

ST MARGARET'S CEVAP SCHOOL

Autumn Newsletter 5



A Message from Mrs Betts (Interim Executive Headteacher)

Dear Parents and Carers

As we come to the end of a very busy term, I wanted to take a moment to share some of the highlights.

We are delighted that Melody Makers, our upper school choir, performed at the Primary Schools' Concert at Ipswich Minster on Friday 5th December. This was a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to showcase their musical skills in such a beautiful setting. They also performed on the BBC Radio Suffolk Breakfast show recently. We wish the choir all the best with their competition entry too.

I know many of you have had the opportunity to speak with teachers during Parents' Evening and to receive your child's report. Thank you also for supporting our new behaviour policy, which I believe has had a significant positive impact on children's behaviour. This, in turn, has helped ensure that your children can thrive and flourish socially, emotionally, spiritually, and academically.

In recent weeks, our youngest pupils delighted us with their performance of Christmas Sparkle. Thank you to those who came along to watch. Our Year 2 children also performed the Nativity beautifully. Despite the challenges of staff and pupil illness this term, the teachers and children have done a fantastic job, and I want to take this opportunity to thank all our staff for their hard work, dedication and resilience.

Tomorrow, we look forward to welcoming you to the KS2 Christmas Celebration in church at 2pm, and I hope to see many of you there.

As we head into the Christmas season, we pray that all may know the hope we have in the Christ Child, especially at this time.

Myself, Mr Gates, Mrs McCann, and the rest of the team wish you a very Merry Christmas and look forward to welcoming you all back in 2026. Please note that the first day of the new term will be Tuesday 6th January.

Best wishes
Mrs Betts

End of year expectations

Click on the relevant year group below for a handy reminder of what a child should typically be achieving by the end of the Summer term 2026.

[Reception](#) [Year 1](#) [Year 2](#) [Year 3](#) [Year 4](#) [Year 5](#) [Year 6](#)

Dates

Friday 19th December 2025

Last day of term

Monday 5th January 2026

School is closed for staff training

Tuesday 6th January 2026

Children return to school

Monday 16th – Friday 20th February 2026

Half term break

Friday 27th March 2026

End of the Spring term

Monday 13th April 2026

Start of the Summer Term

Online Safety

Some children will be lucky enough to receive new mobile devices this Christmas time. Here are some handy tips about staying safe online during the festive period.

[Online Safety Tips](#)

From the Bible

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth."

John 1:14

UK Parliament Week

Year 5 had the opportunity for a group of pupils to visit Jack Abbott, MP for Ipswich, to ask him questions and find out about his vision for Ipswich as part of UK Parliament week. The event was immensely successful and the children enjoyed meeting up with others from a range of schools in the local area. They had the opportunity to design their own political party complete with logo and manifesto and then pitch it to their peers. Votes were totalled and a new party was elected based on the children's vision for Ipswich. The children were then able to ask questions to Jack about the issues they are concerned with. They were amazing with their ideas and gained a real insight into how political parties operate.



Trees at the Tower

On Tuesday 2nd December, Year 6 visited The Christmas Tree Festival at St Mary Le Tower (Ipswich Minster). The pupils enjoyed completing a Scavenger Hunt to find the Nativity characters which were hidden on the trees.



The choir sang beautifully at the service for schools on Friday 5th December. Thank you to Mrs Gower for organising this.



Oh Christmas Tree Oh Christmas Tree

Many thanks to Mrs Keable who decorated the St Margaret's school Christmas tree for the Ipswich Minster festival. The children in Year 1 helped to make the stars



MERRY CHRISTMAS

The Wish Tree

In Collective Worship we found out how Yoko Ono used to write wishes on pieces of paper and tie them to a tree. She encouraged lots of other people to do the same.

We took the idea and adapted one of our Christmas trees. The wishes written by the children included...

"I wish that everyone will be nice and generous to each other."

I wish that we would discover more animals on planet Earth and in the ocean."

"I wish for wars to end, those who are sick to get better, people to be kinder. I wish for world peace."

"I wish for the homeless to live a happy life."

"I wish that each year I'll improve with my Maths."



Transforming lives by living and learning together in God's love.