



ST MARGARET'S
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

WEEKLY NEWS

15th to 26th September 2025

Open Morning

Saturday 4th October

On Saturday 4th October the school will hold an Open Morning for prospective families from 10am - 12.30pm. This is an opportunity to discover our unique ethos and the strength of an all-girls' education built on ambition, personalised support and a close-knit community which helps every girl thrive.

Please do share the details with any friends or families who may be interested in finding out more about the school. You are, of course, very welcome to visit the school yourself on Open Morning.

Contact admissions@st-margaret.uk/01224 584466



Mathematics

Mrs Bryce

Mathematics Department VS-VIS

The Maths Department is off to a busy and exciting start this term, with our VS-VIS pupils diving into a wide range of opportunities! From tricky problem-solving challenges to national contests, we are encouraging all our pupils to take part.



STEM in the Pipeline

Our STEM in the Pipeline team had a fantastic introductory day! Pupils met their two mentors from Apache and are now hard at work on their first team task. A brilliant start to what promises to be an exciting project!



Girls in Maths

We're thrilled that girls have signed up to take part in two upcoming Mathematics competitions for girls next week. We wish all participants the very best of luck!

Mathematics – Mrs Bryce



Upcoming Competitions

UKMT Senior Mathematical Challenge



Wednesday 9th October

Information is posted in the Higher and Advanced Higher (Mathematics, Mechanics & Statistics) Google Classrooms. This always proves to be very popular and is during class time.

👉 Interested? Speak to your teacher, email, or comment on the classroom post.

UKMT Senior Team Challenge



Monday 11th November

Our school can enter only one team – see Mrs Bryce if you'd like to be considered.

Scottish Mathematical Challenge



Questions have been posted in all Maths Classrooms. These are worked on at home, in your own time.

✉ Submit your written answers to Mrs Bryce by Monday 27th October so that they can be sent away in time for the external marking deadline.

★ Get Involved!

Whether it's problem-solving, teamwork, or national competitions, there's something for everyone this term in the maths department. Don't miss your chance to take part!

Opportunities for other year groups coming next week

PE - Netball & Running

Mrs L Fogiel

CONGRATULATIONS



Big congratulations to

Penny (IIS) who was
selected for the
Aberdeen District
Under 15 Netball
Performance Squad

2025/26



Congratulations to St
Margaret's Junior netball
team (IIS & IIS) beating
Westhill Academy 29-14 in this
week's match

Congratulations to the pupils who
participated in the Crathes
running festival 5k this weekend –
some amazing times were clocked!

Well done Katie T & Sophie H



PE - Hockey

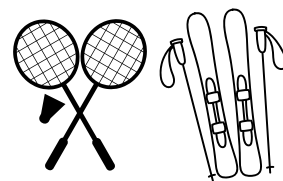
Miss Miller

Congratulations to Romy Bryce (VIS), Shannon MacAngus (VIS), Rishiga Srimayooran (VIS), Mia Bonandrini (VIS), and Melody McKenzie (IVS) on their selection to represent the North District team at the U17 District Tournament. The team performed brilliantly, finishing 4th after a series of hard-fought matches. Fantastic effort, girls!



PE - Badminton & Skiing

Mrs Norvel



Badminton

For the first time since I started teaching at St Margaret's (over 20 years!) the physical education network has set up a badminton league. It is really good that we can offer another sport in which our pupils can participate competitively.

Our first match was on Tuesday against St Machar Academy.

There are twelve pupils per team and we faced a tough challenge against a team that consisted of nine older boys. Although we lost overall we had quite a few individual wins and lots of exciting rallies that made the opposition work for their points. We look forward to our next match in October.

Congratulations go to Eilidh Macleod, Fiona Lim, Shannon MacAngus, Chloe Cherrie, Aditi Krishna, Samaira Noor, Lucy Cherrie, Arabella Winn, Lowri Nixon, Maggie Burnett, Emily Dillon, Xi Ning Chen.



Skiing

Maisie Arnott (4J) took part in the school ski race championship organised by Robert Gordons at Garthdee ski slope a couple of Fridays ago. She came second in the U10 girls category and only missed out on first place by the smallest of margins.

Art & Design

Miss Wood & Mrs Bedford



4 & 5 Junior Design & Make Project

The girls have been making good progress in their design and make project whilst using lots of interdisciplinary skills.

