

## St Martin's Post

Issue 236

1st December 2023

We are very excited to be holding the end of year silent disco supper after school next Friday. Book your place by Monday if you haven't already done so. Please be reminded that after school clubs / Tea Time club will not run next week, as is always the case during the last week of each term.

If your child normally brings packed lunch but would like to enjoy a traditional Christmas lunch in school on Thursday, please email Mrs Jacobs.



## This Week's Shooting Stars



**Charlotte K** Sharing her thoughts and ideas with the class

**Zayn-Ali** Being selfless in her play

**Ariana A** A beautifully drawn self-portrait

**Noah G** An excellent descriptive story about Saxons / Vikings

**Reuben** Using both standard and non-standard measurements to measure

**Arya** Being a great team player and supporting her friends during dance

**Kishi** Trying hard in phonics and learning the vowel letters and sounds

**Yoahan** Achieving highly in his persuasive writing

**Alayna** Outstanding poetry writing

**Aum** Being full of enthusiasm and information during our trip to the National History Museum

**Iman** Trying really hard to perfect her handwriting

**Zoe** Her enthusiasm and willingness to always try her best during PE

**James** Great participation during Dance

**Dylan** Trying hard to use his phonic knowledge for spelling

**Tutu** Excellent effort during phonic and spelling sessions

**Sara N** Showing patience and respect for her peers

**Siyona** Demonstrating all the St Martin's values within her learning

Congratulations to **Sophia E** for excellent learning in Maths to solve problems in 24 hour time. Fantastic! We are very proud of you.

**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.

Ethan Zakariya Oliver K Beau

We wish all those celebrating the start of Advent this Sunday, calm and peaceful hope and anticipation with the lighting of Isaiah's prophecy candle.

**This week** All children in school have learnt about Advent in their assembly delivered by Father Steven who explained all about the meaning of Advent and the different coloured candles on the wreath. We have all made some Christmas decorations to place on our Christmas tree in St. Michael's Church and been learning their Winter Show pieces in Music lessons.

In EYFS this week the children had their last Welly Wednesday of the term and went on a scavenger hunt. They used some of their senses to find the items on the list. In Maths, EYFS have been exploring shapes, naming them, finding where they are in their environment and thinking about how they can use shapes to make a picture. During Language and Communication sessions, the children have been enjoying improving their communication using sentences with more than 5 words in them. To end their week and their transport topic, EYFS took their teddies on an adventure, deciding which mode of transport is best for their teddies to use.

For English this week, Form 1 were finishing off their Owl Babies topic by performing the story in small group to their peers. The children have also written a book review about the Owl Babies story. They have also started to learn about different types of nouns and have used those nouns to write sentences. For Maths, the children have been learning the names and features of 3D shapes and also started to learn how to measure items around the class and school by using standard and non-standard units to measure. For their Art lessons, the class have been learning about perspective, to try and make things further away appear smaller and things that are closer to appear larger.

Form 2 have been writing their own stories about Claude in English with a focus on punctuation including speech marks and description including adjectives, extended noun phrases and similes. In Maths, they have been measuring in centimetres and particularly enjoyed measuring different reindeer. In Art, Form 2 were creating collages and self-portraits.

Form 3 have had another busy week writing persuasive text about getting out of Iceland or Pompeii in the event of an earthquake or volcanic eruption and converting the 24 hour clock to am and pm and vice versa. In Science, the children looked closely at real fossils to consider how they were formed and in Topic the children visited the Natural History Museum where they also saw an ammonite as well as learning about a shield volcano, journeying to the centre of the earth and taking part in a workshop about saving a town from a volcano eruption. In Art, the children have finished their moving models of a natural disaster; in French they have been creating sentences about their clothing and during their RE lesson they made and learnt about Christingles.

Form 4 have been writing historically plausible narratives with a focus on descriptive writing including fronted adverbials, expanded noun phrases, alliteration, similes and metaphors. In Maths, they have been learning how to use and manipulate fractions from finding the lowest common denominator to calculating with fractions and finding fractions of amounts. In Science, Form 4 have been making electric circuits with outputs such as a buzzer and having fun demonstrating the potential uses of their circuits in a drama sketch. The children have been researching answers to their own questions about Viking long ships and analysing an artefact from Sutton Hoo in Topic. In French, the children were thinking about the similarities and differences between French and British Christmas traditions and in RE they considered what Christians think about reincarnation and some of the pronouns used for Jesus.

In English this week, Form 5 have completed their persuasive texts about whether Tom should live in Hattie's time and in Maths, they have been using RUCSAC to work out word problems including converting measure and calculating with all 4 operations. In Topic, Form 5 have been writing up their analysis of their Mill Hill survey data and in science, they have been researching whether there are any correlations between mammal's gestational periods and another feature of their choice then represented this in a scatter-graph. In Computing, the children have also been working with Data in excel spreadsheets and representing this in graphs.

