



St. Margaret's CE Primary School

Weekly Update 3rd December 2021



Author Visit

On Thursday 2nd December Year 4 spoke virtually with bestselling author Sophie Anderson. Year 4 have used Sophie's Book, The Girl Who Speaks Bear, as a stimulus for creative writing and they asked her lots of questions about her writing process.

Sophie's writing is most often inspired by folk and fairy stories, especially the Slavic tales her Prussian grandmother told her when she was young. Across her novels, The House With Chicken Legs and The Castle of Tangled Magic, Sophie has won the Independent Bookshop Book of the Year Award and the Wales Book of the Year Award, and been shortlisted for the CILIP Carnegie Medal twice, the Waterstones Children's Book Prize, the Blue Peter Book Award, the British Book Awards' Children's Fiction Book of the Year, and the Branford Boase Award. Her books have been translated into over twenty languages!



Carol Competition

All our junior children are invited to take part in a carol writing competition. All entries will win a point for their house team and there will be house point prizes for the winning entries.

What:- write your own words for a well known traditional carol, thinking about the rhythm of your words to ensure they fit with the tune.

When- all entries will need to be handed into the office by next Friday, 10th December.

Mrs Bell will be judging the competition and will announce the winners before the end of term.



Beamish Visit

Year 1 enjoyed learning about the past on Thursday! We looked in particular at toys in the past. All day we were looking around us deciding what is different and what is the same as today. We were shocked that there were no iPads or electricity!

We enjoyed stepping back in time and despite it being really cold, we had a wonderful day.



Sports News

Our athletics team took part in the Sports Hall Athletics Competition this week. The children tried hard against strong competition and there were some strong individual performances. We came 4th over all.



"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your father in heaven", Matthew ch5 v16





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Reminder: The Friends of St. Margaret's School and Jenny Ulyatt Art are offering parents/the school community the opportunity to purchase a 'Paintings from the North East: 2022 Calendar'. These lovely calendars are only £11 each, and all profits will be kindly donated to the Friends. Orders will be delivered to school before the end of term, making them an ideal Christmas gift! **Orders should be placed and paid for by 5th December (this weekend)**

Please order via this link: <https://forms.gle/1iBLi7bR2rzLUZ4H8> (you may need to cut and paste this link, or type it out).

Update: The APFS Christmas cards, mugs and other items should be in school within the next few days. As soon they arrive they will be sent home with your child.

Thank you: The festive wreath workshop was a huge success earlier this week. Thank you to all those involved, particularly Rosy Posy Flowers, for hosting the event, and Mrs Tait, for the use of the school. It was good to meet so many parents – thank you for coming along!

Covid

As Covid cases are on the rise once more within school, we ask that you are vigilant with your children and if they show any signs of the virus, you take your children for a PCR test. The following guidance has been circulated by the Government and Durham County Council's Public Health Team:

- PCR testing for all adults and pupils if they are a close contact of a positive case in their household*.
- Daily LFT testing at home for 7 days for any adult or pupil in key stage 2 (year 3) or above who is a household contact of a positive case and is exempt from isolation and continues to attend school. The testing of primary age pupils is at parental discretion. Testing should start from the day the household member has symptoms or if they don't have symptoms from when they tested positive*

Best wishes to the following pupils who are celebrating a birthday this week:

Mohammed A Sabrina K Anne S

Evie R Ben P Samuel J

Jackson C Isabella J Flynn V



Please find attached a poster detailing free online parenting course: 'Understanding your child: Having Fun Together'.

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Year Group
Messages & Reminders



Reception	
Year 1	
Year 2	
Year 3	The Year 3 Christmas party will be on the afternoon of Thursday 9th December.
Year 4	Year 4 will be doing Forest Schools on Monday 6th December, and will need to come dressed in their Forest Schools kit. The Year 4 Christmas party will be on the afternoon of Friday 10th December.
Year 5	
Year 6	
Whole School	