



A huge thank you to Avi, our Form 6 charity prefect for co-ordinating today's collection for Food Bank Aid. They were incredibly thankful for your generous donations. If you were unable to donate today, but would like to do help, please feel welcome to give a cash donation to the office next week as a contribution to the supermarket delivery we are arranging to be delivered directly to the Food Bank hub.



## This Week's Shooting Stars



- Isabel:** A growing confidence in her school work
- Joshua S:** Being selfless and supporting his friends during play
- Max:** Practising his high frequency words
- Form 1:** Being wonderful representatives of St Martin's school whilst on our school trip
- Elenor:** Modelling responsible behaviour on the school trip to the British Museum
- Alycia:** An amazing simile poem about Form 2
- Mia:** Developing her confidence in reading and spelling. You can do it Mia!!
- Zakariya:** Outstanding contributions in his music lessons
- Tiam:** Achieving highly with his creative writing
- Dylan:** Working really hard to master his spellings
- Kabir:** Writing a very detailed diary for his homework. Superb!
- Form 5:** For being thoughtful, respectful, independent team players on your residential!
- Yugo T:** A wonderful descriptive paragraph about an Ice World
- Ehsan:** Demonstrating all the St Martin's values in his learning and with his peers. An excellent start to the academic year

A **Head Teacher's Award** has been awarded to **Dahlia** for superb understanding and drawings of emotions and to **Izzy** for excellent morale building during the Form 5 residential.

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

**Kabir**

**Reuben**

**Dylan**

**Arianna**

**Sukkot** (Feast of Booths or Tabernacles) is one of the three pilgrimage holidays. It is an agricultural festival that originally was considered a thanksgiving for the fruit harvest. Sukkot are hut-like structures that Jewish people lived in during the 40 years of travel through the wilderness after the exodus from Egypt. As a temporary dwelling, the sukkah also represents the fact that all existence is fragile, and therefore Sukkot is a time to appreciate the shelter of our homes and our bodies. Sukkot is celebrated by, first of all, building a sukkah and some Jewish people choose to eat in the sukkah for eight days - some even sleep in the sukkah for the duration of the holiday. The sukkah is decorated and the first day is considered a holy day in which most forms of work are forbidden. Chag Sameach to our Jewish families celebrating Sukkot this weekend.

**This week** On Monday we welcomed Father Steven to our assembly to talk about Harvest as one of the Autumn festivals.

**EYFS** have been working really hard to learn their tricky words in a variety of ways. In Maths they have been using their understanding of 2D shapes to describe 3D shapes as well as learning their names. They have also built on last week's knowledge of primary colours in Expressive Arts and Design to think about secondary colours. They have continued their work about space in understanding the world; thinking about the sun and our solar system including the order, size and colour of the planets. The children have made a range of artistic work including the sun and even some flying saucers. As part of healthy eating, the children have been learning how to use their knife and fork.

**Form 1** have been independently writing setting descriptions for the Hansel and Gretel woodland and gingerbread house using adjectives. In Maths, the children have been finishing off partitioning 2 and 3 digit numbers and re-capping 1 more and 1 less in 2 digit numbers. In Science they have made flip books to understand the parts of a plant and they have continued the natural theme when starting their constructions of habitats they planned last week in DT. On Thursday they thoroughly enjoyed the trip to Water Splash Farm where they were able to look at habitats in the wild, hunt for mini-beasts and have a go at fishing.

**Form 2** – Land Ahoy! Form 2 thoroughly enjoyed their trip to the Cutty Sark experiencing life as a Victorian sailor. They continued to work on their multiplication tables in maths and learned fabulous high-end vocabulary to write descriptive paragraphs. During their art lessons, they drew pictures of the fantastic scenes they had written about in Literacy.

**Form 3** have been analysing diary entries to write a list of features. The children took a look at diaries from Tom Gates, Anne Frank, Samuel Peeps and The Wimpy Kid as examples for comparison. In Maths the children shared what they already knew about fractions through last week's homework and had a fractions breakfast to begin their work on fractions. In Science they continued their work on forces by looking at friction through their own fair test experiments that changed only one variable. It was lovely to see the children using our new outdoor learning space at the front of school for this learning experience. In Topic this week, Form 3 have been re-telling the story of Medusa on their own way and enjoyed a trip to the British Museum where they studied Ancient Greek artefacts including: a death skin scraper, an Olympic discus, long jump rock weights, a laurel wreath, knuckle bones, vases, lyre and a wine bowl.

**Form 4** have been writing creative pieces about the ice palace including metaphors analysed from the text. In Maths they have been using their addition and subtraction knowledge to complete multi-step word problems. In French they have been learning their numbers and in RE the children enjoyed learning about the Om symbol in Hinduism. In RSHE the children were celebrating differences between people and thinking about how we can learn from these. On Thursday, the children were able to have their artist visit re-scheduled from last year and were able to collectively work together with artist William Ashley-Norman to create Iron Man's hand for display in the front learning space.

