

## St Martin's Post

Issue 240

26th January 2024

School council have gathered ideas from the children about ways they could improve their school. Football goals and an improved outside learning space were the two most popular responses. Having raised enough money for the football goals, the children now have their sights set on the new learning space. The council believe they need £4000.00. They have decided to hold a sponsored walk to raise funds for this exciting project. Please see the attached sponsor sheet for each child to collect sponsorship pledges from friends and family members. We will collect the forms and money on the day of the sponsored walk - 28<sup>th</sup> February.



## This Week's Shooting Stars



**Isabel** Good letter formation

**Zayn Ali** Great teamwork when making a treasure map

**Freddie** Showing a great understanding when dividing (sharing)

**Rania** A superb prosecution case against Henry V111

**Aarav** Attempting the most challenging tasks in both science and maths

**Charlotte** Working hard to make great progress in reading

**Avi M** A fabulous story about a naughty robot

**Israel** Being super organised at swimming and always being the first one ready!

**Oliver K** Showing excellent learning behaviours in Maths

**Oliver K** Achieving highly when organising a scientific experiment

**Amar M** Achieving highly when writing a newspaper report

**Alayna** Showing excellent learning behaviours in Maths

**Jacob** Producing wonderful artwork and evaluating his own work so well

**Lara** Becoming increasingly confident in her maths skills

Congratulations to **Max O** and **Ari** who were each awarded a Head Teacher's Award this week for superb writing to develop characters! Well done to you both.

**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 –

Husain Zack H Christina Andrea

We are delighted to congratulate **Shungo**, **Aman M**, **Avi B** and **Yugo S** who have all progressed in the Primary Maths Challenge to compete in the National Championships. This is a huge achievement and we are incredibly proud of them all. The next round will take place on 6<sup>th</sup> April. Good Luck Boys!!

Form 4's trip to Fulham Palace has now been rescheduled to Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> Feb. We are aware that this coincides with Safer Internet Day, however, Form 4 will cover this content on another day in the week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> February.

Please take some time to look at the dates list below – so additions have been made. Thank you

**This week** Children enjoyed a visit from our associate poet, Neal Zetter. Great fun was had by all – listening to and joining in his fun poems! Children also had follow up lessons for the NSPCC 'Speak out, stay safe' sessions.

In EYFS, the children have been learning how to subtract single digits in Numeracy in a variety of ways including written calculations or ice-cream scoops in the sensory tray. In Language and communication, they have been thinking about prepositions in their sentence writing about their core texts Handa's Surprise and Oliver's vegetables as well as capital letters and full stops. Children thought about rhyming, rhythm, digraphs and trigraphs in their relevant phonics groups and it was lovely to see how many children have been practising their tricky words at home. In Knowledge and Understanding of the World, children have learned about their skeleton and different bones we have in our bodies. For their expressive arts and design, on Wednesday, EYFS enjoyed their Welly Wednesday session at the park where they found colours in nature and thought about how these are different in different seasons and finished off with some tree rubbings to make a variety of patterns. They have also been celebrating Tu Bishvat by making fruit drawings and clay shapes and enjoyed colouring, painting and hanging them on the bay trees outside the front door of the school for display.

During Form 1's English lessons this week, the children used adjectives, similes and 'and' to write their own settings for the story they are creating based on their core text 'Where The Wild Things Are'. For Maths this week, the children continued their division learning with both practical and picture representations. Form 1 have shared equally between respective groups and started to draw or write division question. For DT and Topic this week, the children have continued to create their own dinosaur pop-up books, by finding and writing their own facts about their favourite dinosaurs. For their Computing lessons, Form 1 have been using their algorithm knowledge to try and direct their BeeBots around a map.

In Form 2, the children have been preparing their class assembly and are very excited to share this with you next Thursday. In Maths, they have been understanding the inverse operation by 'undoing' their calculations. During DT Form 2 have about materials and mechanisms such as wheels and hinges by making siege towers and shields. The children thought about vibrations during science, making sounds and learning how relative position affects volume. They have learned about key parts of a castle from battlements to barbican. The children loved re-telling the story of Little Red Riding Hood in French. Learning through stories continued as a theme in RE, in which the children thought about peace and forgiveness using the story of Matthew and Jesus. In RSHE, they thought about working with others and applied this in their PE lessons by passing rugby balls whilst moving forwards.

