

St Margaret's CE Newsletter

November 2017

Welcome Back

It was a pleasure to welcome the children back to school week after the half-term break. The last half-term proved to be a very busy and exciting one: the main entrance was relocated; our first mass of the year; a heritage-themed Messy Church; visits from Fr David to two KS1 classes; a KS2 class visit over to church; Year Six out at the Mayor's Office and an Ofsted inspection just to mention a few! We were also visited by the Muslim Learner Service: who provided an assembly and workshops in school enabling the children to learn more about Islam. He also led staff training after school.

On the last Friday before the break our Harvest Celebration was led by children from Oak class who shared reflections on the theme of God's creation. Once again this year we donated our harvest collection to Oldham Food Bank. Thank you for your generous donations, the children were thrilled with the amount of food we were able to send to the Food Bank and to have really made a difference in helping those less fortunate.

School News

Before half-term school was inspected by Ofsted. As previously stated, I am pleased to report that school secured a judgement of 'good'. Amongst the many positive comments within the report was a recognition of the positive attitudes displayed by the children towards their learning and school which continue to be evident each day.

Our new school entrance was completed over half-term. You will notice the original school foundation stone, dating back to 1786, has been mounted outside in the orchard along with a canopy and a permanent ramp providing wheelchair access. As well as being more aesthetically pleasing for visitors to school, our new entrance provides much safer access to and from the building and our old entrance is providing a larger space for our popular prayer corner.

St. Margaret's C.E.



Home/School News

Our heritage themed Messy Church (in church) was well attended and enabled children and parents to explore the history of St Margaret's.

The parents' 'open afternoon' in Early Years was very well attended. It was fantastic to see so many parents giving their time to come into school and share in their child's learning. The Macmillan coffee morning was also a success- thank you to the parents who organised the event. Thanks to these parents we now have the beginning of a 'Friends of St Margaret's' group being co-ordinated by Mrs Greenwood and can look forward to future events. If you are interested in being involved please speak to a member of staff.

As always, last half-term saw a wonderful array of homework challenges being completed and displayed in the hall. I am continuously amazed by the children's creativity and motivation in this area of their learning. Your child will be bringing home their class newsletter this week which includes homework challenges for the coming half-term which are linked to topics they are studying in school. Well done to our reading raffle winners. Five prizes of book tokens were presented and our Kindle winner was Anaya- well done! Thank you for your continued support in these important areas of your child's learning.

As always, this will be a busy half-term in the run up to Christmas- key dates to follow.

I look forward to seeing you at Parents' Evening where you will have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress and look at their work. Should you have any queries regarding your child's learning or welfare at any time please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mr D. R. Whittle (Headteacher)



St Margaret's C of E
@stmargaretsoldh

In worship this week chn have completed a tag for our #familytree – considering what it means to be part of the @stmargaretsoldh family!



Collective Worship – Autumn A

Themes explored in Collective worship in the last half-term included: motivation, which was linked to the parable of the sower; being welcoming, taught through the story of Zacheus; competition, linked to the Space Race in the 1960s; problem solving and the story of Nehemiah from the Old Testament; and mindfulness, linked to the story of Jonah. Each week a different class compile their reflections in our Collective Worship book which is shared in assemblies. Last week the children were learning about remembrance – each child in the school made their own poppy which is now displayed in our prayer corner in the old entrance (see above). The relocation of the prayer corner has provided a quieter space for prayer and reflection. Additionally this is a much larger area and we now have our own 'St Margaret's Prayer Tree'. Each child in school has produced a luggage tag for the tree, considering who belongs to their family. The tags were joined together and added to the tree encouraging the children to view the ties between themselves and consider what it means to be part of the St Margaret's family. Each week details of our Collective Worship theme are posted on our school Twitter account @stmargaretsoldh along with lots of other information. Please do follow us for up to date news.