

St Martin's Post

Issue 244

1st March 2024

This week's sponsored walk was a huge success. Well done and Thank you to everyone who participated. The children were fabulous in their efforts walking, jogging, running and skipping around the track at Mill Hill Park. Each lap is 1km and children managed between 2 and 7 laps within the hour! If you have not yet sent this form and money in, please do so next week so that we can count up the final total raised towards the school council's outdoor learning space and award the prizes in assembly next Friday.



This Week's Shooting Stars



Carter Showing resilience during our sponsored walk

Saniya Demonstrating a great understanding of 'time'

Matias Great enthusiasm during our sponsored walk

Anya Writing wonderful sentences about her favourite superhero for our topic work

Ali Demonstrating excellent understanding of 'time' work

Kaylan Excellent effort when writing persuasively

Kush Being fantastic at rounding numbers

Joshua G Amazing progress in Maths

Tiam Fantastic progress in Maths

Tiam Showing resilience to improve his handwriting

Amar M Using scientific language to conclude his experiment on electro-conductivity

Jayden E Displaying exceptional learning behaviour for successful progress

Well done to those who received a **Head Teacher's Award** this week – **Shayan** for superb writing and presentation in his Egyptian Topic and work and **Israel** for showing strength and resilience in his learning and being a kind friend.

Well done to you both.. 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 morning break-time on Monday –

Sophia T Abir Yoahan Siyona

Come Learn with me Thank you to all the EYFS parents who joined us for the 'Come learn with me' sessions on Maths this week. The children really enjoy sharing their learning with you and we hope it helps you to understand the way we teach at St Martin's a little better. As ever, if you have any further questions or ideas, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

This Week the school council have been sharing empathy. They have been encouraging children to think about how others feel in certain situations by using the 'Pass It On' cards. Children consider how someone else feels and they talk about it then pass the card on to the new child. Everyone also took part in the School Council's sponsored walk on Wednesday. We have rehearsed songs for the 'Cinderella and Rockerfella' show including the actions. Please do keep practising these at home! Also, CAT4 tests for reasoning have taken place this week. Please ask at your Parent/Teacher meeting if you are keen to know the results of these and any other recent test results.

EYFS have had a very busy week with their 2 'Come Learn With Me' mornings, the children were very proud to show off their Maths skills. This week's focus was 'time' which excited the children and led to a host of other objectives being considered including counting in 5s, doubling, ordering numbers and subsidizing. During phonics, EYFS have practiced the correct letter formation when writing their names. They also had a look at capital letters and lower-case letters and when to use them correctly. With Communication and Language, EYFS are focusing on recognising their names and extending sentences when communicating using connectives such as and, but, so and because. In Knowledge and Understanding of the World and Expressive Art and Design, the children have been thinking about all sorts of things linked to spiders. Be careful when you open their lunch boxes today!

During English this week, Form 1 have been writing about their favourite superheroes and heroes (doctors, nurses, etc), making sure to explain why they are their heroes. The children have also been learning how to use and write their own speech bubbles for characters in a story. Form 1 have turned common nouns into proper nouns. For Maths, Form 1 have been continuing to order and compare 3 and 4-digit numbers, making sure they look at the largest digit first. Their science lesson was about 'everyday materials'. They went on a materials hunt around school and managed items made of different materials which they compared. During Art lessons, the children started to learn about the Pop-Artist, Andy Warhol. They focused on Andy Warhol's depiction of Marilyn Monroe. They then created their own in a similar style. For their Geography topic, Form 1 have been continuing to use maps and globes by learning about and finding the different oceans of the World.

Form 2 have continued to practise time including word problems. Literacy has been all about persuasive writing as the children have decided whether they think the snail should go with the whale or if she should stay on her rock. In art they have begun to develop their observational drawing skills by practising techniques to add texture to their drawings. Captain James Cook has been the focus of Topic and they have discussed the similarities and differences between his actions and those of Christopher Columbus.

Form 3 have been planning, researching and drafting non-fiction fact files, posters and brochures based on guides to the Riverbank from Wind in the Willows in their English sessions. In Maths, they have looked at Roman numerals and learnt how to round to the nearest ten and hundred. During RE, the children heard about the prophet Muhammed and his special place - Mount Hera. They considered their own special places where they like to think and read. In Geography, they looked at the features of a river and created a long, annotated river in the playground running from the source to the mouth and added some key features along the way. In science the children enjoyed planting bean seeds and thought about some of the variables we could alter when considering what a plant needs to grow successfully. They eagerly await what may happen next. They also completed their CAT 4 reasoning tests and learnt about branching data bases in IT. In art, they created a portrait of Claude Monet using pastels to create a similar style.

Form 4 have enjoyed maths this week learning about co-ordinates with 4 quadrants and reflections of 2D shapes. They have busily written play scripts and instructions to play Flamingo Croquet, using adverbial phrases. They also answered comprehension questions with detailed reference to textual evidence. They loved their science lesson where they learned about solids, liquids and changing matters but he highlight of their week was their trip to the Royal Observatory and the Greenwich Prime Meridian where they really put their map reading skills to good use!