In addition to their daily swimming, this week Form 3 have been writing Poems in English; impressing Mr Neal Zetter with some of their rhymes, when he came in to school for a poetry visit. In Maths, they consolidated their learning of the Year 3 curriculum and assessed what they have learned thus far. They have been completing their AAOs and have begun the Year 4 curriculum, beginning with place value, adding thousands, hundreds, tens and ones. They created fact files about Stone Age and have investigated the colour spectrum and wondered how different animals see the world. In RE, they considered the qualities needed to be a church leader and in DT the children were very excited as they began to assemble their wheeled models.

The most wonderful court trial took place in Form 4 as Henry VIII took to the stand charged with being a bad king. Written balanced arguments for/against speeches followed in their English lessons. During Maths, the children finished their algebra topic by finding an unknown value and begun to think about calculations to find area and perimeter. Form 4 split their science lesson this week in order to conduct an observation experiment 'over-time' that investigated the effect of different liquids on calcium in an attempt to learn the best way to look after our teeth. The children were most surprised to see vinegar separate the egg shell from the inside of the egg. In DT the children continued the theme of their core text 'Demon Dentist' by making dentistry items such as toothbrushes or drills with electric motors. This Tudor theme continued in Topic with children conducting research into monarchs and other famous Tudor figures of their choice. In French, the children particularly enjoyed using their weather vocabulary to form a weather report. All this as well as their daily swimming – well done Form 4!

In Form 5's English lessons this week, the children have been using their new knowledge of active and passive verbs, as well as direct and reported speech, to create a variety of news reports to inform their audience of an event in Cogheart. In science, they have been learning how water resistance affects objects of different mass, shape and size. In Form 5's Topic lesson, they studied a variety of Victorian sources to help them understand how the lives of children have changed in the last 200 years, discovering how children were used for labour in factories and mines; from this, they have planned different news reports to represent their findings. In Computing, children have been using microcontrollers to program multiple components at the same time using count-controlled loops. Like EYFS, Form 5 also learnt about the Jewish festival of Tu Bishvat, which was on

Thursday and is traditionally a time when Jewish people plant new trees or saplings to symbolise the importance of regeneration and new life. They also wrote letters to their local council asking for more trees to be planted in the local area and explained why this was important. On Friday, the children visited the Ragged School Museum (a Victorian school) to link with their topic of Revolution. They came dressed as Victorian children and experienced how different school was for children in the 19th century.

Form 6's 11+ written exams are over and they are now delighting in rehearsing their lines for the play and developing their characters' style and flourishes. In Guided Reading, the children enjoyed making inferences from the song 'defying gravity' from Wicked. In Art they have continued their close, closer, closest unit by thinking about 1 point perspectives, horizons and vanishing points. In Computing, they have been applying their knowledge of variables in the context of computer games. During Topic, they have been learning about Fair Trade by drawing comparisons between big businesses and fair trade farmers as well as comparing earnings for men, women and children. In RE, the children read about different belief points and considered where to place them on a sliding scale from strong theism to strong atheism. In French and RSHE, the children have been thinking about themselves by considering 'me in my world' in French and writing letters to their future selves in RSHE.

**Next Week** From Monday, Forms 5 and 6 will begin their daily swimming and alternative timetable for two weeks.

On Monday, EYFS are looking forward to visiting a Yoga studio as part of their 'healthy living' unit.

In assembly, we will think about Iranian and Persian mid-winter festival Jashn e Sadeh and the legend of King Hoshang.

On Tuesday, the choir will perform at the O2 Arena as part of the Young Voices choir. If you haven't already, now is the time to follow us on social media – @stmartinsmillhill

On Thursday, Form 2 will be delivering their class assembly to their parents and Form 1 and Form 3 will visit Hampstead Heath for their trip this half term.