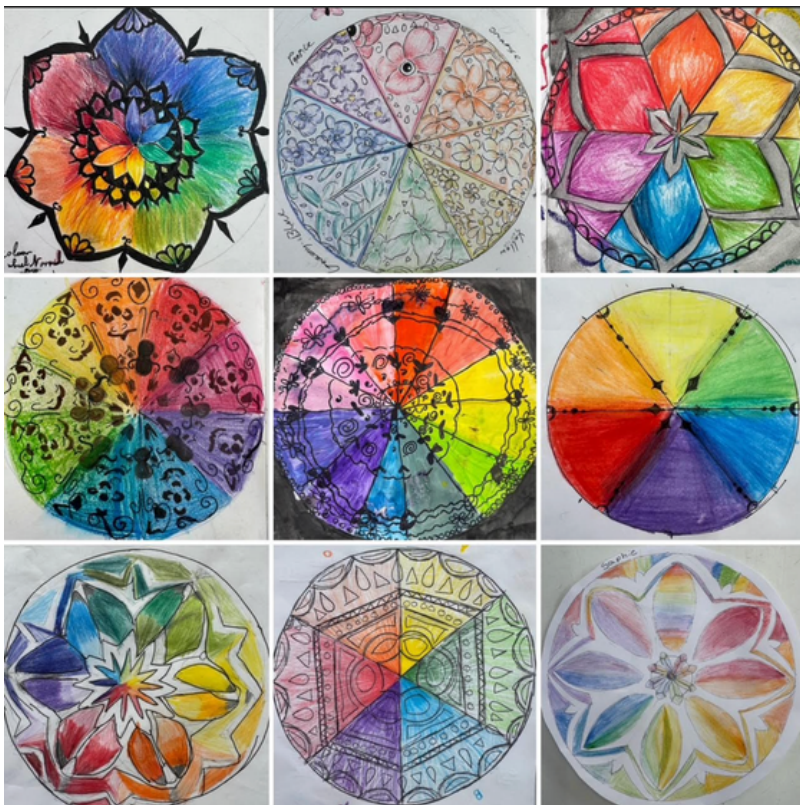
They have used counting to calculate how much yarn they needed to use and estimation to measure their strands. They threaded needles, used sewing techniques to create patterns and supported each other working as a team to complete tasks.



I Senior - Introduction to the Visual Elements

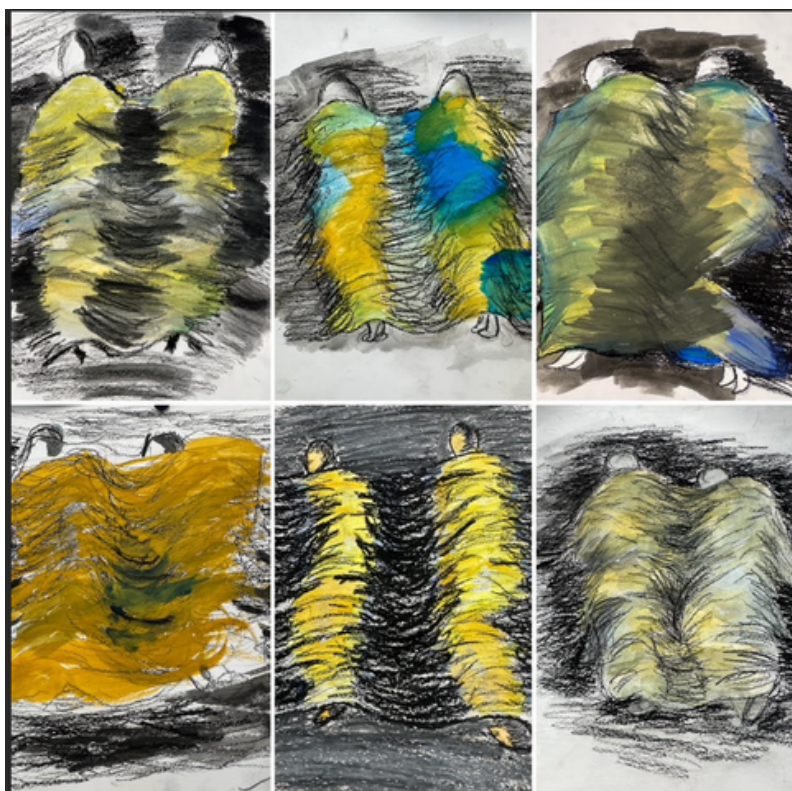
There have been some fabulous colour wheel mandalas created for the IS homework this week.