Form 5 have worked so hard in Maths this week - working on forming expressions, solving equations using formulae and substitution. They have consolidated their learning by completing maths mysteries and writing their own equations. In English, they have been writing informative texts around the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb. They have begun final drafts of their work and continued to read and analyse their class text, 'Secrets of a Sun King'. In Verbal Reasoning they looked at applying rules to make new words from a set. During science, Form 5 have explored the properties of materials. The children asked a question they wanted to find out the answer to and considered the different experiment types to choose the most relevant method and ensure they are working scientifically. These ranged from 'Which materials are electro-conductive?' to 'How might we make paper waterproof?'. They planned their experiment, conducted it and concluded their results. In Latin the children have been using subject and object nouns in the plural in translation.

Form 6 have been investigating an aspect of Mexican culture (to link with their half-term theme). They have researched these with the intention of planning and creating an informative text of their choice ranging from newspaper reports to documentaries to websites. In Maths, the children are working on Year 7 concepts; using formulae to find the radius and diameter of a circle. In History, Form 6 are thinking about the Maya Civilisation. The children are finalising their own promotion resources in a range of formats including videos, posters and presentations. During science, they have researched the 4 main habitats and identifying mammals and plant life that live in each habitat. In French, the focus has been describing the weather in France and the UK. For PHSE, the unit is called 'Healthy Me' and the children have created their own 'Being Healthy' brochures.

Next Week is National School Breakfast Week and the children will be offered samples of breakfasts from around the world and Form 6 have their Bikeability sessions throughout the week.

Monday – Form 1 are visiting the Tate Modern and Form 3 are litter picking in the local area.

Tuesday – Some children will be taking their music exams and we wish you all the very best of luck.

Wednesday – EYFS are out on their Welly Wednesday outing.

Thursday – World Book Day – Be sure to have your costume ready! We will be running the first half of the show at Hartley Hall in the afternoon. Form 3 leave to go to the Golden Hinde.

Friday – Form 3 return from the Golden Hinde as fully fledged pirates. The NSPCC are visiting Form 2, 5 and 6 to deliver follow up sessions about the 'Speak out, Stay safe' unit. Mrs Wilson will be celebrating International Women's Day in assembly.

Staff Development As part of our performance management process, we encourage all staff to improve their knowledge and skills so that we can support the children in the best possible way. We would like to congratulate Mrs Bent for completing a range of PE courses that she has been working towards including: coaching styles and techniques, the Football Association's Disney inspired Shooting Stars and Cricketlab's coaching qualification. This will further develop her knowledge and understanding in sport specific areas and compliments her BA in Education that has supported her strong behaviour management and knowledge of pedagogy which has proven very effective in her teaching of PE lessons. A huge congratulations to her.

Form 3 and 4 Secondary Schools and Scholarships Meeting On Wednesday 24th April at 3pm, Mrs Mbah and Mr Guyster will be running a parent workshop to discuss secondary school options and what to consider if your child is likely to apply for a scholarship. This will take place at school and is open to Form 3 and 4 parents.

DIARY DATES

W/b 4th March: Bikeability Form 6

4th March: Form 1 Tate Modern trip

6th March: EYFS Welly Wednesday

7th **March:** World Book Day – Wear a book related costumes please!

8th March: Form 3 Golden Hinde trip

11th March: Form 5 British Museum trip / Barnet Swimming Gala

12th March: Form 6 Bank of England trip

14th March: International Maths Day

18th March: Parent workshop on E-Safety at 5pm delivered by Police Officer, Michelle Davies

19th **March:** Show costumes to be in school for full technical rehearsal

20th March: World Story telling Day

21st **March:** World Poetry Day

21st March: Dress rehearsal

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

26th March: Whole School Show Matinee at Hartley Hall 2pm Start – tickets go on sale next week

27th March: Upper School Matilda trip

28th March: Easter bonnet parade and Easter Egg hunt - Whole School Show – 5.30pm start –

tickets go on sale next week

23rd April: Earth Day

24th April: Form 2 Litter Picking /

At 3pm Form 3 and 4 parents - secondary school scholarship meeting (see above)

26th April: Open Day – Please help us spread the word! Thank you

w/c 29th April: Form 6 PGL Trip

14th May: Form 1 Litter Picking

16th May: Form 1 Class assembly

21st May: Form 6 Class assembly

Parent/Teacher meetings All parents should now have received an invitation to meet their child's teacher during the week beginning 18th March. If you have not yet received this or the time allocated is not convenient, please reply to the class teacher to arrange a new time. We look forward to sharing your child's progress with you and welcome any feedback you may have.

** 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 your children, Mr Guyster

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

Thank you Mrs Mbah would like to say a personal thank-you to all the parents who have spoken to her or sent an individual email since she announced her leaving. She is very humbled by all your kind words and gratitude and would like to express how fortunate she feels to have had such supportive parents and welcoming school community.