



At St Martin's we recognise the importance of children being able to confidently express their opinions and have a real say in the matters that matter to them. Thank you to the School Council who will be selling hot chocolate (or warm milk if preferred) and a biscuit at break time to children and staff on Tuesday 16th January. Parents will also have the opportunity to buy before school too. The funds raised will go towards the School Council projects for this year. Please support our School Council by giving your child £2 to bring to school on this day.



This Week's Shooting Stars



Charlotte K	Great one to one correspondence up to 10
Kyeisha	Good writing in her 'Who am I?' book
Dahlia	Showing great balance in PE
Ari	Showing a great understanding when using non-standard measurements to find capacity
Hussein H	Superb fraction work
Ali H	Contributing well to our discussions about the 'Battle of Hastings'
Andrea	Working really hard to understand column addition
Mia P	Working independently to answer comprehension questions
Haadi	Trying hard to extend his comprehension answers
Kush	Working really hard to master his times tables
Shaan	Working really hard to master his times tables
Anushka	Caring for others and displaying great inter-personal skills
Oliver K	Displaying great teamwork during football
Yunrui	Outstanding achievement in his discursive writing
Noah G	Excellent sports skills in badminton lessons
Adam H	Consistent high achievement in English lessons
Husain	Demonstrating teamwork and respect to his peers

A huge congratulations to **Saniya** for achieving a **Head Teachers Award** this week for wonderful concentration, ideas and handwriting for her 'what am I?' work. Well done also to **Gabriel** whose handwriting and drawing for this piece of work was hugely impressive and who also achieved a Head Teachers Award, along with **Shaan** for super detail and creativity in his writing and presentation. A huge well done to you all.

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 morning break-time on Monday -

Kyeisha

Lara

Shayan

Avelyn

This week EYFS have been reading their core text, *Oliver's vegetables*, and writing about different vegetables and fruit. They have been exploring unusual fruit and vegetables in a variety of ways and even used fruits to paint with. During Communication and Language sessions, the children expanded their sentences to reason 'why' and in Maths the children continued with their number recognition. In knowledge and understanding of the world, the children thought about healthy eating including how to make a colourful rainbow plate and all thoroughly enjoyed their Welly Wednesday activities in Mill Hill Park including using sticks and leaves to make insects! During PE, the children worked on their balance by standing up tall whilst walking along rubber tracks. The children also loved listening to stories about Jesus during their RE lesson.

Form 1 have been reading 'Where the wild things are and thinking about the main character's feelings at each stage of the story. They have been looking closely at the illustrations and answering retrieval questions. The children have been using standard and non-standard measures for different containers and thinking about fractions by saying whether the container is empty, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$ full. The children enjoyed thinking about whether dinosaurs are herbivore, carnivore or omnivores and making dishes for them in their Kid's Kitchen activity. In Science, Form 1 categorised animals e.g. reptiles, mammals, fish etc. and this linked to their Art in which they made making pencil sketches of dinosaurs. For Topic, they learned about Mary Anning by watching a video and extracting answers to key questions. During Computing, the children used Beebots and explored the controls by writing a simple algorithm to reach their partner.

Form 2 enjoyed their wow session on Monday when they built castles out of a range of different biscuits! They needed to think carefully about which biscuits would help them to build each part of the castle. They have continued the theme of Normans by learning about the Battle of Hastings as well as thinking about how they could build a siege tower. In English Form 2 wrote poems and are learning how to use conjunctions to join co-ordinating sentences or phrases together. During Maths lessons, they continued to extend their abilities to calculate using column methods for addition and subtraction.

Form 3 had their WOW Day making stone age dens and listening to a range of sound stimulus including wolves, mammoths, frogs, rainstorm, sabretooth tigers, wild dogs and roaring winds. They used this in their English to formulate wonderful descriptive writing pieces. In Maths, the children have been identifying horizontal, vertical and parallel lines, angles and turns. In Science, they categorised natural and man-made light sources and set up an investigation over time to see how light affects sugar paper. During Computing, Form 3 learned to change font size, colour and style as well as sourcing images to create a variety of documents such as party invites. In DT the children designed their wheeled vehicles with axels. In RE, the children thought about what rules disciples had to follow and in RSHE they have been thinking about changes in their life.

