



St Margaret's Academy

Snippets

29th June 2018

Message from the Headteacher

It is with great pleasure that I write to you as the new Acting Headteacher of St Margaret's Academy and I am very much looking forward to working with you, the parents and carers, throughout next session. To help keep you up to speed with everything that is going on in the school I will publish this short bulletin every Friday and you can access it via your email, app or our school website. If you would like to know about the latest events and news from the school, I would encourage you to follow us on facebook and twitter where you will find photographs, videos and other highlights from the wide range of activities that our young people enjoy each day in the school. There has been a lot going on in the school during this last week and we have been encouraging our young people to make the most of the fantastic weather by spending their break and lunchtimes outside. We received some exciting news this week when we found out that we have been awarded the Silver award for Rights Respecting Schools. This award is in recognition of the work of ourpupil council regarding promoting awareness of children's rights and responsibilities across the school. Well done to the young people who were involved in this project and Miss Beaumont from the Social Subjects department for working towards gaining the award. Sporting success is never far away in St Margaret's Academy and we recently received the news that the school has retained the title of West Lothian Sports League Champions for 2017/18. To win this highly sought after award for the second time illustrates the dedication of our young people and the commitment of our PE staff to ensuring that all young people are given the opportunity to participate in sports activities within the school. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a wonderful summer break and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Tuesday 21st August.

- Mr G McDowall

SQA results, course choice changes and timetables

The SQA results will be issued to pupils on the 7th August. The school will be open on the 8th August and 14th August from 10am-12pm for any pupils wishing to change their courses for next session.

The S3 timetables will be finalised during the first week back in August. This is to allow for changes to be made to accommodate Computing Science in the school timetable.

Empowering children to participate in school improvement

As new s6 pupils, we were involved in the writing of the School Improvement Plan. This document was written in order to aid the school in achieving its potential. We helped lead other pupils in expressing the ways in which the school could improve the health and wellness programs, relationships within the school community, along with ensuring that rights are being met and respected.

Charlotte Borthwick and Eve Dillon - S6 pupils

Contact details

If you would like to update any of your contact details then please contact the school via email or alternatively call the school office during term time
wlmargarets-ac@westlothian.org.uk or 01506 497104

Biology visiting speaker

On Wednesday 27th June, Liz Ferrell from the Bats Conservation Trust visited St Margaret's and delivered a guest lecture for the Higher and Advanced Higher Biology students. The lecture covered conservation of bat species in the UK, and the importance of looking after the natural environment. She talked about her experiences working in the field to survey bat populations and the work her organisation is doing to limit the damage humans are doing to these important (and rare) mammals. The talk was enjoyed by pupils and teaching staff, and we look forward to hopefully inviting the Bats Conservation Trust back to school in the future!
Mr G Miller

School uniform

School uniform can be purchased from Academy Uniforms

www.academyuniformsltd.co.uk and can be delivered to your home or the school

The school uniform policy can be accessed at

<http://stmargaretsacademy.org.uk/article/21208/Uniform-Policy>

Rights Respecting Schools - Silver Award

In the second last week of term we achieved our Silver Rights Respecting Schools Award. This recognises the work pupils and teachers have done in raising awareness of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child across the whole school community. It also highlights the movement we have made towards increasing pupil voice; pupils say they feel listened to and are making suggestions for groups and initiatives they would like to run for themselves. The award demonstrates that as a school we have an ethos of respect that is embedded in the understanding that we need to respect the rights of others and help those in need.
Miss L Beaumont

Coffee morning

On Monday morning, a small group of our S1-4 pupils who access 'The Hub' organised a coffee morning for staff. The event was a huge success and it enabled the group to develop their confidence and interpersonal skills. Thanks to Miss McIlwraith for organising this event.

Dalguise outdoor adventure

As part of an enhanced transition, some S3 to S4 pupils had the opportunity to attend a 3 day residential personal development course of outdoor learning at Dalguise PGL centre. This involved engaging pupils to learn through adventure by participating in a variety of different activities including, abseiling, canoeing, archery and a variety of team working activities. See our facebook page for more details.
Mr M Shafat