

JANUARY

Welcome Back.....

P1 Registration



P1 registration is now complete. If you live within our catchment area, your child will automatically be allocated a place. Families awaiting the outcome of a placing request will receive confirmation directly from South Ayrshire Council in April; this information will not be available from the school office.

If you have not yet registered your child for an August start, please contact the school for advice, as we will shortly be beginning our transition programme, which we hope will be just as successful as — if not more successful than — last year.

P7-S1 Registration

Registration for secondary school should now be complete. All families who have registered for Queen Margaret Academy, which is our catchment school, automatically have a place, if you live in South Ayrshire. Results of all placing requests are in April/May. This information will come directly from South Ayrshire.

Pupil Support Parents' Evening

We will be having our additional Parents' Evening for pupils who are currently on Staged Intervention targets. This year, the appointments will be on Wednesday 4th February. This is only for children who are on Staged Intervention.

At times, children require additional support in school for a variety of reasons. If your child requires support, they will have paperwork called Staged Intervention. This paperwork was discussed with families at the Parents' Evening in October. We are now inviting families to a further meeting with the class teacher to discuss your child's targets and agree together their next steps. Appointment times will be allocated for you and have been sent out. If you haven't confirmed your appointment yet, please do so as soon as possible. If you have had a Team with the Family meeting this year or are due to have one, then your child will not require an appointment.

Learning Journals

This term, in P1-P5, we will continue to share meaningful and personal observations of your child's key learning experiences, providing insight into their day at school. We encourage you to view and comment on these updates to stay connected with your child's profile and help strengthen the partnership between home and school. The children love checking in to see the likes and comments they receive, so we truly appreciate your ongoing support and engagement.

Shared Learning for P1-6

This term, we will be continuing with our annual Stay and Play/Learn sessions on Wednesday 25th February. In place of stage assemblies and Access Hour this term, we are inviting you to come along and spend time in the classroom while your child shares some of their learning with you.

Children will demonstrate a range of activities across the curriculum to help you gain a better understanding of the importance of both play-based and active learning environments. There will also be a short presentation from South Ayrshire Reads in the assembly hall between 2.00pm and 2.30pm where a member of the team will take you through how best to support literacy development at home. Please come along to this invaluable input if you can as it will highlight new methods and strategies being utilised in Reading and across Literacy in general.

Please note that parents of pupils in **P1-P6 should arrive at 2.30pm if they are not attending the presentation.** Parents of pupils in P7 will have access to the school from 3pm-4pm.

Shared Learning P7 Burns' Supper

Our talented Primary 7 performed their memorable Burns' Supper as part of their Term 3 Stage Assembly. Parents and staff were treated to a wonderful afternoon of Scottish culture, complete with poetry, music, and traditional dancing, along with some delicious Scottish snacks. Pupils impressed the audience with their creativity skills by writing their own 'Address to the Laddies' and 'Address to the Lassies.' A special thank you also goes to Caelyn Wood who set the tone beautifully by piping in the haggis to begin the celebrations. Huge well done to all involved!

This was the final Stage Assembly for our Primary 7s, as next term, we will come together as a whole school for their Valedictory Mass.

P7/S1 Transition

This month, Primary 7 enjoyed a visit from Queen Margaret Academy's Art department as part of their transition sessions. Our creative P7 pupils showcased their artistic skills by learning how to use oil pastels to trace portraits of our current staff members at St John's! They are looking forward to welcoming visitors from other QMA departments in the coming months.



Youth Music Initiative SingFest

Both Primary 4 and Primary 5 have been very lucky this term, because they have been chosen to take part in a Youth Music Initiative. They have been working with freelance musician and professional singer David Douglas, learning a range of upbeat songs with a health and wellbeing theme. The programme will culminate in a combined SingFest event at Ayr Town Hall on Thursday 12th February where we will join together to sing with other schools and also have an opportunity to enjoy performances by professional musicians. Due to limited capacity, parents/carers cannot attend the performance at the Town Hall but a video is being made of the children performing as part of the whole initiative and will be shared with parents/carers towards the Summer.



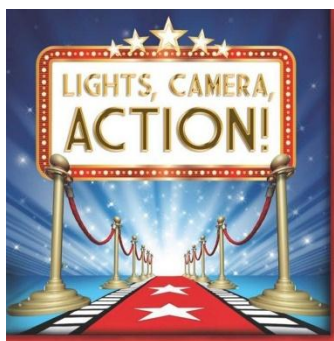
P4-7 School Show

It's SHOW TIME! Our P4-7 children have already started rehearsals for our upper school show, "*Lights, Camera, Action!*"

Please encourage your children to learn the songs, their lines, and any stage direction as we want it to be the best show it can be!




