



ST MARGARET'S
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

WEEKLY NEWS

21st to 29th August 2025

An Aspirational Start to the Term

Introducing the Head Girl Team

As the summer holidays drew to a close just last week, we returned to school once more, eager to start the term and step into our roles for this year's session. As the new Head Girl Team, it is tradition to introduce ourselves and to share with everyone what we hope to study when we leave St Margaret's. This year amongst the team we have a varied blend of aspirations - computing science, performing arts, medicine, engineering and PE teaching.



We would like to share the advice that we gave to our fellow pupils recently in Assembly including from:

Head Girl, Rishiga Srimayooran, *"Doubt kills more dreams than failure ever will. Remember to believe in yourself, it doesn't matter if you fall at first, what matters is that you get up and keep going"*

Deputy Head Girl, Sarah Reynolds, *"Believe in yourself because you are braver than you think, more talented than you realise, and capable of anything you put your mind to"*

A Motivational Start to the Term

Introducing the Head Girl and her Team

Senior Prefect, Grace Scott, *"Be kind to others but don't forget to be kind to yourself"*

Senior Prefect, Abigail Onyeakazi, *"Aim for the moon and if you miss you'll land on the stars, or in other words take a leap of faith. Try something new this year because even if it doesn't turn out how you thought it was going to, you'll learn something new about yourself"*

Senior Prefect, Shannon MacAngus, *"Never be afraid to laugh at yourself, after all, you could be missing out on the joke of the century"*

Senior Prefect, Ayah Bowler, *"Focus on improving yourself, not proving yourself".*

We can all agree that one of the highlights of our journey so far in our new roles was the Student Leadership Conference that took place right here in school last week, when we hosted the girls from St George's School in Edinburgh. We were honoured to also be joined by one of our very own parents from the school community, Dr Susie Wiseman, who shared her experiences and advice on leadership. One of the key elements that both we and the girls from St George's took away from the conference was Dr. Wiseman's advice to stay true to ourselves and our values as leaders.

As a team we look forward to enjoying what the school year ahead has in store for us all. Our aim is to encourage and support involvement in school life as well as representing the St Margaret's community and its values and being true to ourselves. We are here to make a difference and are ready to make this a great year for everyone!



On Saturday 23rd August, St Margaret's School for Girls welcomed student leaders to a day-long Student Leadership Conference, designed to develop confidence, communication and leadership skills in young women.

The event brought together student leadership teams from St Margaret's and St George's, Edinburgh. Throughout the day, the girls were encouraged to reflect on the personal values which they would draw on in their leadership roles and to develop problem solving and communication skills.

The conference was hosted by Anna Tomlinson, Headteacher at St Margaret's who was pleased to welcome Dr Susi Wiseman, Hydrogen Development Manager and Cromarty Hydrogen Projects Lead at Storegga, as a guest speaker.

Read more [online](#)

Upcoming events

Working open morning



We look forward to our first working open morning of the new school year on **Friday 5th September**. We will welcome prospective families to the school to find out more about the proven power of an all-girls education.

Please do share the [registration link](#) with any friends or family who may be interested.



DOORS OPEN DAYS 2025

On **Saturday 6th September** the school will open its doors as part of the city's Doors Open Event.

Visitors can have a guided tour of the school buildings and can be taken to the library where they will be able to browse items from our 180-year history and speak to staff members.

The event will run from 10am-12pm.

Filming in school



Next week, we are delighted to welcome Ed Kirwan of Empathy Studios back to St Margaret's. Mr Kirwan will be filming in school from Monday to Wednesday as part of an exciting new project.

This professional film will showcase the distinctive ethos, spirit, and values of our school, providing a powerful way to connect with prospective families across the region.

Mr Kirwan is an acclaimed filmmaker, and we are honoured to be working with him again, following his creation of the Girls' School Association's 150th Anniversary Commemorative Film, in which St Margaret's featured.

As always, photo and filming permissions for pupils will be fully respected. We very much look forward to sharing the finished production with you in due course, which will highlight all that makes our school community so special.



To watch our videos please visit and subscribe to our [YouTube channel](#)



Hockey

Over the course of the last school session we have had a number of St Margaret's pupils training with the Scottish Hockey Brave Academy programme on a Monday night in Dundee. At the end of the Summer holidays we had four players who were delighted to be picked to play in final Brave Cup matches. The main team was the Devils Emerging where the best players from Dollar up to Gordonstoun were chosen so we were delighted when Arabella Winn was selected to play for this team.



