



Welcome back to the first week of the academic year. We hope you have all had a wonderful break and enjoyed restful times with friends and family. It has been wonderful to see all your children return ready and happy to learn.



This Week's Shooting Stars



- Joshua S:** Achieving highly in Phonics
- Kishi:** Achieving highly in phonics
- Ethan:** Being independent and settling into routine well
- Max O:** Fantastic achievement in phonics
- Haadi:** Working so hard and achieving highly in phonics
- Kaylan:** Successfully creating a simple algorithm to control the Bee Bot!
- Zoe:** Showing a good understanding of algorithms
- Sid:** Achieving in handwriting and punctuation during the holidays
- Amba:** Her enthusiasm for writing in every topic
- Suleman:** Thoughtful and enquiring questions during RE lessons
- Beau:** Showing resilience in her maths and fantastic independent learning
- Christina:** Great application to her exploration of a character
- Form 6:** Demonstrating all the St Martin's values by making their new teacher feel so welcome

This week's a **Head Teacher's Awards** has been won by **Yugo T** for writing in full sentences with descriptive words. Fantastic! Such a huge achievement and progress in such a short time. Also to **Abir** for adding prefixes and suffixes to root words showing wonderful creativity! Well done.

Golden Tea is an opportunity for children to show Mrs Wilson the work they have completed that week of which they are most proud, whilst enjoying juice and biscuits together. The following children will meet with Mrs Wilson during break-time on Monday

Chloe O

Ali H

Kush

Lara

This Week

We are delighted to welcome your children back to school for the spring term and thoroughly enjoyed seeing them socialise with their friends and engage in their learning again. EYFS have had so much fun searching through different sensory experiences such as the foam seascape for different animals. Form 1 enjoyed being palaeontologists and searching for dinosaur bones on Thursday. Form 5 enjoyed their Victorian dress up day to launch their new topic today.

Next Week

Tuesday 10th January: Form 5 11+ Parent Workshop at 3.50

Wednesday 11th January: Form 5 and 6 Meet the teacher session at 3.50

Thursday 12th January: Form 3 Community litter picking.

Term Dates 2022 – 2023

Autumn Term 2022

Return to School: Wed 7th Sept 2022
Half Term Break: Mon 17th Oct - Fri 28th Oct
Term Ends: Friday 9th Dec 2022

Spring Term 2023:

Return to School: Wed 4th Jan 2023
Half Term Break: Mon 13th Feb to Fri 17th Feb
Term Ends: Friday 31st March 2023

Summer Term 2023:

Return to School: Tue 25th April 2023
Half Term Break: Mon 29th May - Fri 2nd June
Term Ends: Friday 14th July 2023

Autumn Term 2023:

Return to School: Wed 6th September 2023

Following parental feedback last year, we are trialling 2 week intensive swimming lessons in which the children swim every day instead of having weekly sessions throughout the term. This will alleviate problems with late pick-ups that occurred last year and will also decrease the amount of time spent outside the classroom whilst still fulfilling our obligation to the National Curriculum by providing appropriate lessons.

Form 5's sessions have been organised to coincide with Mr Guyster's second week of paternity leave. Form 5 and 6 will be swimming from 16th January to 27th January and Form 3 and 4 will be swimming from 30th January to the 10th February. We have worked hard to limit disruption and more details including the lesson timetables for these two weeks will be released next week.

Daily lessons will also affect uniform obligations and we shall provide more information about this next week. Many thanks

Diary Dates

- Tues 10th January at 3.45pm:** Form 5 11+ Parent Workshop.
- Wed 18th January:** Form 2 and 4 trip to the Tower of London.
- Wed 18th January at 2.30pm:** EYFS Learning Parent Workshop.
- Tuesday 24th January:** Choir to perform at Young Voices at the O2.
- Thursday 26th January:** Form 1 trip to the Natural History Museum.
- Friday 27th January:** Form 3 and 4 Portals to the Past workshop about the stone age.
- W/b Monday 30th Jan:** CAT4 Assessments.
- Monday 30th January:** Form 2 Class Assembly.
- Wednesday 1st February:** Chinese New Year.
- Wednesday 1st February:** Form 5 trip to Museum of Steam and Water
- Wednesday 1st February at 2.30pm:** Lower School Phonics and Early Reading Parent Workshop.
- Tuesday 2nd Feb:** Form 6 In School Virtual Visit: Natural History Museum
- W/c 6th February:** Children's Mental Health Awareness Week.
- Tuesday 7th February:** Safer Internet Day.
- Monday 13th March:** Form 5 trip to British Museum
- Wednesday 15th March:** EYFS trip to Highgate Woods
- Wed 15th – Thurs 16th March:** Form 3 Overnight trip to Golden Hinde
- Monday 8th (Bank Holiday) – Friday 12th May:** Form 6 PGL Residential Trip

A very special congratulations to Amira who will be performing as part of a 6 week run in 'Standing at the Sky's Edge' at the National Theatre next month. We are incredibly proud of your achievement and know this will be a wonderful experience for you and the first of many professional roles!

Ms Marsh-Henry would like to Thank the Form 6 pupils for their warm welcome this week and is excited to be working with you all. Form 6 are in the midst of their 11+ exams and are coping incredibly well under the pressures this inevitably brings – we are so very proud of you all! Please keep the school informed with your results as you hear and inform us of any upcoming interviews so that we can fully support your child in this process. Mrs Wilson is doing 1:1 workshops throughout this time and mock interviews are taking place to fully prepare each child for their interviews. Please continue to keep us updated!

A huge congratulations to our amazing EYFS pupils. Individual assessments were completed by Mrs Vietro this week who was absolutely delighted at their progress. More children in EYFS than ever before at this point in the academic year, have now completed their initial phonic learning and are now on the reading scheme. The progress by all our EYFS children is outstanding and we are so incredibly grateful to Mrs Norval and her fantastic EYFS team for realigning our EYFS structure, which is proving to be incredibly successful. Thank you to parents for your continued support in their learning at home. We are so excited to see them flourishing and are so excited to see their next steps!!

