

St Martin's Post

Issue 249

10th May 2024

A huge thank you to the FoSMS committee for working so hard to ensure Sunday's bingo afternoon is a huge success. We look forward to welcoming you to Hartley Hall at 3pm - please come along, we know your children will have a great time!



This Week's Shooting Stars



EYFS Being wonderful during our trip to the aquarium

Great work on numbers bonds beyond 10 Gabriel

Saniya Wonderful work during our phonics session

Kyeisha Being a kind and caring friend

Form One Being so well behaved and full of curiosity during our school trip

Making lovely progress in non-verbal reasoning **Alycia**

Amba Writing a beautifully detailed observation in science 'sound' experiments

Bhim Excellent and thoughtful science diagrams for ears, megaphones and string telephones

Sophia T Focussed work and improvement in all areas of maths

Aum Making great progress with comprehension work

Mila Working really hard and making great progress

Joshua G Excellent contributions in science about plant growth

Zakariya Achieving highly in his informative writing

This week, **Adam H and Oliver K** received a Head Teacher's Award for their excellent news report about climate change. Congratulations also to **Jayden** for writing an excellent sentence about a helicopter, following his role play about how the police help us.

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 –

> **Dahlia** Shaan Jacob Zoe

Please continue to send your child into school wearing sunscreen and with a hat and sunscreen for the duration of the Summer Term.

Grandparent's Tea

We are pleased to announce that we will be hosting our first ever 'Grandparent's Tea' on Wednesday 12th June. Children will serve their guests afternoon tea and share pieces of work they are most proud of. Please ask your children's Grandparents to 'save the date' and we will be in touch with formal invitations and further details soon.

This Week EYFS have been developing their letter and name writing in Nursery and forming full sentences in Reception. It was lovely to see the children with their clipboards outside telling stories and using their core muscles whilst lying on the floor to write their name in huge letters. In Maths, the children worked on 1-10 correspondence, addition and number bonds. They particularly enjoyed driving the cars to the correct house to match the numicon and playing the pairs game with the big soft numicon. In Expressive Arts and Design, the children have been doing a range of creative tasks linked to their book 'The tiger that came to tea' including their Kid's Kitchen topic - making scones. In their 'Knowledge and Understanding of the World' session this week, the children began to think about marine life and how we can help protect out sea creatures. This led really well into the highlight of the week – their trip to the aquarium – where they were able to see the sea creatures they had been learning about and loved watching the penguins swimming under the water!

This week, Form 1 had a fantastic time at St. Paul's Cathedral and the Monument. They had the opportunity to dress up as important figures of the time and act out some of the events of the Great Fire. For their Art lessons, the children continued to make their houses from the Great Fire of London period, making sure to add detail. For part of our English lessons, the children concentrated on the homophones 'there', 'their' and 'they're' by writing sentences to contain each one. During English and Maths lessons, Form 1 undertook their end-of-year assessments, which will be used to prioritise learning gaps and next steps as well as to inform the end of year assessments.

Form 2 have been expressing time in their English lessons with conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions about Belle's first adventure on her bike in their core text 'The bee who spoke'. In Maths, the children have been reminding themselves of place value to a thousand and writing numbers in both digits and words. For their Topic lesson, Form 2 have researched human and physical geographical features to use in their informative writing. For Computing the children have been using Chrome Lab's Melody Maker to create insect sounds and thinking about pitch and continuous or intermittent sounds. During French the class learnt 5 new verbs – swimming, painting, singing, playing (an instrument) and speaking (French) that they could use to talk about their hobbies and completed their French 'Our Planet' posters from Earth Day last week. During their RE lesson the children have learned about the Buddhist temple in advance of their trip next week.

This week, in English, Form 3 have been fine tuning their instructional witch spells and performing them to be filmed and uploaded to their class YouTube channel. Stay tuned! In Maths they have looked at equivalent fractions, not only discussing and calculating them but also making them out of pancakes, wraps and jam tarts and of course eating them. Maths has never been so tasty! During RE the children began to think of ideas to create artwork for this year's Spirited Arts competition. In Science they investigated the sugar content of their favourite breakfast cereals and learnt how to spot the most sugar-filled culprits. During PE, the children have been learning techniques to improve their athletic skills for sports day. The children used their computing slot this week to undertake their assessments using the laptops.

Form 4 have been doing their comprehension sessions on their class text 'Journey to the river sea' by making points with evidence and linking it to other texts or their own knowledge for an explanation. They have also been looking at how to vary the position of adverbial phrases within the sentence in their English lessons. In Maths, Form 4 have been improving their approach to tackling 2-step problems with weight including decimal numbers and started to look at line graphs for temperature. In Science, they are continuing their sound unit by considering how sound travels through solids, liquids and gases and enjoyed making a string cup phone. During Topic lessons the children have been reading maps of the local area from different time periods to pursue their own lines of enquiry. In French they have been learning how to order food and drink and in RE they have been thinking about what happens at a Gurdwara for their unit on Sikhism.

This week, in English, Form 5 have finished off their informative texts about Climate Change; they have now looked at examples of persuasive texts and will be planning and writing their own with a range of audience including parents of St Martin's and the Prime Minister. During Science, Form 5 have investigated plant reproduction and growth; they have generated their own lines of enquiry and have planned investigations for next week including whether plants can grow in different liquids such as different fruit juices, why some seeds are on the outside of a fruit and which pollinators are most effective. In Form 5's Topic lesson, they wanted to learn about unique plants including carnivorous ones such as venus fly traps and the corpse flower. The children researched their chosen plant and presented their work in unique and interesting ways. In RSHE, they discussed the importance of friendships and how to deal with conflict in a positive way.

