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St Martin's Post

We wish everyone celebrating Chinese New Year on Sunday – Gong Xi Fa Cai. The New Year celebration is centred around removing the bad and the old, and welcoming the new and the good. It's a time to worship ancestors, exorcise evil spirits and pray for good harvest. Mrs Wilson has kindly provided the children with a chocolate gold coin each to mark this occasion. Thank you to Mr Wu for also buying every child in school a Fortune Cookie – both treats will be given to your children to take home on Monday. We will be marking the year of the rabbit with decorations and an Assembly on Monday. Children wishing to dress in traditional Chinese clothes on Monday may do so.

	This Week's Shooting Stars
Arya	Great use of phonics and excellent reading
Ari	Always being able to express himself well
Nael	Demonstrating good use of his phonic knowledge
Claudia	Always showing her fabulous manners
Gabriel	Always communicating and engaging well in class
Kush	Lovely expressive reading at home and at school
Atlin	Being thoughtful and making connections in his learning at the Tower of London
Ali	Growing in confidence and answering questions in class
Quinn	Writing a lovely letter to Max's mum from core text 'where the wild things are.'
Yunrui	Very detailed and well presented work about Henry VIII
Sophia E	Incredible maths work this week! You always work so hard
Yugo T	Working hard at his English skills and being a great Team Player
Noah G	Excellent Stone Age diary presentation
Aum	Always smiling and for trying so hard with everything he does in class
Israel	For being a good friend and for his hard work in class
Seth	Being a positive role model for both his peers and the wider school community

This week a fantastic 3 **Head Teacher's Awards** have been awarded - **Joshua G** for remaining calm and taking responsible actions when needed and **Ali** and **Joshua J** for excellent French learning. A huge congratulations to you all. 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

Claudia

Alycia

Sid



Please be reminded to drive around the block rather than completing a 3-point turn in Goodwyn Avenue. The road signs outside school are designed to be the height of a child so that they make drivers aware of how difficult it could be to see a child in the road. This week, 2 parents have bumped into these and several more been witnessed doing 3 point turns. Last year one of our younger pupils was hit by a parent's car. Whilst we recognise driving round may take an extra minute, we hope you agree that our children are worth it!

Term [Dates 2022 – 2023	<u>Term Dates 2023– 2024</u>	
Autumn Term 2022	2	Autumn Term 2023	
Return to School:	Wed 7 th Sept 2022	Return to School:	Wed 6 th Sept 2023
Half Term Break:	Mon 17 th Oct - Fri 28 th Oct	Half Term Break:	Mon 16 th Oct - Fri 27 th Oct
Term Ends:	Friday 9 th Dec 2022	Term Ends:	Friday 8 th Dec 2023
Spring Term 2023:		Spring Term 202	4:
Return to School:	Wed 4th Jan 2023	Return to School:	Wed 3rd Jan 2024
Half Term Break:	Mon 13 th Feb to Fri 17 th Feb	Half Term Break:	Mon 12 th Feb to Fri 16 th Feb
Term Ends:	Friday 31 st March 2023	Term Ends:	Thursday 28 th March 2024
Summer Term 2023:		Summer Term 20	24:
Return to School:	Tue 25 th April 2023	Return to School:	Tue 23rd April 2024
Half Term Break:	Mon 29 th May - Fri 2nd June	Half Term Break:	Mon 27th May - Fri 31 st May
Term Ends:	Friday 14 th July 2023	Term Ends:	Friday 12 th July 2024
Autumn Term 2023:		Autumn Term 20	24:
Return to School:	Wed 6 th September 2023	Return to School:	Wed 4 th September 2024

Diary Dates

Monday 23 rd January:	Chinese New Year celebrations			
Tuesday 24 th January:	Choir performing at Young Voices at the O2.			
Thursday 26 th January:	Form 1 trip to the Natural History Museum.			
Friday 27 th January:	Form 3 and 4 Portals to the Past workshop about the stone age.			
W/b Monday 30 th Jan:	CAT4 Assessments.			
Monday 30 th January:	Form 2 Class Assembly.			
Wednesday 1 st February:	Form 5 trip to Museum of Steam and Water			
Wednesday 1 st February at 2.30pm: Lower School Phonics and Early Reading Parent Workshop.				
Tuesday 2 nd Feb:	Form 6 In School Virtual Visit: Natural History Museum			
W/c 6 th February:	Children's Mental Health Awareness Week.			
Tuesday 7 th February:	Safer Internet Day.			
Monday 13 th March:	Form 5 trip to British Museum			
Wednesday 15 th March:	EYFS trip to Highgate Woods			
Thursday 16 th March:	Form 2 Trip to National Gallery			
Wed 15 th – Thurs 16 th March:	Form 3 Overnight trip to Golden Hinde			

