



ST MARGARET'S
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Les Misérables

SCHOOL EDITION



WEEKLY NEWS
27th to 31st October 2025

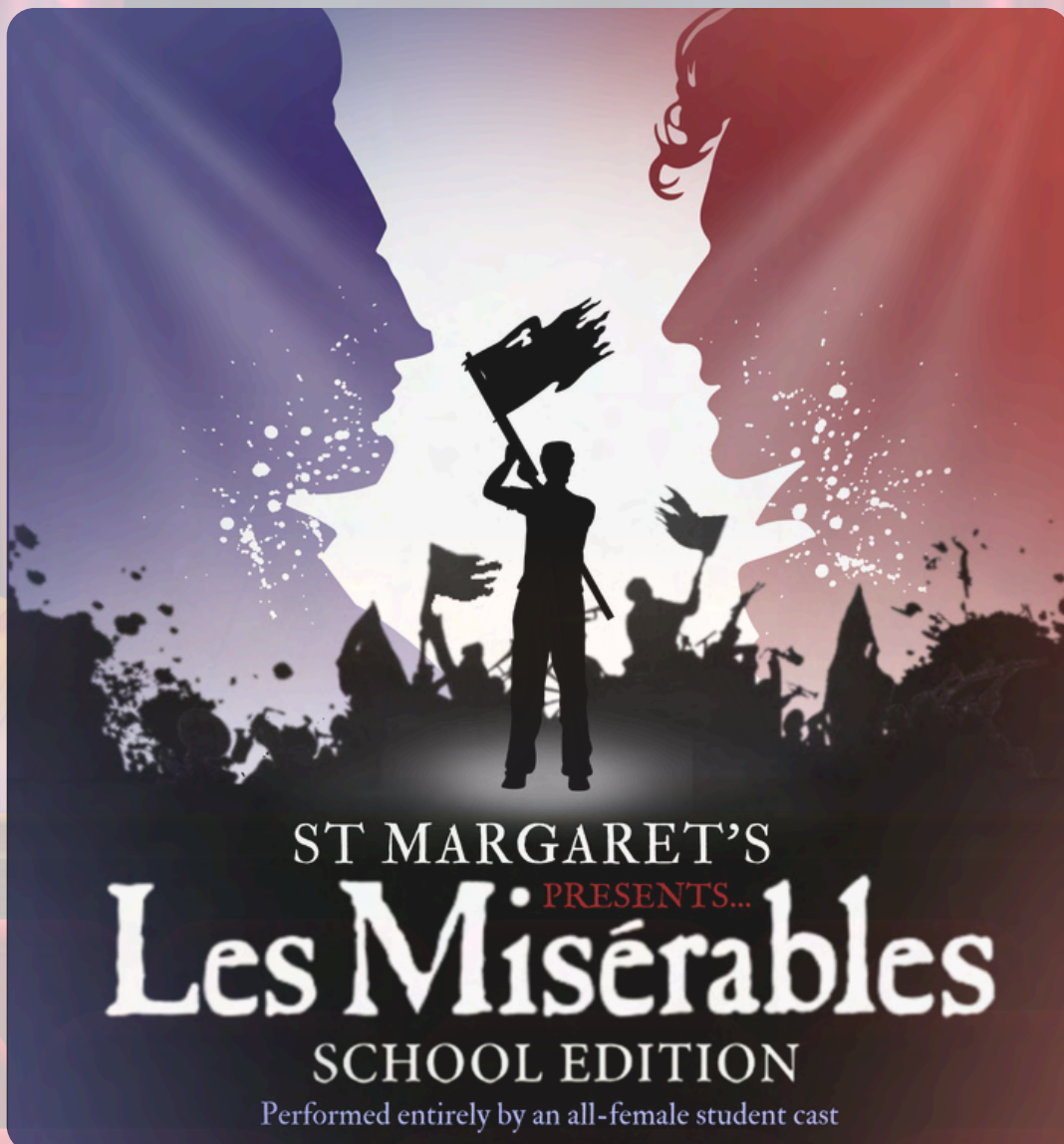
Les Misérables School Edition

With final rehearsals underway, excitement is rising for our senior pupils' performance of Les Misérables School Edition, brought to life by a dynamic all female cast.

With performances running from 6–8 November at Aberdeen Arts Centre, tickets for the two evening shows and Saturday matinee are selling quickly.

Join us for this special school edition of the world famous musical, celebrating 40 years since its first London performance in October 1985.

Don't miss out - [click here](#) to book your seats today!





Culture Week

Photo Highlights





Culture Week

Photo Highlights





Culture Week

Photo Highlights





Culture Week

Photo Highlights



The Big Give Women and Girls Match Fund



Thanks to the generosity of our community, the school reached its £10,000 Big Give target in just 10 hours, and the support didn't stop there. An additional donor stepped forward with £1,000 in matched funding, bringing the total raised to an amazing £12,670 for the Bursary Programme, with Gift Aid still to come!

Every pound you have given helps remove the financial barrier to a St Margaret's education, ensuring more girls can benefit from an education designed specifically for them.

Thank you to everyone who made this possible!

Biology Week

Mrs Miller



What is a bee? A crucial pollinator which can deliver a sting in peril? Or a reflection of the bees' social structure, where all individuals gather together to achieve a task, such as in the Great British Sewing Bee? Words can be tricky things, and add to the challenge of learning a new subject. Biology words can feel like a whole other level, with their roots in Latin and Greek making the simple feel more complex. A reading age analysis of any biology exam will show you that this vocabulary can add years of difficulty to the text. Our challenge as teachers is to unlock decoding skills so that our girls can establish the meanings of new terminology easily.