In English, as part of a spy school to link with their class text of 'Stormbreaker', Form 6 have finished planning their informative reports and will now take part in their own designed obstacle courses; they will record data from this to inform their reports including producing time and distance graphs. Each child has selected a text type and an audience to write for. In their Maths lessons, the children have been completing translations using co-ordinates and explaining translations that have occurred. In Science, Form 6 have been re-capping their knowledge of circuits and symbols in electricity and understanding how fossil fuels are used to become electricity. This links nicely with their Topic unit on sustainable energy, in which the children learnt about different types of energy sustainable energy sources. During RE, the children have been reminding themselves about Buddhist temples and learning about Buddhist ways of life including the 8-fold path wheel and the meanings of Buddha's postures and poses in preparation for their trip next week.

Next Week we are recognising Mental Health Awareness Week with the theme – 'Moving More for our Mental Health.'

Monday: Form 2 and 6 are visiting the Buddhist Temple

Tuesday: Form 1 will be out in the local community for their litter picking session

Wednesday: EYFS have their Welly Wednesday session and Talya will be reading with some Form 1

pupils.

Thursday: Form 1 class assembly takes place at 9am

<u>Congratulations</u> to Abir who has received a Merit pass in his Grade 2 Acoustic guitar exam. Well done, we are very proud of you.

School Council Update

The school council have been gathering opinions on the use of aprons in school. Whilst Lower School seem to have their own Art aprons, many of the Upper School pupils do not have this element of the school uniform. They feel that we should not need to buy these every year as this is wasteful and expensive. Additionally, as part of the review of single use plastic in Earth Day, it was noted that cooking aprons are only worn once and then disposed of. The School Council have made an excellent suggestion that each pupil pay for one apron and that we use these funds to purchase 8 sets of aprons to be kept in school – one set for Food Technology (Kid's Kitchen) and one set for Art for EYFS, Form 1/2, Form 3/4 and Form 5/6. This should reduce the overall cost to parents over time from having to buy a new apron that fits every few years to only funding 1 apron for the child's entire time at St Martin's School. We hope that this will lead to the pupils' clothes being kept cleaner and aprons being better cared for. We would like to invite any feedback from parents regarding this new idea. Please send any comments to the school council c/o Mrs Jacobs at office@stmartinsmillhill.co.uk

Music recitals

We are always so proud of our pupils' musical ability at St Martin's school and thrilled that so many of our pupils take up the opportunity to study an instrument. We will be showcasing the skills of our pupils with three upcoming recitals. All children who learn an instrument at school will have the opportunity to perform in their recital. We welcome parents and relatives to join us in school on the following days:

9am Tuesday 4th June - Form 4, 5 and 6

9am Tuesday 11th June - EYFA and Form 1

9am Tuesday 18th June - Form 2 and 3

Sun Hat

If your child needs a sun hat please see Mrs Jacobs.

Thank you

DIARY DATES

Sunday 12th May: Family Bingo Afternoon – please book your tickets now!

W/c 13th May: Mental Health Awareness Week

13th May Form 2 & 6 Trip to Leung Sharma Centre – No packed lunch required

14th May: Form 1 Litter Picking

15th May: EYFS Welly Wednesday, Talya reading to Form 1

16th May: Form 1 Class assembly

20th May: Form 3 trip to Horniman Museum

21st May: Form 6 Class assembly

23rd May: Form 2 & 5 trip to Kew Gardens, Topic Homework Walkabout (Parents welcome at 8.10)

W/c 3rd June: Spirited Arts Week

4th June: Form 4, 5 and 6 Music Recital 9am

5th June: Form 1 Synagogue trip, EYFS Welly Wednesday, F6 Forest School, F4 Islington Boat Club Trip

6th June: Form 4 & 5 Parent Workshop – RSHE + growing upat 5.30pm

10th June: Form 6 + EYFS Litter Picking

11th June: Form 2 Multi-skills competition

11th June: EYFS, & F1 Music Recital at 9am

12th June: Form 6 Forest School / Grandparent's Tea (details to come)

13th June: Form 6 Canada Villa Trip, Reception / F1 – Bedtime stories, F2 parent info for sleepover 3.45pm

14th June: Form 6 London Eye trip

W/c 17th June: National School Sports Week

17th June: Form 4 & 5 Growing up talk – changes

18 June: Form 2 & 3 Music Recital at 9am

19th June: 1.30 – 3.30 Sports Day and 5pm – 7pm Art Exhibition

20th June: EYFS and F5 Falconry visit, F6 Forest School and Kayaking

21st June: Form 3 and 6 Metalwork artist experience

Sunday 23rd June: School Summer Fete (please note, date change)

W/c 24th June: School Diversity and International Week

24th June: Form 4 & 5 Growing up talk – puberty

25th June: Musical auditions for prize day performers

26th June: Form 6 trip to Lille and EYFS class assembly

1st July: Form 4 & 5 Growing up talks – conception

2nd July: Form 5 Litter picking

3rd July: EYFS Welly Wednesday, F6 Forest School/Kayaking, Transition afternoon, Meet the teacher, New

parents' tea. Children will stay with their new teacher until 4.45pm.

5th July: Form 6 Forest School, F2 Sleepover

W/c 8th July: Clubs will not be running during the final week of term

11th July: Topic Homework Walkabout (Parents welcome 8.10 – 8.40) and 2pm Prize Giving

12th July: 2pm Form 6 parents invited to leavers service.

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

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 2025:

Return to School: Tue 22nd April 2025

Half Term Break: Mon 26th May - Fri 30th May

Term Ends: Friday 11th July 2025