During their English lessons, Form 6 have predominantly been completing example tests and past papers appropriate to the exams they will be taking, as we reach the peak of the examination period. However, they have also been doing Christmas composition writing as well as a mystery involving verbal reasoning. In Maths, as well as their tests, they have focussed on statistics and recording answers to their own group enquiry questions in tally charts and creating pie charts using a protractor. In Topic, Form 6 have been researching and writing information texts about Boudicca and some children moved on to create a diary entry from her perspective. In Latin, the children have been using their translation skills to decipher a Latin story

and in RE they have written a variety of text types to inform people about the birth of Jesus. In Music, Form 6 have been learning about song-craft and thinking about what makes a good harmony when composing their own winter songs with a focus on figurative language, similes and metaphors.

**Next Week** Children will be undertaking their 'Wonder Sessions' in which they consider next half term's units of work and ask thoughtful questions about what they would like to learn so that the teachers can incorporate this into their planning.

On Tuesday, Form 6 have their Disney's Aladdin musical theatre and dance workshop delivered by the V&A Museum.

Also on Tuesday, Form 3 and 4 are visiting Mathilda Marks Kennedy for a friendly football and sports afternoon. Please ensure all children arrive in full PE kit.

On Wednesday, we are looking forward to welcoming parents, family and friends to our Winter Show from 2pm at St Michael's and All Angels Church. Programmes and mince pies will be on sale so please bring change to donate to our school council project.

On Thursday we have our annual Christmas jumper day – please encourage children to wear their most festive jumpers and bring £2.50 which will be split between our annual charity, Grief Encounter, and the school council's project. On this day the children will have a pantomime in the morning, followed by Christmas lunch and an afternoon making Christmas crafts in lessons run by their Form's school council representative.

On Friday, the children are invited to bring in party food to accompany a sandwich lunch and will be watching a Christmas film in the afternoon. In the afternoon, we are looking forward to the FOSMS Christmas Disco. Children are invited to wear their own party clothes.

Please be reminded that clubs will not run next week as it is the last week of term.

Micro:bits In our continuing drive to improve Computing in school, we are delighted to announce that we have received delivery of an entire class set of micro:bits. The micro:bit is a pocket-sized computer designed to inspire creative thinking in children. It can be programmed in many different ways and has multiple uses. Through the micro:bit, children are encouraged to explore ideas using real code. The device provides an authentic experience of the interaction between hardware and software and gives children practical computer knowledge. Using it, they can see how what they do with the code on-screen has a direct impact on the device they're holding in their hand. We are very excited to see how St Martin's pupils use these devices!

**Bike Check** Our JTAs would like to share some news with you...Barnet Council's Parking team has arranged free 'Dr Bike' sessions run by qualified bicycle mechanics. Members of the public can take along their bicycles (adult or child) to have a free safety check, which includes the condition of tyres, rims, gears, brake function and tyre pressure and adjustments can be made if required. The sessions will take place on the following dates between 9am and 3pm.

Lodge Lane Car Park, North Finchley, N12	02/12/2023
Watling Avenue Car Park, Burnt Oak, HA8	03/12/2023
Stapylton Car Park, Barnet, EN5	09/12/2023
Marsh Drive Car Park, West Hendon, NW7	10/12/2023
Watling Avenue Car Park, Burnt Oak, HA8	16/12/2023
Lodge Lane Car Park, North Finchley, N12	17/12/2023
Marsh Drive Car Park, West Hendon, NW7	23/12/2023
Stapylton Car Park, Barnet, EN5	30/12/2023

## **Media Content**

At this time of year, children and families often enjoy watching films and playing video games. Please be reminded that a PG rating means that content is recommended for 8+ viewers. For further information about evaluating media content for your children and links to useful websites, please see our Media Content post in the parent area of the website under 'other information'.

**W/b 4th December:** No clubs this week

**5<sup>th</sup> December:** Form 6 online musical theatre dance session with V&A museum.

6<sup>th</sup> December: Winter Concert – St Michaels and All Angels Church, Flower Lane NW7 2JA at 2pm

(all children will be performing)

**7th December**: Topic homework walk about -8.10am -8.35am - Parents welcome

**7th December:** Christmas jumper day, Christmas lunch, Chanukah doughnuts and crafts.

**8th December:** FoSMS Charity Silent Disco – after school until 5.45pm – BOOK YOUR CHILD'S

TICKET NOW!

**10**<sup>th</sup> **January:** Form 6 Verulamium visit (re-arranged).

**26**<sup>th</sup> **January:** Pre-loved uniform sales.

**18**<sup>th</sup> **March:** Parent workshop on E-Safety at 5pm

**Autumn Term 2023** 

Return to School: Wed 6<sup>th</sup> Sept 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 31st May

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

Autumn Term 2024:

Return to School Wed 4<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024

**Autumn Term 2024** 

Return to School: Wed 4th Sept 2024

Half Term Break: Mon 21st Oct – Fri 1<sup>st</sup> Nov

Term Ends: Friday 13<sup>th</sup> Dec 2024

Spring Term 2024:

Return to School: Wed 8th Jan 2025

Half Term Break: Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Feb to Fri 21st Feb

Term Ends: Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Summer Term 2024:

Return to School: Tue 22nd April 2025

Half Term Break: Mon 26th May - Fri 30<sup>th</sup> May

Term Ends: Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Autumn Term 2024:

Return to School Wed 3rd Sept 2025