Form 4 have been referring to their core text 'Demon Dentist' to find evidence for inferences and extracting key words and phrases they could use to help their own writing when they describe their own demon villain. In Maths, Form 4 have finished their work on fractions and moved onto algebraic formula by simplifying terms and multiplying adding and subtracting integers. In Science, Form 4 have been thinking about how teeth are made, identifying types of teeth and considering their structure. During their Art lesson, the children looked at Holbein portrait paintings to understand the features of a face and to observe Tudor clothing which links nicely to their Tudor topic in which they are researching arguments for and against Henry VIII being a good king. In RSHE, Form 4 thought about how they might feel and what might happen if they did not reach a dream or goal and how they would move forward.

During English lessons, Form 5 have been considering and writing balanced arguments about mechanicals' rights in Cogheart and presenting this in a range of ways, some of which will be shared with the author. In Maths, the children converted fractions decimals and percentages using larger multiplications beyond their tables. In Topic, they have been researching the effects of the industrial revolution in chosen areas such as: trade, industry, transport, pollution and disease and considering the reliability of their sources. In Science, Form 5 have been conducting the experiments they designed. In Computing, they have been coding crumbles to control traffic lights.

In Form 6 English, the children have finished editing the whole school show script with personalised lines and jokes for everyone to enjoy at the end of term. In Maths, they have been taking responsibility for their own learning by considering their objectives and identifying their own areas of weakness, then creating a learning plan to help them improve these and using it to develop their skills. In Art the children learned about shading techniques including cross-hatching, stippling and scumbling to draw a still life from a close, closer and closest perspective. In Computing, Form 6 have been learning about computing systems and networks including variables. In Topic, Form 6 have continued their unit on trade links by thinking about how these have changed over time. In French, they have been practising asking for and giving directions. The highlight of the Form 6 week has been their very exciting trip to Verulamium where they had a superb hands-on experience evaluating primary sources and considering the uses of different artefacts.

Next Week

Form 3 and 4 are swimming each morning (see further info below)

Monday 15th January: Form 6 trip to the Natural History Museum.

Tuesday 16th January: Please bring £2.00 for a hot chocolate.

Thursday 18th January: Form 6 trip to the Houses of Parliament.

Thursday 18th January: Form 2 trip to the Tower of London.

Friday 19th January: Form 1 trip to Natural History Museum.

Upper School STEAM Competition

We have been invited to enter the ISA (Independent School's Association) STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths) competition this year and we are looking for ideas from the children to develop their projects. This is a fantastic opportunity for your child to be recognised nationally for their hard work, whilst representing their school and adding achievements to their 11+ portfolio. As part of this week's **homework**, we are asking the Upper School children to complete a design task:

Year 3-4: Design and build a device that can propel a soft toy a long distance

Year 5-6: Find a way to drop a raw egg from a height of at least 2m without it breaking

Good Luck!

Congratulations to the following pupils who were selected by their teacher for their wonderful work last term:

Nursery: Isabel and Matias

Reception: Kyeisha and Dahlia

Form 1: Mia and Arya

Form 2: Leela and Ali H

Form 3: Jessica and Kabir

Form 4: Ethan and Yugo

Form 5: Shayan and Alayna

Form 6: Aman and Mia

Well done to you all for your superb examples of high quality work which will be displayed on our Wonderful Work wall!

LAMDA

Congratulations to all children who took LAMDA exams last term...

In the Introductory Solo exams: **Andrea** achieved distinction at Stage 1; **Kaylan** and **Avi B** achieved distinction at stage 2; **Krishnan**, **Shaan** and **Kush** achieved distinction at stage 3. In the Entry level Verse and Prose: **Krishav** achieved a merit and **Bhim** and **Suleman** achieved a distinction. In the Entry level acting, **Anushka** achieved a distinction and in Grade 2 Verse and Prose, **Mia L** achieved a distinction.

