



CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2025

Dear Parents, Carers, and Friends of St Margaret's,
As we reach the end of this half term, we can truly say it has been nothing short of amazing! The past few weeks have been filled with learning, laughter, and countless moments that remind us why our school community is so special. From exciting classroom projects to wonderful performances and festive celebrations, the children have shown incredible enthusiasm and resilience, making this term one to remember.

We are so proud of everything they have achieved—both academically and personally—and grateful for the support and encouragement from our families. This season is all about joy and togetherness, and we've certainly felt that spirit shining brightly throughout our school.

As we look forward to a well-deserved Christmas break, let's take a moment to celebrate the successes of this term and the wonderful memories we've created together.

On Monday 1st December we sent two basketball teams to the Durham and Chester le Street SSP competition at New College. The teams played some brilliant basketball on the day with our 'A' team winning the competition outright and our 'B' team narrowly missing out on a spot in the semi-final stage.



The School swimming team were in action on Tuesday 9th December at Freemans quay in the first round of the Durham and Chester le Street SSP competition. We had lots of strong results on the morning against some competitive opponents. Overall, we came second in the gala out of 16 teams, but we were the top team from Durham city and so move on to the County stage in the new year.



Competing across three Wednesdays, our girls' footballers played in a combined league and cup at Meadowfield sports centre. In the league our girls were unbeaten, winning five out of five games without conceding a single goal.

Unfortunately, our great form did not continue into the cup competition – finishing the evening fifth from five teams after ending up on the wrong end of some tight games.



Our indoor athletics team was in action at the second round of the Durham and Chester le Street SSP competition. We had already progressed through the first round and now we were up against the best teams from Durham and Chester le Street for a chance to progress to the county round in February. We had a very successful morning, coming out on top of all teams present, to take on the responsibility of representing Durham city. Well done to all of our fantastic young sports people.



Green Team News!

The Green Team have been very busy this half-term! First, we presented in both Key Stage One and Key Stage Two workshops: reminding children about the recycling points we have at school, advertising our weekly litter-picking group and giving advice to help us reduce food waste.

Next, we organised and ran our annual pre-loved Christmas jumper sale, where we raised £44.60 for the Friends of St. Margaret's.

Finally, we carried out a survey on our current dinner menu, seeking information to help us continue in our efforts to reduce food waste at dinner time.



Children in Need

Children loved bringing in their own teddy bears to celebrate Children in Need and Y2 enjoyed reading their bears a story.



Louise Frost, Investing in Children, delivered an Anxiety Assembly to our children and it was fantastic to see them learning practical strategies to help themselves and others feel calm.



Our Year 6 pupils led a truly powerful and moving Remembrance worship this term. They spoke with such maturity and thoughtfulness, helping the whole school reflect on the importance of remembering those who have served and sacrificed. Through poems, prayers, and reflections, they created a meaningful space for everyone to pause and think about peace and gratitude.

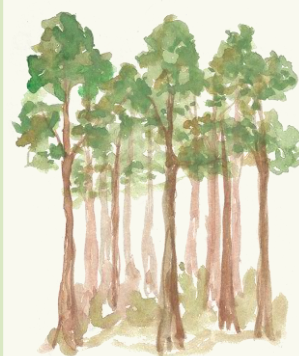


This term, we were delighted to welcome the Education Team from the UK Parliament, who led an inspiring and interactive assembly for Years 4, 5, and 6. The session was a fantastic introduction to the work of Parliament and how it connects to our British Values.

The children learned about what Parliament is and what it does, explored the roles of the House of Commons and House of Lords, and discovered how voting and elections work. They also discussed what government is, its responsibilities, and even found out who our local MP is and what their role involves. One of the highlights was learning how laws are made—bringing democracy to life in a way that was fun and easy to understand. The pupils asked brilliant questions and really enjoyed taking part in this interactive experience.

Forest school

From next term, children will take part in a block of three sessions in a row rather than having them spread out. This new approach means they can really immerse themselves in the experience, build on the skills they learn each week, and enjoy the full benefits of outdoor learning. We can't wait to see the confidence, teamwork, and creativity that will grow through these extended sessions!



The Real Xmas

Hello,

This is the real Xmas,

Do you think Santa Claus is the star of the show?
 I think not. I'll show you how I know. Come on! Let's go!

It all started some 700 years before hand.

Isaiah told the people of the land.

A King will be born. It's part of God's plan!

Along time after, an angel appeared to a lady
 named Mary. The angel told her not to be scared
 but she still found it scary.

The angel told her you will have a son.
 People will love him. He'll be number 1!
 Mary thought it was odd but she went along with
 the angel and what he had said. She went to tell
 Joseph who was sitting on the bag.

When Joseph heard he started to fret.
 They ~~hadn't~~ were engaged not married yet!

Soon after, Mary and Joseph were wed.
 A messenger from King Herod said:
 You must go to where you were born to be crowned.
 They found a donkey and on it she was mounted.

The journey was hard and it was cold at
 night. But there in the distance Bethlehem
 was in sight!

When they arrived they were faced with a task.
 They needed to ask: Do you have any room? The
 answer was the same, No, No, No. They came to the last.
 And looked back at the houses they had past. They
 knocked on the door. Nobody answered so they knocked
 some more.

Do you have anywhere to stay? Not inside! Their keeper
 replied. But I do have a stable full of hay.

Mary and Joseph made a bed out of straw.
 They were tired and they started to ~~store~~ ^{sleep}.

That night, the baby was born.
 There was nowhere to put him so she found a
 manger adorned with straw.

Outside Bethlehem shepherds were watching their
 flocks when angels appeared who had beautiful
 voices!

A King is born! The angels ~~said~~ ^{sung}. The shepherds
 Born in a stable among the hay.

Oh, they went to worship him.
 In the manger, close to the inn.

Far away,
 Far, far, away from the stable of hay.
 3 wise men saw a star.
 It said: one of them said,
 And on their camels to travel afar
 following that star.

When they arrived they said.
 What gifts do we hold?

Frankincense
 Myrrh
 and gold!


Then 1 of the 3 wise men said:
 King Herod finds out that Jesus is the King he will soon
 be dead!

On the donkey Mary was mounted again.
 And they said goodbye as they trotted away from
 Bethlehem.

THE END

By Josephine Peggs Age 8

We were absolutely delighted by a fabulous Christmas poem written
 by Josephine! Her creativity and festive spirit really shine through in
 every line, and we couldn't keep it to ourselves!



As we wrap up this term, we want to thank you for your continued support and partnership—it truly makes our school community so special. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas filled with joy and laughter, and all the best for a happy, healthy, and exciting 2026! School will reopen on Tuesday 6th January. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for more learning adventures in the New Year!

