



ST MARGARET'S
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

WEEKLY NEWS

10th to 14th November 2025



Les Misérables School Edition

Last week marked the culmination of months of hard work as our senior school pupils took to the Aberdeen Arts Centre stage with their production of Les Misérables: School Edition.

Performing to sold-out audiences, our pupils captivated everyone with their mesmerising performances. In addition to shining on stage, they also worked tirelessly behind the scenes, demonstrating the teamwork, focus, and leadership required to ensure a seamless production.

This outstanding show truly reflected the values and ethos of our school. Congratulations to everyone involved for bringing such an ambitious and inspiring performance to life.

We've been overwhelmed by the wonderful feedback from audience members, all of whom described the performance as truly outstanding.

"From the opening number to the final curtain, your cast was breathtakingly phenomenal. The talent, passion, and dedication on that stage were nothing short of inspiring."

"On Saturday afternoon, from the opening seconds to the stunning finale, my family and I saw the girls on stage and in the orchestra deliver a deeply affecting production. We all felt lucky to have been there to share the experience with the performers and their families and friends. I've never heard a theatre audience more delighted and moved by the performance they were watching."

"There really are so many incredibly talented girls at the school- both on stage, in the orchestra and behind the scenes. I know that that talent has been nurtured and encouraged by St Margaret's."

"It was an exceptional production. I watched all 3 performances and was moved to tears multiple times."

"It was truly a joy to watch and the talent, confidence and teamwork was evident throughout the whole performance. Given the timescales you had to pull all this together, what we saw last night was nothing short of remarkable and a true credit to your own talents, experience and passion for the performing arts. Thank you for creating such a positive and inspiring experience for the girls. Productions like these leave a lasting impact on those given the privilege to experience it and genuinely demonstrate the wonderful school community that you all work so hard to foster at St Margaret's."

Les Misérables Photo Highlights



Les Misérables Photo Highlights



Les Misérables Photo Highlights



Les Misérables Photo Highlights



Support the Save Aberdeen Arts Centre Campaign

We received lovely feedback from [@aberdeenartscentre](#) on our senior school production of Les Misérables - and a reminder of how important this venue is to our city:

"From the opening number to the final curtain, your cast was breathtakingly phenomenal. The talent, passion, and dedication on that stage were nothing short of inspiring. I'm certain most of the audience wanted to leap to their feet for a standing ovation at the end of Act I!"

After an intense year of doing everything we can to protect our beloved Aberdeen Arts Centre, last night reminded us exactly what we're fighting for. This venue is more than just a building — it's a home for creativity, community, and unforgettable moments like these."

Support the Save Aberdeen Arts Centre campaign and help protect this special place for generations to come:

<https://justgiving.com/campaign/saveaberdeenartscentre>

PREORDER NOW

You can now order copies of St Margaret's Les Misérables! Relive the drama and emotion of this incredible production with a fully edited video available before Christmas.

Videos cost £20 for the first copy and £15 for additional copies. Please complete the order form [HERE](#) to purchase.

Note: Only 100 copies are available, so orders will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Please place your order by Friday, 21 November to avoid disappointment.



Careers

Ms Brown



How to be a real-life hero - Radiography Event

Every year, the 8th of November is World Radiography Day. Radiography uses radiation to create images of the body to diagnose or treat medical conditions. Did you know that 9 out of 10 patients see a radiographer? To put it into perspective, radiographers help save millions of lives by using their skills and expertise to use a wide range of equipment and techniques.

Albyn Hospital gave us the wonderful opportunity to learn more about radiography and get all of our questions answered. We learned about the average day-to-day life of a diagnostic radiographer. Diagnostic radiographers diagnose illnesses and injuries by taking images of a patient's body, while therapeutic radiographers treat and care for people with cancer.

We learned about different scans such as X-ray, breast imaging (digital mammography), ultrasound, CT scanning, MRI scanning & fluoroscopy. We even got a special tour of the hospital's radiography department and got to see the hospital's CT and MRI scan rooms.

The radiographers we met were so kind to tell us about the work they do every day, and we even got to try on their radiation protection clothing, which was really heavy! They have to wear this protective gear for long periods, sometimes for five hours or more!

We also took part in a fun quiz where we were shown X-ray scans, and we first tried to identify the object, then we got to see human body parts and identify if they were normal or abnormal, and then identify the issue. We found it really challenging, but it gave us a fascinating insight to the different things that radiographers see every day.

Radiographers really are real-life heroes. There are many career opportunities, with over 29,000 radiographers in the UK. If you're caring, supportive, and enjoy technology and science, it could be the job for you.

Aya (IVA), Narmin (IVA) & Samaira (IVM)



Support for Learning

Mrs Smith & Mrs Kennedy



As a result of feedback from pupils, parents and staff, the Support for Learning Room has had a refresh and is now renamed "The Hub".

"The Hub" is a space where we aim to meet social and emotional needs, as well as academic ones. It is a place where we build positive self-esteem and celebrate diversity and inclusion. Girls come to The Hub for a wide variety of reasons, whether it be additional support in a curricular subject, study support, class consolidation, or simply a place to decompress and regulate emotions. We work closely with class and guidance teachers to ensure that academic and pastoral goals are aligned.

