . . and more.

Once again, thank-you for all of your support and for a great start to the school year.

I wish you all a lovely weekend.

Take care and God Bless!

Mr Sutton
Headteacher