The team played so well that they reached the final for the first time which was an excellent achievement. Although the team lost in the final they learnt a lot from the experience. Scottish hockey also decided to run another competition for players who just missed out on the Devils team. They were called the Barbarians where we had Ayah Bowler and Rishiga Srimayooran playing for the older team and Saathvika Devadas playing in the younger team. Congratulations to Arabella, Saathvika, Ayah and Rishiga on their achievements!



Every year at the end of the Brave Academy training the girls hope to be selected for main teams during Brave cup. The girls from St Margaret's aim for a spot within Devils Emerging which covers all those girls from Dollar up to Gordonstoun.

The Head of Scottish Hockey pathways calls this week long tournament the Best of the Best. So only a small percentage of girls are picked for the main teams.



Last year for the first time they introduced Barbarians which then takes a squad of girls who missed out on selection for the main teams. So is a combination across all 3 Brave Academy locations.

Arabella secured her spot and was one of the youngest selected for the Devils Emerging team. Other girls from other schools and further up in the pathway (Aspiring) were brought down to fill a number of spots in the Devils Emerging team.

After a victory against Thunder (Glasgow/South) first ever win by a Devils team in the Brave Cup they then secured their spot in the Emerging girls final on Sunday where they were runners up losing to Lightning (Edinburgh)

As a side note the lightning team had 6 national players.

Art & Design

Miss Wood & Mrs Bedford



Trip to Duthie Park

The III Senior Art and Design groups began their first expressive project with a visit to Duthie Park and the Winter Gardens. Fortunately they did not have winter weather for the walk down there.



For their theme of Urban and Rural, the main purpose of their visit was to gather first hand resources to work from and inspire their observational studies and investigations.

On the way to the park they walked through urban spaces of Aberdeen and photographed architectural features and structures as well as signs of negative human impact on the city such as rubbish and graffiti.

In contrast, Duthie Park gave them a more rural environment to consider the green spaces, plants and natural forms and photograph these. The girls will now progress their project being encouraged to develop their own ideas around the theme and how they will represent it in their outcomes.



Junior Art Club

Mrs Teglas



Junior Art Club

For the first art club of the school year, the girls created profile pictures filled with their favourite thing.





Girls only Tennis Coaching

Venue: St Margaret's School Summerhill Tennis Courts

Tuesday 2 Sept – for 6 weeks

Day	Age	<u>Time</u>	<u>Price</u>
Tuesday	5-9 Years	4.30pm – 5.15pm	£24
Tuesday	10-14 Years	5.15pm – 6pm	£24

The sessions are designed to start girls playing tennis, building their confidence and skills along the way.

Payment in full is required before the block starts to confirm your place – limited availability, so book early to ensure your place. Minimum numbers are required for sessions to run.

To book your place or for further information, questions etc, e-mail weepirle@hotmail.co.uk or call Morag 07808 775709





**AEA Productions final audition call
for our 2026 production of:**

WE WILL ROCK YOU

**Open to male and female performers age 13 - 20
who have not already auditioned for us this
season**

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No experience necessary!

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Email shanna@academyofexpressivearts.com



St Machar's Cathedral, Old Aberdeen

DISCOVER YOUR LOCAL HERITAGE FREE GROUP TOURS/WORKSHOPS

We welcome group tours to the Cathedral from schools, community groups, youth groups, homeschoolers and tertiary education.



interactive
fun



This Autumn, bring your group to explore this magnificent building in the heart of Old Aberdeen.

Self-directed trails for all ages, interactive puzzles and an Animal Hunt available everyday.

Book a guided tour of 'Stories from the Cathedral' with costumes and props that take you on a journey from the legend of St Machar, through Robert the Bruce, the builder bishops, stained glass artists to World Wars.

Themed workshops on Christian Festivals, Signs and Symbols, Biodiversity, Travel and Tourism and Sacred Art available. Craft activities. Other themes can be accommodated - please enquire.

See our
website for
more info
stmachar.com



WE LOOK FORWARD TO
WELCOMING YOUR GROUP
BOOK NOW
EDUCATION@STMACHAR.COM

HELP WITH TRANSPORT COSTS
ON REQUEST
HALL AVAILABLE TO BOOK
OPEN EVERYDAY

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