By adding softer furnishings and quiet corners, we can offer the girls a safe and welcoming space where they can come and feel supported and heard. Feedback about "The Hub" has been hugely positive so far. Here is what some of the girls have said:

"It is welcoming and supportive. If you've been struggling with something, it's good to know you can come and get the support."

"It's quiet and calming so you can get on with your work. They have all the resources you need."

"It's a good place to come if you need some time out or if things get too much."

Next time you are in school for an Open Morning, feel free to pop in to The Hub and have a chat to staff about how we support the girls.



Celebrating Community, Generosity and Recognition at St Margaret's

At St Margaret's School for Girls, we believe every girl should have the chance to reach her potential. Our [Bursary Programme](#) helps make this possible, offering financial support that opens the door to a St Margaret's education - one that nurtures confidence, ambition, and a lifelong love of learning.

These opportunities are made possible thanks to the generosity of our alumnae and friends, whose continued support helps transform lives and empower future generations of confident young women.

Bursary applications for 2026–27 are open until **Wednesday 21 January 2026**. To learn more or to support the programme, please contact: admissions@st-margaret.uk.

We're also delighted to announce that St Margaret's School for Girls has been shortlisted for the 2025 IDPE Development Awards in the category of Engagement Campaign of the Year for our St Margaret's Way Challenge!

The judges praised the creativity and impact shown across this year's entries, making it a highly competitive field.

A huge thank you to our incredible community – everyone who supported, walked, or donated! This recognition is a celebration of your fantastic commitment and enthusiasm.

Winners will be announced during the IDPE Celebration of Giving Week (17–21 November), with results revealed at 11am on Friday 21 November. Fingers crossed!



See It Be It: Women and Girls in Cyber Conference

Mrs Arthur, Mrs Hendry

See It, Be It

Women and Girls in
Cyber Conference

Inspiring the next
generation of cyber
leaders

On Friday, our IIS pupils attended the See It Be It: Women and Girls in Cyber Conference in Edinburgh. The event celebrated and supported women in cyber security, while encouraging girls across Scotland to consider careers in this exciting and fast-growing field.

Through inspiring talks and panel discussions, pupils learned about a wide range of career opportunities in cybersecurity and leadership. They also had the chance to network in the Careers Hub with professionals from leading organisations such as NatWest, Accenture, BT, IBM, the Cyber and Fraud Centre Scotland, National Cyber Security Centre and Fortinet.

During the day, pupils took part in interactive workshops, gained insight into both technical and non-technical roles, and discovered how many women had successfully transitioned into cybersecurity from other careers or university courses. The sessions were designed to spark curiosity, build confidence, and show the many pathways available in the cyber sector.

Panel 2 - Opening Talk

Our experience, with the Panel 2 Intro Talk, was that it was inspiring to see female representatives studying and working in cyber security. There was a cyber security student who gave helpful information on how to navigate entering into the field of cyber security and what it is like to study that subject. She educated us about internships and all the panel members spoke very highly of her. The other panel members discussed the difficulties of being a minority or being a girl in certain departments, and the importance of not giving up and using that as a motivation to work harder. The student mentioned how it didn't discourage her from continuing in the field but encouraged her to work even harder. The other presenters explained that cybersecurity is a diverse field with many different areas to explore. They spoke about roles in banking, communications, and even companies that design and build technologies like firewalls. Overall it was a fantastic talk and we learned things we would not have learned otherwise.

– Lana & Olivia IIS

Careers Hub

We found the Careers Hub an informative experience as we were able to ask questions and discuss areas we weren't sure about from several companies that were also diverse as they were all in the field of cyber, but did different vital jobs. They were also willing to discuss online work experience opportunities at their company. Some of the stalls had informative



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Cybersecurity/data breaches and cryptocurrency scams leaflets, quizzes, and 3D models to give us a deeper understanding of their work. At the Careers Hub, we found out that not all jobs in cybersecurity are technical. As well as roles in maths and computing science, there are lots of other non-technical careers to explore too. Overall it was a profound experience that will inspire us to work in cyber, and motivate us and the younger generations.

- Emily and Jenny IIS

Monopoly

Our favourite activity was the monopoly board game. It was very interactive. As we went round the board we were told about what the company Fortinet did in cyber security. We were privy to various aspects of cyber security we were not initially aware of. We found out that cyber security has many links to different companies and interlinks with several subjects. The Monopoly board depicted this, for example, on the board there was a Barclays square and when you landed on it there was a card and on the back there was an explanation on how Fortinet worked with Barclays.

Some of the companies we saw told us that they worked with KFC, Redbull, paypal and many other businesses. This gave us an insight on how vast the field of cyber security really is. Once we completed all the challenging puzzles themed around cyber security we got to unlock the drone which was a thrilling experience to be able to pilot it and try to land the drone on the landing pad. Overall this was an extremely entertaining and fun activity and was definitely a highlight of the trip.