FULL SCHOOL PRODUCTION – ROBIN AND THE SHERWOOD HOODIES

Tuesday 28th March:Matinee Performance 2pmWednesday 29th March:Evening Performance 5.30pm

Hartley Hall, Flower Lane, Mill Hill

Monday 8th (Bank Holiday) – Friday 12th May: Form 6 PGL Residential Trip

This Week in assembly on Monday, we talked about the different ways to show respect to others including our teachers and friends in school. We shared a story about a dragon who was left out because of the reputation dragons have and talked about the importance of including everyone in our games and play. We heard about a goat who wasn't being respectful and how his friends felt then thought about how to speak kindly to people who might make the wrong choices. This week was World Religion Day. We considered similarities between religions – remembering the autumn Harvest festivals which many religions observe such as the Jewish festival of Tu B'Shevat in which new trees are planted and Wassailing, an event in the Pagan calendar in which fruit trees are blessed in the hope of a good harvest.

On Wednesday, Form 2 and 4 went to the Tower of London and had a wonderful time despite the bitter cold. Mrs Doherty and some pupils were even knighted! Huge Thanks to the parent volunteers who accompanied this trip, your support is invaluable. We look forward to seeing the learning in the children's upcoming work.

Parent workshops Thank you to Mrs Norval for her wonderful presentation in the EYFS Parent workshop and to the parents who attended; your children loved showing you around their classroom. The presentation will be available on the parent portal via the school website for those of you who couldn't make it. Please also join us for the 'Early reading and phonics' parent workshop for Lower School on Wednesday the 1st February at 2.30. We are also planning three keyworker 'Come learn with me' sessions after the April break in which you are invited to join your child as they learn in their Phonics, Literacy and Maths sessions. Invitations will be sent out to keyworker groups with a date and time to limit numbers. If you are unable to make your session, please feel free to ask to join one of the other days.

Mrs Davies is one of our most experienced teachers in school and has possibly the most challenging job due to teaching children from every age range, often at short notice for absence cover. We are very proud to have a fully qualified and experienced teacher in this vital role to ensure continuity of care, behaviour expectations and learning when the Form teacher may be off. Unfortunately, Mrs Davies will be off for the next 6 weeks due to having a much needed and long awaited operation. In her absence, Mrs Boxer has kindly agreed to come in for an additional day to cover the Form 5 lessons on a Thursday; Mrs Mbah will be teaching the Form 5 and 6 Gifted and talented writing group and Mrs Vietro will be teaching Form 2 science each Monday and EYFS on a Tuesday. Unfortunately, some small group sessions for children with Individual Education Plans (IEPs) will be affected, however, Mrs Vietro will rotate her support throughout this time for even coverage. We wish Mrs Davies all the very best in her operation and recovery.

As a result of this current cold spell, children are wearing extra items of clothing such as hats, scarfs and gloves. As they take these off, we are encouraging them to put them away in the front pocket of their bag and teachers are taking extra time to ensure they are put away correctly so they aren't lost. Despite this diligence, inevitably, some items have gone home with the wrong child or been left on the playground/assembly room. We are also checking lost property regularly and returning all named items. Please can we ask for your support by: naming all items belonging to your child; showing your child how to put their hat, gloves and scarf in the front pocket of their bag; checking items coming home and returning items that do not belong to other children.

We are striving to engage in inter-school sport competitions this year and are delighted to have had confirmation that we are entered into the Barnet Swimming Gala on Monday 20th March. This will involve 12 pupils from Forms 3 – 6 (3 from each Form) who will be selected in their swimming lessons next week and week 2 of Form 3 and 4's swimming lessons. Invitations will be sent to chosen pupils before half term.

Next Week Form 5 and 6 are continuing their second week of swimming and Mrs Low will be choosing 6 pupils to compete in an upcoming Swimming Gala against other schools. Further details to come.

On Tuesday, the choir will be performing at Young Voices at the O2 - A super exciting experience that sees our pupils join hundreds of others in a huge concert with an electrifying atmosphere. We hope you all have a wonderful time. Parents attending should now have received their tickets via email – please let us know if you haven't!

On Thursday Form 1 are going to the Natural History Museum to continue their roles as palaeontologists and learn about dinosaurs. Continuing the study of History, on Friday we are welcoming the 'Portals to the past' team for Form 3 and 4 to study the Stone Age. This means there is no celebration assembly next week but we will save any certificates you send in to share, for the following week's assembly.

We are delighted and proud to announce that Miss Adesina, after leaving us to return to study and specialist teaching, has this week qualified as a dyslexia assessor. I am sure you join us in wishing her much success in her new role. Our ever-busy school choir have been invited to perform at a service with the Bishop of Edmonton on Sunday 5th February. If your child is involved in choir, an e-mail has been sent out with further details; please let Mrs Mbah know whether you will be able to attend.