All the children worked so hard to ensure such huge success and we are incredibly proud of all of you. Well done! What outstanding results!

Music

Congratulations to Aarav for achieving a Distinction in his Grade 1 drums. Fantastic!

Swimming Form 3 and 4 begin their intensive swimming lessons course on Monday. Please refer to the separate letter for details of what you need to bring and the adaptations to the timetables. Some parents have raised concerns about swimming at this time of year. Please be reassured that cold weather cannot cause colds as these are viral; swimming, however, can cause temporary nasal congestion due to irritation of the nasal passages and we teach children to blow out of their nose to limit this. If you find your child has nasal congestion, please consider using nose clips or speaking to the doctor about a nasal spray. All children are asked to wear a swimming hat and this will limit how wet hair gets, however, if you are very concerned about this, please speak directly with the class teacher to ensure they get out with enough time to dry their hair. We are also requesting that all children bring their hat, scarf and gloves to ensure they do not get cold between the pool and the coach and during the walk from the coach to school. Once children arrive back at school, they will be served their warm lunch before playing outside.

NSPCC Speak out, stay safe We are pleased to inform you that we are participating in the NSPCC's Speak out, Stay safe Programme this term. Speak out. Stay safe. is a programme for children aged 5-11 which aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a safe adult or Childline. This child friendly programme is aligned with the curriculum and consists of age-appropriate virtual assemblies and supporting classroom-based activities which we have reviewed. The content is delivered in an engaging and interactive way with the help of the NSPCC mascot Buddy. If you would like to know more about the Speak out. Stay safe. Programme, please visit www.nspcc.org.uk/speakout for further information. The NSPCC have also shared some important information on wider NSPCC resources and support to help keep children safe.

Parent/Carer support

Take a look at information, support, advice and activities from NSPCC for parent and carers.

www.nspcc.org.uk/parents

Activities to extend learning at home

Take part in games and activities at home to help children learn about speaking out and staying safe.

www.nspcc.org.uk/activities

Online Safety Hub

For information on a range of different online safety topics including gaming, social media, sharing images, parental controls and more.

www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety

Childline – under 12's

Childline have an accessible website with advice, support, games and activities. Children can change the language, enlarge text and also listen to the content.

www.childline.org.uk/buddy (5-7)

www.childline.org.uk/kids (7-11)

Talk PANTS with your children

Talk PANTS is a simple conversation to help keep children safe from sexual abuse. From P through to S, each letter of PANTS provides simple but important messages. Download the free resources at

www.nspcc.org.uk/pants.

The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, launched 'The Big Ambition', a national survey of children and young people across England. The Big Ambition aims to hear from children across England about what they think is important! In the lead up to the next General Election, the Children's Commissioner wants to take children's thoughts, opinions and ideas to decision-makers, to make sure that the Government hears young people's voices on what they think needs to be done to make children's lives better in England. Please sit with your child to complete the survey to make sure that the children and young people of London are fairly represented in the results. The Big Ambition survey will be open until Friday 19th January. You can complete the survey at www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition

Autumn Term 2023

Return to School: Wed 6th Sept 2023
 Half Term Break: Mon 16th Oct - Fri 27th Oct
 Term Ends: Friday 8th Dec 2023

Spring Term 2024:

Return to School: Wed 3rd Jan 2024
 Half Term Break: Mon 12th Feb to Fri 16th Feb
 Term Ends: Thursday 28th March 2024

Summer Term 2024:

Return to School: Tue 23rd April 2024
 Half Term Break: Mon 27th May - Fri 31st May
 Term Ends: Friday 12th July 2024

Autumn Term 2024:

Return to School Wed 4th Sept 2024

Autumn Term 2024

Return to School: Wed 4th Sept 2024
 Half Term Break: Mon 21st Oct – Fri 1st Nov
 Term Ends: Friday 13th Dec 2024