These examples demonstrate skills in blending colour pencils, understanding of colour placement, colour association with floral links, use of pattern and application of maths when using a compass to measure the segments.



Art & Design

Miss Wood & Mrs Bedford



7 Junior

To align with their social studies about WWII the girls have been looking at the work of Henry Moore and his shelter drawings. They used manequins and fabric swatches to imitate sleeping figures like those Moore drew in the London underground during the war. They used an oil pastel and watercolour resist technique to show form, tone and texture.

11 Senior - Still Life

This week the girls have had the challenge of studying glass bottles and practising using watercolour paints to represent the smooth reflective surfaces. They achieved some very successful results.



Junior Art Club

Mrs Teglas



Last week in art club, the girls looked at positive and negative space. Positive space is the object that is being drawn and negative space is the space around the object. By using coloured paper and patterns, the girls created vibrant positive and negative space pieces.



This week in art club, the girls looked at artist Paul Klee, particularly using his Castle and Sun painting for inspiration. They created their own expressive, geometric cities using watercolour paints and then working into their work with oil pastels and crayons.



Junior School

Ms Dressel

Junior House Captains

At the beginning of the month many of our 7 Junior girls put themselves forward to be voted in as house or vice captain. They each confidently made a speech to the rest of the juniors in their house and votes were cast.

We are pleased to announce the results as follows:

Captain



Alexa McArthur

Crathes

Vice Captain



Evangeline Clews

Captain



Alice Topp

Dunnottar

Vice Captain



Meagan Furo

Captain



Isabelle Ogosi

Kildrummy

Vice Captain



Chloe O'Neill

3 Junior

Ms Dressel

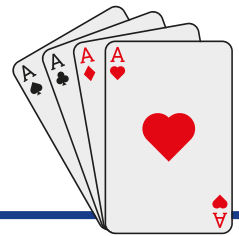


3 Junior were delighted to welcome some of our nursery children for their first paired reading activity of the year on Monday afternoon. They spent time getting to know each other and shared books together. Both the nursery and 3 Junior are looking forward to lots more sessions together this school year.

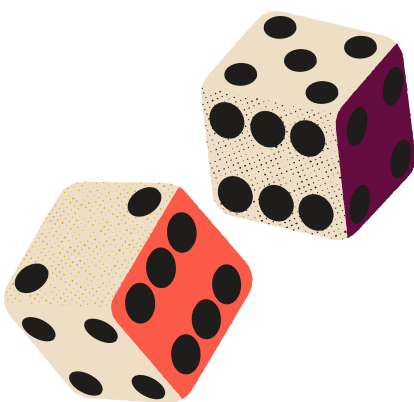


3 Junior

Ms A Dressel



3 Junior also experienced their first visit to Fountainhall Church Centre on Thursday where they were able to teach new maths card games to some of the elderly members of the congregation. 3 Junior will visit Fountainhall on the second Thursday of the month during this school session.

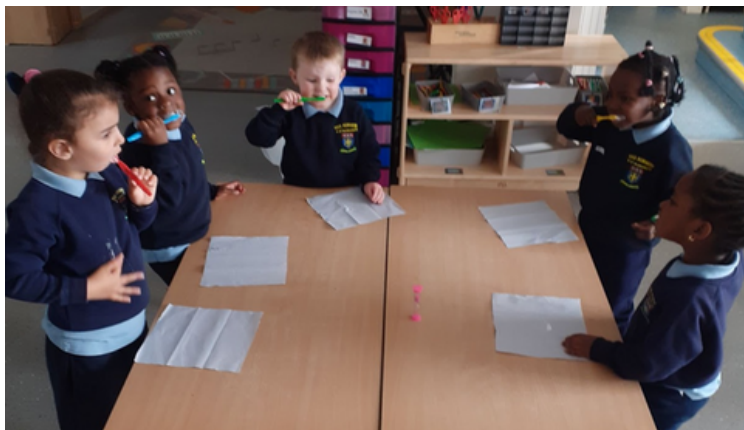


They are looking forward to spending more time together, playing cards, board games, reading or doing craft.

Nursery

Mrs Simpson

In nursery we follow the Childsmile programme and the children are doing a great job of cleaning their teeth in nursery.



As well as helping look after their teeth, the children enjoy watching the timer. This helps them know when to start and stop cleaning. To support early literacy, the children are encouraged to find their own toothbrush using the picture cue and to return it to the correct place when they are finished.

