



Loving to learn; learning with love

Newsletter 1 : 7th September 2026



Our new Receptions settling in!

Newsletter Headlines and Quick Links

- Clubs start on **Monday 7th September**. Collection at 4pm from the playground.
- **Monday 7th September** - 11+ Verbal Reasoning mock 3.15-16.00
- **Thursday 10th** - PTA meeting (3.40pm)
- **Friday 11th September** PTA coffee morning.
- **Friday 11th September** - 11+ Verbal Reasoning examination 8.30-9.45am
- [Vision and Values](#)
- [Diary dates](#)
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Together we belong!

What a wonderful start to the new school year we have had! Our first two days have been filled with smiles, excitement and lots of opportunities to get to know one another and settle into our new classes. It has been lovely to see the children growing in confidence as they become familiar with their new teachers, classrooms and routines. Everyone seems happy, excited and ready to learn, and we are looking forward to all that the year ahead will bring.

A particularly warm welcome goes to our new Reception children, who have settled in wonderfully. They have enjoyed exploring their new classrooms, making friends and beginning to discover all the exciting things that school has to offer. This week is our first full week together, meaning the children can now enjoy the full breadth of our curriculum and all the opportunities that come with it.

Our value for this half term is **Teamwork**, a value that is particularly fitting as we begin a new year together. Teamwork is about recognising that, while we all have our own individual strengths and talents, we can achieve so much more when we work together. Every day in school provides opportunities for children to practise this, listening to others, sharing ideas, helping a friend, encouraging someone or working together to solve a problem. Our whole school community is a team too, with children, staff, families and our wider community all playing an important part. As the Bible reminds us, **“Two are better than one... If either of them falls down, one can help the other up.”** (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10). What a lovely reminder that we are stronger when we support one another.

As a church school, this sense of belonging is central to who we are. We want every child and adult to know that they are valued, welcomed and an important part of our community. Our

Christian vision encourages us to live out values of love, compassion, respect, hope and service, recognising that we all have something valuable to contribute. This year, we will continue to develop this sense of belonging and encourage our children to look beyond themselves and consider how they can make a positive difference to others.

It has been great to see everyone making use of our new online system to sign up for clubs. This is also an important step towards becoming a cashless school, making payments and bookings simpler and more convenient for everyone. Thank you for your patience while we waited for our sports provider to confirm their availability, and we are pleased to now have the club details in place. We hope the new system will make things much easier for families as we move forward.

Finally, we are looking forward to welcoming families to our **first PTA meeting of the year on Thursday** and our **PTA Coffee Morning on Friday**. We would particularly love to see new members join us. The PTA makes such a valuable contribution to school life, helping to provide additional opportunities and experiences for our children while also bringing our community together. You don't need to have lots of time or experience to get involved—every contribution makes a difference.

As we begin this new school year, let us remember that **we all have a part to play**. This week, let's look for opportunities to be a good teammate: to help, encourage, listen and remind someone that they belong. Together, we can make this a wonderful year for every member of our school community.

Karen Robinson
Headteacher

This Week

- Clubs start on **Monday 7th September**. Collection at 4pm from the playground.
- **Monday 7th September** - 11+ Verbal Reasoning mock 3.15-16.00
- **Thursday 10th** - PTA meeting (3.40pm)
- **Friday 11th September** PTA coffee morning.
- **Friday 11th September** - 11+ Verbal Reasoning examination 8.30-9.45am

Next Week

- **Monday 14th September** -Individual photos
- **Monday 14th September** - 11+ Non Verbal Reasoning mock 3.15-16.00
- **Thursday 17th** - Somercoats Academy Open Evening (Year 4 and 5)
- **Friday 18th September** - 11+ Non Verbal Reasoning examination 8.30-9.45am

PE Days

Class 1 - (EYFS) Monday and Thursdays

Class 2 -(Years 1 and 2) Tuesday and Thursdays

Class 3 -(Years 3 and 4) Monday and Thursdays

Class 4 (Years 5 and 6) - Monday and Tuesdays

Clubs for this Term

Monday - Football

Tuesday - Tag Rugby

Wednesday - DIY sensory toy club

Thursday - Gardening/eco club

Friday - WAC - (puzzles, games, drawing, outdoor play)

☕ **ADHD – Parent Coffee Afternoon Wednesday 23rd September, 2.00–3.15pm**

We are pleased to welcome team members from the **East Lindsey and Boston Behaviour Outreach Support Service**, who will be joining us on **Wednesday 23rd September from 2.00–3.15pm**.

The afternoon will provide an opportunity for parents and carers to come together, share experiences and learn more about **ADHD**.

Our visiting team will share helpful information about ADHD and offer **practical strategies and ideas that may support children and families at home**.

Whether you're looking to understand ADHD a little better, would like some practical advice, or simply want to connect with other parents, we'd love for you to join us.

☕ **Come along, grab a coffee and have a chat!**

☐ **Wednesday 23rd September** ☐ **2.00–3.15pm**

Collection Arrangements

A gentle reminder that all children should be collected **on time at the end of the school day**. This helps us to ensure that our pupils are safe, settled and well cared for at the end of each day.

If someone other than your child's usual designated adult will be collecting them, please **let the school office know in advance**. For safeguarding reasons, we can only release children to adults who have been authorised by a parent or carer.

If you have a family member, friend or other adult who **regularly collects your child**, please let the office know and we can add them to your child's authorised collection list. This will make things easier for everyone and means you won't need to contact us each time they collect.

For children who travel by **school bus**, please also let the office know as soon as possible if there are any changes to their usual travel arrangements.