Before the holidays, we embarked on our second year of participating in the Royal Society of Biology's Biology Spelling Bee, as part of Biology Week. Whilst recognising that spelling ability is by no means an accurate reflection on anyone's ability to become a very successful scientist, this fun competition gave us a chance to practise spellings in a way which is perhaps not routine. From our 100-word list, there were science-related homophones for everyday words (discrete vs discreet, beech vs beach), homonyms (serial, matrix) and a compound word which means dispersing seeds through animals (endozoochory) which was even unfamiliar to staff. Engaging with unfamiliar words in this way will help us with reading comprehension and literacy, expanding our vocabulary and understanding of word roots.

All biology classes participated in the first round in class, writing out 20 age-related words called out by their teacher. As appropriate to a Bee, there was a great Buzz in the classrooms where a love of learning was evident. We hope that by participating all girls had the opportunity to boost their confidence and build their resilience and sportsmanship. Each year group had a winner selected from the first round, who participated orally in the School Final - how many words can you spell correctly in two minutes? Each finalist did an incredible job, boosted by the moral support of their the hive and maintained amazing focus and composure. Results have been submitted to the National Final to see how we compare against others in the same age categories, and we await news of who the Queens might be.

Biology Week

Mrs Miller



List of finalists:

Michelle Akadiri (IS)

Yoonjae Kim, Yashini Vinothraj (IIS)

Thejal Senthil, Faith Roberts (IIIS)

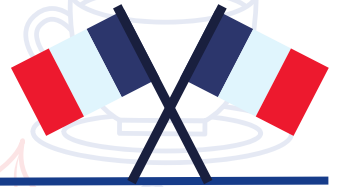
Narmin Nawroj (IVS)

Yashila Muniandy (VS)

Dara Olusoji (VIS)



Staff News



I'm Elise Lambert, and I have the pleasure of working at St Margaret's School until April as a French language assistant! I'm a masters student in mathematics and education from France, preparing for my teaching certification this year. I look forward to helping the girls feel more confident speaking french and learning alongside them!

BONJOUR



Careers

Ms Brown



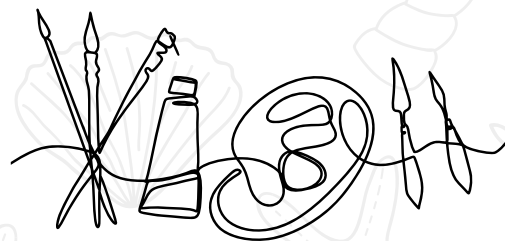
As part of our Careers programme, we were pleased to welcome Nicola Fox to school this week to speak with senior pupils about careers in Human Resources.

Mrs Fox discussed the wide range of opportunities available within HR, from recruitment and learning and development to employee relations and organisational strategy. She also spoke about her career in Human Resources, sharing how it has given her the opportunity to work in countries across the globe. She concluded by offering the girls valuable interview advice and practical tips on how to create an impactful Curriculum Vitae.

Pupils gained valuable insight into how HR professionals play a key role in supporting people, shaping workplace culture, and driving business success.

Art & Design

Miss Wood & Mrs Bedford



I Senior - Visual Elements

Building on their learning from last term, the girls have been putting together their skills and knowledge to create a seashore themed composition.

They worked from photographs using fine liner and biro pens to represent their subject matter. They added a variety of mark making techniques to show texture and detail. They will add colour to these next lesson to complete this task.



Junior Art Club

Mrs Teglas

HAPPY
HALLOWEEN

To get into the mood for Halloween, this week the girls in art club created their own masks. They used card for the base and utilised a variety of materials to design their masks. They either attached their masks onto handles or threaded them with ribbons to make the masks wearable for Halloween.



Article of the Week

Qi Qi He (IVM)



October is National Pasta Month, a month to appreciate one of the most versatile and adored foods. Pasta is more than just the aromatic flavours and comfort in our stomachs, it also represents nutrition and the importance of the access to healthy balanced meals. Article 24 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child connects closely to National Pasta Month. Article 24 states that every child has the right to the best possible health, meaning access to clean drinking water and nutrient rich food. It reminds us that food is an enjoyment but a basic human right that is essential for the growth of a child and their well being.

Pasta can be a part of a healthy balanced diet when paired with vegetables, healthy fats and proteins to get the most out of it. Celebrating National Pasta Month helps us spread awareness about this issue and make sure that the right of the child to have access to clean water and nutritious food is not broken. Supporting food programmes can help a lot with fulfilling Article 24 but also reducing waste and promoting balanced meals, not only in the household but in schools as well.

National Pasta Month is much more than the recognition of such a versatile food but it's a reminder of our responsibility to ensure that each child is healthy and that their rights do not get denied.





St Machar's Cathedral Christmas Card Competition 2025

St Machar's Cathedral warmly invites anyone 16 years and under to design a Christmas card on A4 paper.

The theme of this year's competition is **Joy to the World**.

Christians around the world celebrate the joy of the birth of Jesus. How do you celebrate that joy at Christmas? What brings happiness into your life? Looking forward to seeing your designs.

Closing date: November 28th 2025

Please ensure that every entry includes name, age and contact details including an email address. One entry per person only.

Post your design or hand into the Cathedral during opening hours (10.00-16.00) We can only accept paper copies - no digital versions.

St Machar's Cathedral (Christmas card competition)

The Chanonry

Aberdeen

AB24 1RQ

Prizes Individual entries will be selected from each age category to become a set of Christmas cards sold in the Cathedral shop for Christmas 2026. Each winner will receive a set of printed cards.

Bonus Prize Best class entry from Aberdeen City or Aberdeenshire schools will receive a free trip to the Cathedral including transport costs.

Please note that by entering the competition you are giving the ownership of the design to the Cathedral to use for publicity or printing purposes.
Entries will be on display in the Cathedral until the end of January.



Any enquiries to
education@stmachar.com

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