

# St Martin's Post

Issue 243

23rd February 2024

On Wednesday, we will be completing our sponsored walk! Thank you to the School Council for arranging such a fun and worthwhile event. All children to please come to school wearing their PE kit and remember to return your sponsorship form and monies next week. Fingers crossed it's a warm, dry day!



## This Week's Shooting Stars



**Ilias** Helping his friend during snack time

Mila Being kind to her friends

**Haadi** Always willing to try new things during PE sessions

**Reuben** Excellent engagement during PE

**Nyla** Excellent listening

**Avi** Good balancing!

**Kyeisha** Good sentence writing about her caterpillar

**Shaan** Great resilience and independent work understanding number rounding

**Dylan** Incredible enthusiasm in Maths this week

**Alessandro** Settling in to Form 2 so well

**Quinn** Great work telling the time

**Anushka** Dramatic improvement with handwriting and presentation

**Noah G** Making great improvements in all homework tasks

**Tiam** Demonstrating excellent maths skills

**Izzy** Making good inferences about the Form 5 new class text

**Isla** Achieving by independently using colons and semi-colons

**Victoria** Producing beautiful artwork

Well done to those who received a **Head Teacher's Award** this week – **Zahi** for independent poetry writing and **Dylan** for excellent writing and progress in French. Very special recognition must also go to **Husain** – who after working so hard on his DT portfolio has been offered a scholarship to Merchant Taylor's - 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 –

Rania Suleman Amar M Israel

We are delighted to share with you the exciting news that The Safe & Sustainable Travel department at Barnet Council have offered us a grant of £1000 and recognised that our school has managed to achieve great things in the TfL Travel for Life programme. Particular thanks must go to Mrs Doherty, Mrs Shannon and the newly named TFL Explorers (previously called Junior Travel Ambassadors). The TFL explorers have decided to put this money towards new blue Hi-Vis jackets to keep us safe when we travel out of school.

**This Week** all children have begun to learn their scenes for the whole school play in their music lesson and key rehearsals.

This week EYFS adopted a little pet chameleon who needed some friends, the children named it Sunny. Sunny will be spending some time visiting the children and meeting all our children's families. They were very excited to read the Very Hungry Caterpillar and expanded on this by learning some new vocabulary and the children added their own little twist to the story. Maths sessions focused on different 2D shapes and their different properties and the pupils compared them to other shapes. The children also started to investigate some 3D shapes! During bug investigations, EYFS counted how many legs caterpillars have, what happened to their skin when they grow and how it comes about that they can turn into a butterfly. In Expressive Art and Design, they drew and used different materials such as clay to make a caterpillar, and painted symmetry painting of a butterfly. Personal, Social and Emotional lessons looked at individual strengths and areas for development.

During English this week, Form 1 received their copy of their new text 'Traction Man is Here', by Mini Grey. Before starting to read the story, the children looked at the front cover, back cover and the blurb to try and predict what they think the story might be about. For Maths, Form 1 have been extending their knowledge of place value. They have worked on partitioning 3 and 4 digit numbers, with the use of dienes (base-10 apparatus). In their new science topic, 'Everyday Materials', Form 1 have been looking at the features of common everyday materials. They also investigated which materials we can see around us. During Geography lessons, Form 1 have looked at maps and globes, with a focus of learning about and finding the Earth's different continents. To introduce their new topic of 'Superheroes', Form 1's Wonder Session involved making wonderful carrot muffins to give our Superheroes super strength from the nutrients in carrots!

Form 2's English lessons have focussed on learning suffixes –ing, -er, -est and –ed and the children have been planning their writing based on the Snail and the Whale. In Maths, they have learned telling the time to 5 minute intervals. During History lessons, we have learned about Columbus and characteristics such as bravery. Form 2 also learned a little about slavery and racism which was prevalent at this time. During Art they have created some phenomenal direct observation drawings using shading techniques. In Computing, the children have begun to make tally charts for electronic graphs.

In Form 3, for their WOW day, the children learnt about Annie Edson Taylor. The children have been thinking about fiction and non-fiction texts in English and begun reading their new class text 'Wind in the Willows'. Their Maths this week has been rounding and in science, they have been learning about the parts of a plant and flower as well as starting their observation over time investigations. In Art, the children are looking at water colour techniques that they might use in their final pieces this half term. Branching databases is the theme in the Form 3 computing lessons and in Digital Literacy, they have begun to think about creating digital content. For French they have been learning to say the phrase "Today I am wearing..." with a range of clothing and description.

Form 4 have started their text 'Alice in Wonderland' and started to think about play scripts based on the Mad Hatter's tea party. They have also been thinking about possessive apostrophes and semi-colons in clauses to include in their writing. For Maths, they have been thinking about numbers less than one including decimals and negative numbers, they have also been converting decimals to fractions. Solids, liquids and gases has proven to be a really interesting topic in science and we been defining these and thinking about the changes to states of matter. We have also studied British map work and in Art the children have analysed Tenniel's drawings in Lewis Carrol's original Alice in Wonderland text.

Form 5 had their WOW day in which Mr Guyster mummified Miss Okodi by extracting body parts! They had a wonderful time learning about the process involved. They began their core text and thought about planning and researching informative texts about the Tutankhamun's tomb discovery. In addition, this week the children have looked at a range of ancient Egyptian artefacts for their Topic lesson and applied the mummification process to tomatoes in their science lesson to begin observations over time. In Maths, the Form 5 have started Algebra and have been working on function machines; forming equations and substitutions. Some pupils even successfully completed Year 7 algebraic word problems! In DT, the children finished their zoetropes, programmed the crumble to make it spin and created their own cinematic screenings. As part of their Computing, the children debugged their programming to ensure their zoetrope spun at the correct speed.

Form 6 are finalising their show promotion material during English lessons. In Maths, Form 6 have started the Year 7 curriculum with angles in polygons and quadrilaterals. All pupils met the challenge and have applied GCSE formulae to problem solve. Mrs Marsh Henry is so proud of them! Form 6's Digital Literacy was their evaluation of

the Fruit catcher game that they created last half term. In History, they started their Maya Civilisation work by creating their own promotion resources. We have enjoyed seeing the array of videos, posters and PowerPoint presentations. In DT they have extended the work they did in Form 3 with Cam mechanisms and reminded themselves about which mechanisms can be used to create each movement.

**Next Week** Is empathy week and this will be the theme of some playground games. In PSHE lessons also, rehearsals continue, as per the schedule sent out.

On Wednesday and Thursday, EYFS will be holding their Maths 'come learn with me' sessions – please check your e-mails to see which session you are invited to.

On Wednesday afternoon, the children will be doing their sponsored walk. Please ensure the sponsor sheets and money are sent into school on or before Wednesday.

On Thursday, Form 4 will be visiting the Royal Observatory.

### \*\* World Book Day - 7th March 2024\*\*

Please find attached a flyer outlining our World Book Day competition – I think you'll consider it a fun one!

On World Book Day, please encourage your child to wear a Book related costume to take part on a day of educational fun all about reading exceptional books.

Thank you for helping to make this a great day for you children, Mr Guyster

#### **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 1st 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

**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 – Wear a book related costumes please!

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

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

**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 to be in school for full technical rehearsal

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

**21<sup>st</sup> March:** World Poetry Day

**21**st March: Dress rehearsal

**25<sup>th</sup> March:** Form 2 Southend on Sea trip / Form 3 class assembly / EYFS Church visit

**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 – Please help us spread the word! Thank you

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