On Friday, it is La Chandleur, which marks the Christian celebration of Candlemas and is considered the last cycle of the Christmas celebration. In School, Mrs Boxer will celebrate this by making pancakes with each class during her lessons on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Also on Friday it is the Japanese festival Setsubun the day before the beginning of spring in the old lunar calendar in Japan; it is a day to drive away evil spirits and welcome good fortune.

**IEP Meetings** We are proud of the additional support we give to ensure all pupils are enabled to reach their full potential. If your child has an Individual Education Plan (IEP), these are reviewed once a term, after half term. It is important that we share your child's progress and next step targets and hear your views about how they are doing. Please ensure you have booked your appointment to speak with Mrs Davies, via the office.

**Parental Questionnaire** We strive to improve and develop, therefore we are asking that you complete a short parent survey to share your feedback. Please either follow the link or scan the QR code below.

https://forms.office.com/e/R3Mwyc1Mau



**Litter Picking** We are proud to support our local community by litter picking in the area thanks to the provision of litter pickers, gloves and bags from Mill Hill Residents Association. The Eco-Council have arranged a list of dates for each Form to be out in the local area endeavouring to keep it clean and tidy. Please see the list of dates below for the day your child/ren will be taking part in this important endeavour.

**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

**29<sup>th</sup> Jan – 9<sup>th</sup> Feb:** Form 5 and 6 Swimming every morning.

**29**<sup>th</sup> **January:** EYFS yoga studio trip.

**30<sup>th</sup> January:** Choir Young Voices performing at the 02 arena

**31**st **January:** La Chandeleur day

**1<sup>st</sup> February:** Form 3 trip to Hampstead Heath / Form 2 Class Assembly

**2<sup>nd</sup> February:** Setsubun

W/b 5<sup>th</sup> February: Children's Mental Health Week

**5<sup>th</sup> February:** Form 4 Litter Picking session

**6<sup>th</sup> February:** Safer Internet Day / Form 4 visit to Fulham Palace / Round 2 Primary Maths Challenge

**7<sup>th</sup> February:** EYFS Welly Wednesday / Form 3 and 4 to MMK for an Art session

**8<sup>th</sup> February:** Topic Homework Walkabout: Parents welcome from 8.10am – 8.40am

w/b 19th February: IEP Meetings

**21**st **February:** EYFS Welly Wednesday

**28**<sup>th</sup> **February:** EYFS Maths Come Learn with me – Session one / Sponsored Walk

**29<sup>th</sup> February:** Form 4 Royal Observatory trip / EYFS Maths Come Learn with Me – Session Two

**W/b 4<sup>th</sup> March:** Bikeability Form 6

**4<sup>th</sup> March:** Form 1 Tate Modern trip

**6<sup>th</sup> March:** EYFS Welly Wednesday

**7<sup>th</sup> March:** World Book Day

**8<sup>th</sup> March:** Form 3 Golden Hinde trip

**11<sup>th</sup> March:** Barnet Swimming Gala / British Museum Trip Form 5

**12<sup>th</sup> March:** Form 6 Bank of England trip

**14<sup>th</sup> March:** International Maths Day

**18<sup>th</sup> March:** Parent workshop on E Safety at 5pm delivered by Police Officer, Michelle Davies

**19**<sup>th</sup> **March:** Show costumes due in to school, tech rehearsal.

**20<sup>th</sup> March:** World Story Telling Day

**21**st **March** World Poetry Day / Dress Rehearsal

**25<sup>th</sup> March:** Form 2 Southend on Sea trip / Form 3 Class assembly / EYFS visit to the church

**26<sup>th</sup> March:** Whole School Show Matinee at Hartley Hall (details to come)

**27<sup>th</sup> March:** Upper School Matilda Trip

**28<sup>th</sup> March:** Easter bonnet parade and Easter Egg hunt - Whole School Show – evening

performance (details to come)

**23<sup>rd</sup> April:** Earth Day

**24<sup>th</sup> April:** Form 2 Litter Picking

**26<sup>th</sup> April:** Open Day

w/c 29<sup>th</sup> April: Form 6 PGL Trip

**14<sup>th</sup> May:** Form 1 Litter Picking

**16<sup>th</sup> May:** Form 1 Class assembly

**21<sup>st</sup> May:** Form 6 Class assembly