More information will be sent out closer to the time, but the dates for your diary are Tuesday 24th March at 6pm, and Wednesday 25th March at 10:30am and again at 6pm in St. Margaret's Cathedral.



Advanced Diary Dates

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| February 2026 | | |
| W/c Monday 2 nd February | Reading Schools Week | In School |
| Monday 2 nd February | P4 Fluoride Varnishing | In School |
| Monday 2 nd February | P5 Swimming | The Citadel |
| Tuesday 3 rd February | P4-7 Basketball Afterschool Club | 3-3.45pm |
| Wednesday 4 th February | STINT Parents' Evening | In School |
| Friday 6 th February | SCHOOL CLOSED | LOCAL HOLIDAY |
| Monday 9 th February | SCHOOL CLOSED | LOCAL HOLIDAY |
| Tuesday 10 th February | SCHOOL CLOSED | IN-SERVICE DAY |
| Wednesday 11 th February | PUPILS RETURN | School Open |
| Wednesday 11 th February | Rag Bag Collection | |
| Wednesday 11 th February | Equalities Conference | University of the West of Scotland |
| Thursday 12 th February | P4-5 Youth Music Initiative (Singfest) | Ayr Town Hall |
| Friday 13 th February | Parent Council Valentine's Disco | 6.30pm in St Margaret's Church Hall |
| Monday 16 th February | P5 Swimming | The Citadel |
| Tuesday 17 th February | P4-7 Basketball Afterschool Club | 3-3.45pm |
| Wednesday 18 th February | Ash Wednesday Service | In School |
| Saturday 21 st & Sunday 22 nd February | Rite of Enrolment (First Sunday of Lent) | All Masses in St Paul's Church and St Margaret's Cathedral. |
| Monday 23 rd February | P5 Swimming | The Citadel |
| March 2026 | | |
| Monday 2 nd March | P5 Swimming | The Citadel |
| Monday 9 th March | P5 Swimming | The Citadel |

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--|---|
| Thursday 12 th March | Stations of the Cross | In School |
| Monday 16 th March | P5 Swimming | The Citadel |
| Monday 23 rd March | P5 Swimming (Last session) | The Citadel |
| Monday 23 rd March | Lenten Penitential Service P3 Reconciliation | 7pm in St Margaret's |
| Tuesday 24 th March | Euro Quiz | TBC |
| Tuesday 24 th March | School Show | 6.30pm in St Margaret's |
| Wednesday 25 th March | School Show | 10.30am & 6.30pm in St Margaret's |
| Tuesday 31 st March | Lent / End of Term Mass | 10am in St Margaret's |
| April 2026 | | |
| Thursday 2 nd April | School closes for Easter Holidays |  |
| Monday 20 th April | PUPILS RETURN | School Open |
| May 2026 | | |
| Monday 4 th May | SCHOOL CLOSED | MAY DAY HOLIDAY |
| Tuesday 5 th May | PUPILS RETURN | School Open |
| Thursday 7 th May | SCHOOL CLOSED | IN-SERVICE DAY |
| Friday 8 th May | PUPILS RETURN | School Open |
| Thursday 14 th May | P7 Careers Fayre | Ayr Town Hall |
| Thursday 14 th May | QMA Cluster Cup (Transition) | QMA |
| Monday 25 th May | SCHOOL CLOSED | LOCAL HOLIDAY |
| Tuesday 26 th May | PUPILS RETURN | School Open |
| Tuesday 26 th May | Dolphin House Instructor / Parent Information Visit | 3-4pm in School |
| Saturday 30 th May | First Holy Communion | 10am in St Margaret's |

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| June 2026 | | |
| Wednesday 3 rd June | P2/3 School Show | 10am in St Margaret's |
| Thursday 4th June | Sports Day | Riverside Arena |
| Thursday 4th June | P6/7 Sports Transition Festival | QMA |
| Friday 5th June | Summer Fayre | 3-5pm in School |
| Monday 8th June | P7 Retreat at QMA | During School Day |
| Tues 9th & Wed 10th June | P7 Bump Up Days | QMA |
| Wednesday 10th June | P7 Transition Disco & Parent Carer Info Evening | 7pm at QMA |
| Thurs 11th & Fri 12th June | P7 Dolphin House Residential Trip (Group 1) | Culzean Castle Estate |
| Thurs 18th & Fri 19th June | P7 Dolphin House Residential Trip (Group 2) | Culzean Castle Estate |
| Tuesday 23 rd June | Valedictory Mass | 10am in St Margaret's |
| Tuesday 30 th June | School closes for Summer Holidays |  |
| August 2026 | | |
| Tuesday 18 th August | SCHOOL CLOSED | IN-SERVICE DAY |
| Wednesday 19 th August | SCHOOL CLOSED | IN-SERVICE DAY |
| Thursday 20 th August | PUPILS RETURN | School Open |

