



ST MARGARET'S  
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS



**WEEKLY NEWS**  
**26th - 30th January 2026**

# Netball

**Mrs Fogiel**



Our Senior B netball team took on Albyn C this week. With not having a match for a long time due to forfeits, weather and exams the girls were slightly apprehensive. They needn't be, they played some of their best netball all season. The defence worked hard sticking tight to their opposition, the midcourt created lots of space to bring the ball down court easily and the shooters worked hard for each other, converted lots of shots and were able to secure the win!



# Netball

**Mrs Reid**



On Monday, our junior netball team competed in the Aberdeen Schools League Junior B Tournament at Lochside Academy. Our girls played in 10 minute matches against RGC, Harlaw Academy and Lochside Academy. The team played with determination to come away with a win, draw and a loss. The team placed 3rd overall, which came down to goal difference for 2nd place. Well done to our junior netball team.



# Ethics Cup

## Mrs Jennings

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Five of our IVS pupils travelled to Elgin this week to compete in the Ethics Cup. This is a nationwide competition organised by St Andrews University. The pupils compete in three rounds, each lasting an hour over the course of the day.

Topics this year included environmental damage caused by cruise holidays, trans women in sport, drug pricing by pharmaceutical companies, torture, whole life sentences and ethical investments.

Our team of Nandi, Samaira, Elodie, Aditi and Mays did extremely well. Although they were not overall winners, their performance was excellent throughout the day.



# Former pupil news

## Mrs Norval



It is always a delight to hear about former pupils and especially ones that were sporty! Jennifer Morton attended St Margaret's in 2002-2012 and in December she competed in the Qatar T100 World Championship Triathlon event. This event is slightly longer than the Olympic distance - 2km swim, 80km cycle and 18km run. I am so proud to say that Jennifer came first in her age group with a fantastic time of 4 hours 42 minutes and was presented with her gold medal by Sir Mo Farah. Jennifer has now set her sights on an even bigger challenge - an Ironman in June 2026 in Cairns, Australia. Go Jennifer!!



# Scotland Talent Diving Visit

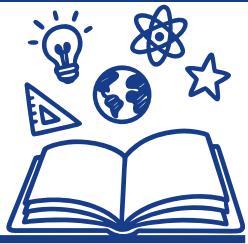
**Mrs Norval**

On Tuesday morning the 1J to 3J pupils had a different lesson in physical education. We had four staff from the Scotland Diving association come to put the girls through their paces in different skills and movements. The team are looking at covering schools in Scotland to identify potential diving talent. The pupils enjoyed trying out the different activities.



# Science

## 6 Junior



6 Junior are learning about The Digestive System in Science. Recently the girls carried out a practical hands-on experiment to visualise the process of digestion using simple household items. This was a very messy activity but everyone had a lot of fun!



# Art & Design

## IS Portrait Project



The girls have been responding to their self portrait photographs expressing different emotions. This week they further developed their multi layered study by adding colours to represent emotions and self image as well as using symbolism to connect with their personal heritage. They looked at different artists who use pattern and colour with portraiture as inspiration.



# Art & Design

## 4 & 5 Junior



This week the girls started to look at Ancient Greek pottery and the geometric patterns on them. They practised drawing patterns onto vase templates before having a go at drawing freehand and adding patterns that followed the shape of the vase. Some of them managed to add shading to make their drawings look more 3D.





## Nursery Newsletter

Learning takes place in many ways in nursery. Here is a snapshot of some of the learning this week. The children were being mathematicians and scientists in the mud kitchen. They were experimenting with capacity while using language such as full and empty, heavy and light. There was bug hunting, potion making and some investigating of plants too. By making 'soup' the children were discovering what happens when different materials are mixed together.

Developing fine motor skills is a fun and important part of nursery. Activities such as threading and using playdough are a great way to develop hand muscles and hand-eye coordination. Large tubes and pipes have been at the centre of the learning in the construction area. Items have been sent down the tubes and the children have noticed some travel faster than others. The really long tubes were initially a horse taking lots of children on a journey, then became a slide and the children discovered using material allowed them to slide even faster. Who knows what it will become next....



# Article of the Week

## Stephanie (IIIA)

LGBT+ History Month is a yearly observance focused on celebrating the achievements and contributions of LGBTQ+ people throughout history. In the United Kingdom, it is celebrated in February and this year marks the 22nd LGBT+ History Month and follows the theme of Science and Innovation. This theme highlights the impact of LGBTQ+ individuals in STEM fields, which is often overlooked.



A recognised figure for this year was Barbara Burford. She was a medical researcher and writer who helped perform heart and lung transplants of babies. She also wrote books and worked to make sure everyone in hospitals was treated fairly. Her identity as a black lesbian woman was very important to her writing and her work fighting for fairness in hospitals.

Another important figure was Jemma Redmond. She was a tech inventor who figured out how to 3D-print human tissue. Her goal was to one day print replacement organs to save lives. She was intersex and transgender. Her own body and identity inspired her to invent new ways to print human tissue and organs.

This aligns with Article 2 of the UNCRC which is non-discrimination. Every child has the right to be treated fairly, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or the identity of their parents. It is important to learn about these people so that we can promote diversity and equality while also celebrating their achievements.





Did you know? The University of Aberdeen is proud to be home to the oldest psychology department in the UK, established in 1896. Over the last 130 years, we've been at the forefront of research that aims to better understand the brain and behaviour.

As part of their 130-year celebrations, the University of Aberdeen's School of Psychology is running a series of exciting events designed to give pupils, parents, and teachers the chance to dive into the world of psychology.

### What's coming up?

Throughout 2026, a year-long programme of twelve-monthly events will explore the many ways psychology shapes everyday life, health, and society. Highlights include:

Whether you're thinking about studying psychology, supporting a young person with their university choices, or teaching psychology in schools, our events offer an inspiring insight into what psychology is and what it can become.

View the full programme and book tickets via this link:

[130 Years Celebrations | The School of Psychology | The University of Aberdeen](#)