

Margaret Wix Primary School & Nursery

"Respect, Self-Belief, Curiosity, Kindness and Resilience"



Wednesday 3rd September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

We look forward to welcoming you all back to our wonderful school on **Thursday 4th September**. A particularly warm welcome to our new families – we are delighted that you are joining the **Margaret Wix** community. I hope your children enjoy a happy and successful time here over the coming years.

I look forward to chatting with many of you over the next few weeks and getting to know your children. I hope you've had a brilliant summer together and are feeling excited about the term ahead.

Our staff are equally excited to welcome everyone back. Today, we are meeting to plan for the year ahead, with a special focus on **"making every moment matter."** Our goal is to ensure that every child at Margaret Wix is happy, achieves their potential, and makes the most of every opportunity. Of course, our learning powers of **respect, self-belief, curiosity, kindness, and resilience** underpin everything we do and guide our interactions with others. Our children continue to be brilliant ambassadors for all of these.

Please join us every **Friday at 9am in the school hall** for **Celebration Assembly**, where we celebrate these values amongst many other things. These begin on **Friday 12th September**.

Meet the Teacher and Other Key Dates

Early in the autumn term, we will be holding **"Meet the Teacher"** events. Please see the dates below for your child's session and make a note of them in your diary. These will take place at **3:15pm**, and your children will be looked after in a separate room. These meetings are very useful for understanding what is expected of your child academically, the topics covered in the year, trips, enrichment opportunities, and behaviour expectations.

Tomorrow, you will also receive a **class newsletter** outlining what is being taught this term, so that you can support your child at home and feel informed in conversations with them. In addition, on the date listed below, you will have a chance to meet our **Senior Leadership Team**, enjoy a warm drink, and help us continue to develop our special school. Please do come along!

Key Dates:

- **8th Sept, 3:15pm** - Year 1 and Year 6: Meet the Teacher
- **9th Sept, 3:15pm** - Year 4 and Year 5: Meet the Teacher
- **10th Sept, 9:00am** - Whole School: Meet the SLT

High Oaks, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL3 6EL

Tel: 01727 759232

Email: admin@margaretwix.herts.sch.uk

Headteacher: Claire Gibbs



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- **10th Sept, 3:15pm** - SRP: Meet the Teacher
- **11th Sept, 3:15pm** - Year 2 and Year 3: Meet the Teacher

As we have already held our **Meet the Teacher** sessions for **EYFS - Firetips**, we are offering the opportunity for parents and carers to join our EYFS team for a **Fun with Phonics** workshop:

- **15th Sept, 9:00am** - EYFS Phonics Workshop

Another important set of dates to mention are the **Parent Consultations** planned for **21st and 23rd October**. These will be a chance for you to meet your child's class teacher, find out how they have settled into their new class, learn how you can support at home, and discover how we can work in partnership to achieve the best outcomes.

Please also look out for our **Parent Partnership** letter coming soon from **Miss Abbott**, outlining many of the school events across the academic year that you are invited to attend. These events will focus on working with your child – and with us – to improve outcomes and ensure your child's happiness and curiosity for learning.

Uniform

At Margaret Wix Primary School, we consider uniform important for the following reasons, and we have worked to make it affordable for all:

- It promotes pride, self-confidence, and a feeling of belonging.
- It builds a sense of community among pupils, staff, parents, and the wider community.
- It helps instil a sense of purpose in pupils and separates school from home life.
- It eliminates worries about fashion trends and peer pressure.
- All children feel equal, removing stress around expensive brands or labels.
- It removes uncertainty over what is suitable school attire.

Please ensure you support us with great uniform for your child. Head over to our website for more information on this.

Attendance and Punctuality

Please visit the **Parents** section of our website for the full list of dates for the academic year. Attendance is extremely important, and term-time holidays are not permitted except in **exceptional circumstances**, so please take note of holiday dates.

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- School doors open at 8:40am and close at 8:45am.
- All classes finish at 3:15pm.

Please ensure your children arrive on time. Being late means missing vital learning.

In each classroom, near the front, I have placed a **sealed golden envelope**. Children who attend school **97% or more** of the time will be able to open the envelope and discover how at the end of term we, as a community, will celebrate this achievement. *You need to be in it to win it!* Please help your child build strong attendance habits by bringing them to school every day.

Celebrating Achievements

Working with parents is really important to us. To help keep you informed, we are now logging each **house point** your child receives — along with the reason — on **Arbor**. Please log into your Arbor account regularly to follow your child's successes.

They may receive house points for demonstrating one of our learning powers or values, meeting oracy targets (see below), or for another achievement entirely. Stay involved — be their biggest fan!

Oracy Focus by Year Group:

- **EYFS:** To take turns to speak with the support of an adult
- **Year 1:** To participate in group discussions independently of an adult
- **Year 2:** To deliver short, pre-prepared material confidently
- **Year 3:** To show active listening, questioning, and responding to others
- **Year 4:** To take turns speaking using natural and subtle prompts
- **Year 5:** To listen actively for extended periods
- **Year 6:** To develop awareness of group dynamics and invite others to contribute

In addition to this, over the holidays, I have, as always, been reading! One of the books I have enjoyed is *The Song of Significance* by Seth Godin. One of the clear messages in this book is about beehives. The metaphor is a strong one for a school community and is about everyone within the community working together for the best outcomes for our very special children. We are dependent on each other for the success of Margaret Wix Primary School. The children are part of this too and I will be talking to them about the fact that we are all part of the bee hive's success. Those showing excellent team work and helping pull our community together, will

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receive a little bee gift to symbolise their drive to ensure Margaret Wix Primary School is the very best it can be! Look out for your child bringing a bee home!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Let's work together to make 2025-26 the best year yet at Margaret Wix Primary School! This year is an especially exciting one — our legacy year — as we proudly celebrate our 70th anniversary. There will be plenty of exciting events and activities taking place throughout the year, so please watch this space and join us in marking this wonderful milestone! What an exciting time to be part of the Margaret Wix journey!

Kind regards,
Claire Gibbs
Head Teacher

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