Thank you, as always, for your support and cooperation in helping us keep all of our children safe and ensuring that the end of the school day runs smoothly.

Attendance

As we begin the new school year, we would like to gently remind families of the importance of **regular school attendance**. Every day in school matters and supports children's learning, friendships, confidence and wellbeing.

We completely understand that taking holidays during term time can sometimes be difficult to avoid, particularly for families working in seasonal employment, and we appreciate that this can be frustrating. **Unfortunately, government guidance means that we are unable to authorise term-time holidays except in the most exceptional circumstances.** We are sorry that this can make planning family time more challenging.

If you have any concerns about your child's attendance, please talk to us. We are always happy to listen, offer support and work with families wherever we can.

If your child is absent, please let us know **on the first morning of absence**, including the reason, by calling **01507 450375** or emailing **Mrs Drakes**.

office@st-margarets-pri.lincs.sch.uk

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Term time dates can be found in the diary dates section below.

Please also note that year 6 must be in school during their SATs week.

School Uniform

A quick reminder as we start the new school year that we ask all children to come to school in the **correct school uniform**, including appropriate footwear. Please remember that jewellery should not be worn, and long hair should be **tied back** for school and PE.

Please also remember to **name all items of clothing and belongings**, this makes it much easier for us to return lost items to their owners!

Our full uniform expectations can be found in our [School Uniform Policy](#).

For information about our **school uniform bank**, including what is currently available, please speak to **Sarah Harvey, Chair of the PTA**. The uniform bank is a wonderful resource for families and helps us to keep our uniform affordable and sustainable.

Thank you for your continued support in helping our children look smart, feel comfortable and be ready for learning each day.

Healthy Eating School!

As part of our commitment to supporting healthy lifestyles, we encourage all of our children to enjoy **healthy and nutritious food and snacks** throughout the school day.

Children in **Key Stage 1** are provided with a piece of fruit each day as part of the school fruit scheme. We ask that children in **Key Stage 2** also bring a healthy snack to enjoy at break time, such as fresh or dried fruit.

If your child brings a packed lunch, we kindly ask that you include a **healthy and balanced meal**, following our school's healthy eating guidelines. A nutritious lunch and snack help children to maintain their energy, concentrate on their learning and feel their best throughout the day.

The **Department for Education is also introducing updated School Food Standards**, which will come into effect in primary schools from September 2027. We will keep families informed as these develop and will gradually prepare for any changes together.

We will continue to encourage children to learn about healthy choices in a positive and enjoyable way, helping them to develop good habits that they can carry with them as they grow.

Wraparound Care

From September we will be able to offer the following wraparound provision:

- Breakfast club from 8am onwards - no need to book, just turn up
 - After school clubs from 3.15-4pm
 - Extended provision from 3:15 pm to 5 pm each day
- Available to book and pay through the Arbor App with one week's notice

To help us provide a safe and well-organised wraparound care service, we kindly ask that bookings are made **with at least one week's notice wherever possible**. Advance notice allows us to ensure appropriate staffing levels are in place. We appreciate your cooperation and support in helping us plan effectively and maintain the high standard of care we aim to provide. Thank you for your understanding. Bookings can be made on the Arbo App one week in advance, **please call or email the office if you need to book at short notice**.

PTA Facebook Group

We would like to remind you that we have a very active Facebook group. Please search "St Margaret's Church of England Primary School PTA Withern". If you have any problems, questions or ideas for posts please contact Sarah Harvey (Chair).

Diary Dates and Events This Term

An overview of the dates for this term - more details for each will follow in subsequent newsletters and communications.

Please note - we have included all the term dates for this academic year. Please remember that your child should be in school during term time. Poor attendance has a negative impact on a child's attainment. Please remember that we cannot authorise term time holidays except in exceptional circumstances.

Date	Event
Thursday 10th September	PTA meeting in school 3.20pm
Friday 11th September	PTA coffee morning - 8.40am
Friday 11th September	11+ Verbal Reasoning exam (in school time) - 8.15am arrival
Monday 14th September	Wrates Individual photos
Thursday 17th September	Somercotes Academy Open Evening 5pm-7pm Y4 and 5

Date	Event
Friday 18th September	11+ Non- Verbal exam (in school time) 8.15am arrival
Wednesday 23rd September	ADHD parents coffee afternoon 2-3.15pm
Thursday 24th September	PTA Sponsored walk
Thursday 24th September	Louth Academy Open Evening 6pm-8:30pm Lower campus Y4 and 5
Friday 25th September	National TA Day. Macmillan event (details to follow)
Thursday 1st October	John Spendluffe Technology College Open Evening- 5pm to 8pm, year 4 and 5
Friday 9th October	Flu vaccinations
Monday 19th October	Y4 and 5, 11+ Parent and Child information session 3:20-4pm more information to follow
Thursday 23rd October	School Disco PTA
Thursday 23rd October	Last Day of Term 1
Monday 2nd November	First Day of Term 2
Monday 23rd November	Flu vaccinations Mop Up Session
Monday 30th November	School Fayre and Santa's grotto
Tuesday 15th December	School Panto (Skegness)
Friday 18th Dec	Last Day of Term 2
Monday 4th January	Staff Inset Day
Tuesday 5th January	First Day of Term 3
Friday 12th February	Last Day of Term 3
Monday 22nd February	First Day of Term 4
Thursday 25th March	Last Day of Term 4
Tuesday 13th April	Staff Inset Day
Wednesday 14th April	First Day of Term 5
Monday 10th - Thursday 13th May	Year 6 SATS week
Friday 28th May	Last Day of Term 5

Date	Event
Monday 7th June	First Day of Term 6
Wednesday 21st July	Last Day of Term 6