Spring Term 2024:

Return to School: Wed 8th Jan 2025
 Half Term Break: Mon 17th Feb to Fri 21st Feb
 Term Ends: Friday 28th March 2025

Summer Term 2024:

Return to School: Tue 22nd April 2025
 Half Term Break: Mon 26th May - Fri 30th May
 Term Ends: Friday 11th July 2025

Autumn Term 2024:

Return to School Wed 3rd Sept 2025

- 15th – 26th January:** Form 3 and 4 Swimming every morning
- 15th January:** Form 6 trip to Natural History Museum.
- 16th January:** London Borough of Barnet visit to see the Junior Travel Ambassadors.
- 18th January:** Form 6 trip to Houses of Parliament / Form 2 trip to Tower of London.
- 19th January:** Form 1 trip to Natural History Museum.
- 22nd January:** Resident Poet, Neal Zetter, visit.
- 24th January:** EYFS Welly Wednesday.
- 26th January:** Form 5 trip to ragged school / Pre-loved uniform sale
- 29th Jan – 9th Feb:** Form 5 and 6 Swimming every morning.
- 29th January:** EYFS yoga studio trip.
- 1st February:** Form 3 trip to Hampstead Heath.
- 2nd February:** La Chandeleur day
- W/b 5th February:** Children’s Mental Health Week
- 6th February:** Safer Internet Day
- 7th February:** EYFS Welly Wednesday / Form 3 and 4 to MMK for an Art session
- 8th February:** Topic Homework Walkabout: Parents welcome from 8.10am – 8.40am
- 14th March:** International Maths Day
- 18th March:** Parent workshop on E-Safety at 5pm

Bike Checks

Due to the success of the Dr Bikes in December, there has been demand to continue these into the new year. The free Dr Bike sessions will be run by qualified bicycle mechanics. Members of the public can take along their adult and child bicycles to have a full safety check, which includes the condition of tyres, rims, gears, brake function and tyre pressure and adjustments can be made if required, without any charges incurred. You can visit a session at the following locations/dates/times on a rotating basis each month:

Location Name	Location Description	Date	Time
Lodge Lane car park	Yellow chevrons immediately to the right of the entrance to the Car Park (opposite NL Auction Rooms N12 8JH)	10/01/2024	4pm to 7pm
Middlesex University	Pavement on The Burroughs outside Middlesex University opposite Babington Rd NW4 4BT	17/01/2024	4pm to 7pm
Temple Fortune	By Bike racks outside entrance to M&S Food Hall at 820 Finchley Road, NW11 6XL	24/01/2024	4pm to 7pm
Stapylton Rd car park	Area immediately to the right of carpark entrance (EN5 4LR)	31/01/2024	4pm to 7pm
Lodge Lane car park	Yellow chevrons immediately to the right of the entrance to the Car Park (opposite NL Auction Rooms N12 8JH)	07/02/2024	4pm to 7pm
Middlesex University	Pavement on The Burroughs outside Middlesex University opposite Babington Rd NW4 4BT	14/02/2024	4pm to 7pm
Temple Fortune	By Bike racks outside entrance to M&S Food Hall at 820 Finchley Road, NW11 6XL	21/02/2024	4pm to 7pm
Stapylton Rd car park	Area immediately to the right of carpark entrance (EN5 4LR)	28/02/2024	4pm to 7pm
Lodge Lane car park	Yellow chevrons immediately to the right of the entrance to the Car Park (opposite NL Auction Rooms N12 8JH)	06/03/2024	4pm to 7pm
Middlesex University	Pavement on The Burroughs outside Middlesex University opposite Babington Rd NW4 4BT	13/03/2024	4pm to 7pm
Temple Fortune	By Bike racks outside entrance to M&S Food Hall at 820 Finchley Road, NW11 6XL	20/03/2024	4pm to 7pm
Stapylton Rd car park	Area immediately to the right of carpark entrance (EN5 4LR)	27/03/2024	4pm to 7pm