Our pre school children enjoy taking part in dancing lessons with Miss Gillian from Academy Street Dance. This week the children were exploring Autumn through music and movement. The children listen carefully and follow the instructions so well.



Article of the Week

Mrs Reid



International Day of Peace

If you were to turn on the TV right now and put on BBC news you would probably get a depressing montage of reports, most, if not all containing graphic descriptions violence, conflict and discrimination. This is exactly what happened to me when I switched on the TV during my Sunday evening:

‘The bombing has been insane: Palestinians scramble to flee Israeli assault on Gaza city; Charlie Kirk shooting suspect to be charged with murder as search for motive continues; Russia’s aggression against Ukraine has reached a terrifying level.

These are only a few of the grim titles flooding our headlines today and with a world that seems to inch further and further towards the brink of total chaos everyday, the question remains: is global peace truly possible?

Fortunately, amidst the darkness of prejudice and conflict are change makers who are working towards a better future. Celebrated on 21st of September, the International Day of Peace, commends the courageous who strive to create safe spaces in our increasingly dangerous world. Think: The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, (UNRWA) distributing food throughout Gaza, during the Israel-Gaza war; peaceful protestors that share their message with dignity and empathy and maybe even you and I.

Article of the Week

Mrs Reid



International Day of Peace

Yes we have the power to shape a more peaceful future. Working towards peace doesn't have to be a spectacle. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child can help us achieve this.

Article 2, No discrimination. Building a more peaceful future means standing up for someone who isn't being treated fairly, and treating everyone regardless of their background with respect and dignity. Actively listening and trying to empathise during an argument, putting yourself in someone else's shoes.

Article 19, Protection from violence; Article 38, Protection in war and Article 39, Recovery and reintegration. Peace is a global endeavour and to support those living in countries where chaos is the norm, being educated and educating others on these matters is extremely important.

So don't be afraid to bring up tough conversations, challenge an idea, support a charity that's helping a cause you believe in, or stand up for someone who's being discriminated against.

Because this is a fight for peace and everyone needs to be onboard.

Written by Clarissa Iluore (VS)

Article of the Week

Miss Williamson



European Day of Languages

This year's European Day of Languages is on the 26th of September. European Day of Languages started to encourage the diversity of languages all across the continent. It was started in 2001 by the Council of Europe and the European Commission. Their goal was to advertise learning languages and to show how important languages are to people's heritage. Learning other languages can encourage personal enrichment and give people lots of knowledge, plurilingualism can help you make friends, learn new things and take part in cultures you never knew about before!

Officially, there are 24 languages within Europe but it is suspected that there are over 200 native languages within the continent. But European Day of Languages isn't just about European languages - it's about all the languages in the entire world spoken in Europe. Europe is rich and diverse with people from all around the world living and visiting. Did you know the most prominent non-European languages spoken in Europe, are Turkish and Arabic? European Day of Languages is a beautiful opportunity to appreciate Europe's linguistic diversity in not only just languages, but people.

This year in St Margaret's, the school's team of Language Ambassadors have come up with many fun activities such as house quizzes, cake baking competitions, assemblies, riddles of the day, scavenger hunts and many more for this year's European Week of Languages! For more information on European Day of Languages, visit the official website : <https://www.coe.int/en/web/language-policy/european-day-of-languages> .

Article 8 : Protection and Preservation of Identity

Article 30 : Children from Minority or Indigenous Background.

The Council of Europe and the European Commission's aim was to promote and keep the linguistic richness with Europe, they believe that everyone should be able to learn their native language as well as other ones. Language can form bridges of understanding between cultures, traditions and countries.

Karma Khalil (IVS)

OCTOBER HOLIDAY CLUB

St Margaret's will run a Holiday Club from Monday 13 – Friday 17 October 2025, open to pupils and family members aged 3–12 years.

The club will run daily from 8.00am–5.30pm with a wide range of fun activities including baking, crafts, sports, games, and trips to local parks and amenities.

Children will also help shape the programme, ensuring a balance of creative, energetic, and relaxing activities.

 **Dates:** 13–17 October 2025

 **Times:** 8.00am–5.30pm (late pick-up after 4.15pm available for £5)

 **Ages:** 3–12 years (St Margaret's pupils and family members)

 **Cost:** £45 per day (+£8 for some trips)

 **Food:** Bring a morning snack & packed lunch; afternoon snack provided

 **Booking deadline:** Friday 26 September 2025

 **CLICK
HERE!**