- Sophie & Maggie IIS



RBS - Security Operations Centre (SOC)

We went over to the Royal Bank of Scotland building where we were introduced to the Security Operations Centre (SOC) and were told about how it worked. This was the most technical part of our trip as we learned what SOC is.

A Security Operations Centre's main goal is to detect and respond to cyber attacks. The goal of a SOC is to minimize the damage caused by these cyber attacks which were not prevented by the existing cyber security. They identify suspicious activity and allow the team to reply quickly. The servers are on 24/7 to ensure that the website is running smoothly all the time, since attacks normally happen in the dead of the night. We caught a glimpse of the Security

See It Be It: Women and Girls in Cyber Conference

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Operations Centre in RBS and there were lots of screens for monitoring different aspects of the website servers and domains. The SOC had its own power supply in case the power went down in the main building, there would still be power there.

They gave us an overview of how DDOS are circumvented. A Distributed Denial of Service (DDOS) attack is a type of cyberattack that overloads a network with too many requests, causing malicious internet traffic and a website or domain to go down. The SOC detects this and allows the team to quickly respond to this to prevent the website/business from going down.

– Indrani & Akshaya - IIS

The Closing Panel

The Closing panel was very inspirational and very encouraging. They were talking about the next generation of women taking the lead and how technology and tech is constantly changing and that it is easier for us now to use tech and we understand it better than older people do. The panelists highlighted that there's still a clear gap between the number of men and women working in cybersecurity, with women making up a much smaller percentage.

One speaker reminded us that the world's first computer programmer, Ada Lovelace, was a woman, yet today, women are still underrepresented in the field. Another panelist shared how she initially studied Law and now works in the area of Cyber Law, and another in Business Management and uses her communication skills to communicate and transfer important information within various departments, thus showing that there are many different paths into cybersecurity. The final panelist said that since tech is so broad and diverse you can end up there even if you didn't think you would.



The closing talk provided an inspiring conclusion to a day filled with engaging and interactive activities.

– Victoria & Faith IIS





THE NURSERY ST MARGARET'S Nursery Newsletter

In nursery this week, the children listened to a story to help them learn about Remembrance Day. Following on from this, they printed some poppies and spoke about paying respect to the soldiers.

They also watched a short video of poppies falling while observing a 2 minute silence. The children did themselves proud during this time.

We were visited by the Glitterbugs nurses this week. They came into the nursery to talk about the importance of good hand washing.

They had special glitter with them and the children had to wash it off before using special machines to show how well they had done.

Perhaps you can ask your child to show you how well they can wash their hands now!

As part of our 'People Who Help Us' topic, 1 Junior enjoyed a visit from Nurse Millie this week. Nurse Millie talked about her job as a nurse and how she keeps the girls at St Margaret's safe. She brought down lots of medical equipment to show us and explained how she uses them to help keep us safe and healthy.



Article of the Week

Anti-Bullying Week 2025



Every day, bullying is happening somewhere in the world, and it is permanently affecting a child's life. Approximately 40% of children in the UK have been bullied in the past 12 months and it leaves them scarred for life.

Anti-Bullying Week 2025 took place from Monday 10th - Friday 14th November, with the theme, The Power of One. This week raises awareness about bullying and encourages people to speak up against it. Bullying goes against the rights of children.

Article 2 (No Discrimination) - Every child has the right to protection against discrimination. Nobody can treat you badly because of your race, sex, religion, if you speak another language, have a disability, rich or poor. We as people must stand up if we ever see someone prejudiced to support this article.

Article 19 (Protection from Violence) - Governments must do all they can to ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and bad treatment by their parents, peers, or anyone else in their lives.

If you, your friend, or your child is ever being bullied, there are many websites that can help such as respectme, Scotland's Anti-Bullying Service:

<https://www.respectme.org.uk/>

Dami (VM)



Festive Events

Get into the festive spirit and join us for our second annual Christmas Carol Singalong. Enjoy your favourite carols, with our Director of Music on piano and Miss Tomlinson and senior pupils leading the singing. Friends and family are warmly invited. [RSVP for this event.](#)



St Margaret's PTA invites you to get into the Christmas spirit at our Festive Family Disco on Tuesday 16 December, from 6.15pm to 7.45pm in the school hall. Enjoy an evening of music, dancing and festive fun for pupils and their families. We'll have glitter tattoos, Christmas crafts, fun stalls and refreshments. [Buy Tickets here.](#)



Café Philosophie

19 November
12:45 to 13:40
St Margaret's School



YOU!
CAN!

**NARA
MORISSON**

Nara is a psychotherapist, trainer and speaker who is passionate about mental health related issues and helps people overcome anxiety, understand themselves and build confidence. With experience working with communities, Nara will talk about what it means to belong and share practical ideas about feeling accepted, valued and connected.

@café.philosophie

Where S5 & S6 pupils can extend their understanding on a topic and discuss it in an open and safe place. Café Philosophie is a joint initiative between The Outreach Group at Fountainhall Church, ABCC & QXHCC.