**Form 5** have been using point, evidence, explain to analyse texts and have written descriptive paragraphs with fronted adverbials for expressing their senses and delayed adjectives to emphasise description. In Maths the children have been re-visiting rounding to a given digit and negative numbers. In Art the children have been rehearsing a range of techniques and painting effects to create a galaxy painting in the style of Peter Thorpe. In Music, the children were understanding musical vocabulary and using this to try and analyse Jupiter from Gustav Holst then composing their own group pieces to accompany their space themed dance and writing a graphic recording for this.

**Form 6** have been doing comprehensions of weather themed texts including a poem and mountain story and then were writing their own compositions related to weather. In Maths, they were completing a murder mystery based on 11+ style questions of algebra. In Topic, Form 6 were comparing the Arctic and Antarctic by looking at similarities and differences. In Science, the children were thinking about refraction in their unit on light by creating their own fair test experiments. In Gymnastics, the children were creating sequences of moves including balances and separation. In Music, they were using musical vocabulary to analyse a piece called Northern Lights and considering this vocabulary when composing their own group pieces.

**Next Week** October is Black History Month and we will be thinking about why it is so important to understand history from all perspectives and also to celebrate the positive impact of Black figures in History.

On Monday, Form 5 are performing their class assembly at 9am. Form 5 parents are welcome to join us.

On Tuesday, EYFS, Form 5 and 6 are going to the Science museum to find out more about their current units of work.

On Thursday, Form 1 and 5 will be visiting the Synagogue to decorate the sukkah. It is also National Poetry Day.

### Agreements

Thank you to everyone who has returned the home-school, digital and peripatetic agreements to school. If you have not yet done so, please return them to school on Monday.

### Parent Evenings

Thank you to everyone who came into school to discuss how your children have settled in to their new classes. It was lovely to see everybody and it is reassuring to know how well supported St Martin's pupils are at home.

We love to share our children's 'out of school' achievements in school too. This week during Celebration Assembly we congratulated Avi M for reaching the Red level Little Monkeys Kickboxing level and Hashini for achieving a distinction pass in both the practical and theory elements of her Grade 3 Bharatanatyam Dance exam! Zoe also passed her Level one in Chinese and shared her badge in assembly this afternoon too.

A huge well done to you all. We are very proud of you 😊 Please do let us know if you would like to share your child's outside school achievement in school.

### Autumn Term 2023

Half Term Break: Mon 16<sup>th</sup> Oct - Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Oct

Term Ends: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> Dec 2023

### Spring Term 2024:

Return to School: Wed 3rd Jan 2024

Half Term Break: Mon 12<sup>th</sup> Feb to Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Feb

Term Ends: Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

### Summer Term 2024:

Return to School: Tue 23rd April 2024

Half Term Break: Mon 27th May - Fri 31<sup>st</sup> May

Term Ends: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2024

### Autumn Term 2024:

Return to School: Wed 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024

**Choir** Thank you so much for your support and encouragement regarding your child's recent audition for this year's school choir. The level of talent, courage, commitment to practice and enthusiasm shown across the school, has been incredibly impressive. Similarly to last year, we have had far more children audition than we have had places in the choir. Older children have been prioritized and it is for this reason that we have decided to put together a second choir purely made up of younger singers! We know some of the younger children were disappointed not to have been picked this year and hope this will hone their skills in time for the main choir in years to come. Further details to come.. please watch this space!

### Dates for your Diary

<b>1<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> October:</b>	Black History Month
<b>2nd October:</b>	Form 5 class assembly at 9am (Parents welcome)
<b>3rd October:</b>	Science Museum (EYFS, Form 5 & 6)
<b>5th October:</b>	National Poetry Day
<b>9th October:</b>	National Gallery (Form 4)
<b>11th October:</b>	British Values Day

<b>11th October:</b>	Topic homework due in
<b>12th October:</b>	Topic homework walk about
<b>12th October:</b>	Longtown information evening for parents and children at 3.45pm (Form 4)
<b>W/b 30th October:</b>	IEP Meetings
<b>1st November:</b>	British Library (Form 4 & 5)
<b>6<sup>th</sup> November:</b>	Flu Vaccines (opt in only – Reception – Form 6)
<b>8th - 10th Nov:</b>	Longtown residential (Form 4)
<b>8th or 9th November by invitation:</b>	Come learn phonics with me (EYFS)
<b>10th November:</b>	Remembrance assembly at 10.45 – parents welcome
<b>W/b 13th November:</b>	Anti-bullying and interfaith week
<b>13th November:</b>	Diwali celebrations in school
<b>13<sup>th</sup> November:</b>	JLE Exhibition – morning only (Form 5)
<b>14th November:</b>	RAF Museum (EYFS)
<b>20th November:</b>	Form 4 class assembly at 9am – parents welcome
<b>21st November:</b>	Verulamium trip (Form 6)
<b>30th November:</b>	Natural History Museum (Form 3)
<b>W/b 4th December:</b>	No clubs this week
<b>7th December:</b>	Topic homework walk about – 8.10am – 8.35am Parents welcome
<b>7th December:</b>	Christmas jumper day, Christmas lunch, Chanukah doughnuts and crafts.
<b>8th December:</b>	FoSMS Charity Silent Disco – after school until 5.30pm – More details to come!

