



St Martin's Post

Edition 259

27th September 2024

★ Shooting Stars ★

Arjun - Gaining confidence in phonics

Ariella - Good attention during Music

Reyansh - Independence when coming into school

Mila M - Using wonderful labelling skills to label her own gingerbread house

Maverick - Great first week at St Martin's

Claudia - Being kind and nurturing with EYFS children

Nyla - Working hard on her diary writing, mastering paragraphs, editing her working and using a thesaurus.

Jessica Z - Fantastic descriptive story writing with neat handwriting

Dylan - Great work identifying descriptive language in our class text

Sophia E - Independently writing an excellent descriptive paragraph

Abir - achieving highly in his entertaining writing

Tiam - Demonstrating kindness and selflessness towards his peers

Pre-Loved Uniform Sale

We're excited to announce our Pre-Loved Uniform Sale on Friday, October 4th, from 3:30pm to 4:30pm. This is a great opportunity to pick up quality uniform items at affordable prices while promoting sustainability within our school community. Donations of gently used uniforms are also still welcome!

We hope to see you there!



This week at St Martin's

This week we started our phonics groups in **EYFS**. We have been working on correct letter formation for the letter “c” and our list one of helpful words. In Maths we have focused on one more and one less, 2D shapes and some 3D shapes. In Understanding the World, we looked at Mercury and Venus. We also created an Autumn tree. During PHSE we talked about who lives with us and why they are important to us.

Form 1 have continued to partition larger numbers using the part-whole model in Maths. They have also started to learn how to find one more and one less than a given number. During our English lessons, the children designed their own gingerbread houses with their favourite sweet treats. The children then labelled their gingerbread houses and used the adjectives and their senses to write about them. For our Science, the children have continued with their bean diary, making sure to observe every week how the bean plants have changed. The children also finished off their 'Parts of Plants' flipbook. During our PE lessons, the children have been learning how to perform various roles safely.

Form 2 have begun handling data work in Maths and have so far created tally and bar charts. In English, they have been analysing the next couple of chapters of *Oliver and the Seawigs* and have drawn their own illustrations for one of the scenes. In Science they have planned an experiment to find out how well some materials do their job and have begun to make their model lighthouses in Art. The excitement of the week was the trip to the *Cutty Sark* which we all enjoyed, despite the weather.

This week **Form 3** have been busy writing their Stone Age diaries, using their skills to draft, edit and improve them to create a final version which they decorated with Stone Age images. They also learned about cave paintings and had a go at creating their own during our Topic and Art lessons this week. In Maths, we have been finishing off addition and subtraction methods and are preparing to move onto fractions. In RE they had a Zoom conversation with the Jewish Museum and learned about Rosh Hashanah. In IT they turned the classroom into a computer network, learning about sending messages through connected laptops and how to simplify complex networks using a network switch! Sounds complicated, but we did it! In Science this week we considered how friction affects movement of an object and designed some ways to test its effects using different surfaces. A very productive week for Form 3!

Form 4 visited the Wallace Collection Museum this week following their Art topic on landscapes and figure drawing. We looked at lots of beautiful paintings and focused on one in particular by Titian; this depicted the story of Perseus and Andromeda. Our class learnt how stories and art were closely connected and how you can use art to convey a narrative. We also learnt how painting a landscape can convey an emotion or atmosphere by looking at a painting of the story of Apollo and the Cumaean Sibyl. We also learnt how to research online by looking at which parts of an online text we can understand and paraphrase. We have continued to explore higher order descriptive writing and have begun to look at Black History through the story of Floella Benjamin, the BBC presenter. In Maths we have continued to work on formal division and have also looked at how these relate to word problems. In Science we have linked the ideas about condensation and evaporation to the water cycle.



This week, in English, **Form 5** have concluded their informative reports on the planets and have started to produce a second draft of their work, ready to be sent to their chosen audience. They have also studied various features of entertaining writing; there has been a focus on using punctuation for emphasis, varied sentence starters, as well as selecting appropriate grammar and vocabulary to enhance meaning. They have produced some excellent independent writing throughout this topic. In Science, Form 5 have learnt about the different phases of the Moon, understanding the key vocabulary: 'waxing', 'waning', 'crescent' and 'gibbous'. They were great team players in creating a representation of the Moon's lunar cycle using Oreo cookies. In Computing, Form 5 have learnt how to communicate only using the internet, creating a SharePoint about a chosen aspect of space, ranging from blackholes to how astronauts go to the toilet in space. In Verbal Reasoning, Form 5 have looked at different question types that link to synonyms and similar-meaning words. In Maths they have worked hard this week and have finished their unit of Place Value by problem solving negative numbers and rounding numbers to the nearest 10,000 and 1 million.

In English, **Form 6** have learnt and understood how to recognise whether a word is a preposition or conjunction, especially words such as 'before', 'until' and 'after'. They have completed some timed composition with the aim of persuading their audience on a chosen topic. They used a range of features including repetition, the subjunctive and parenthesis for emphasis. They have also worked on different VR concepts including compound words and word connections. In Latin, Form 6 have continued to translate subordinate clauses from Latin to English and English to Latin; they have learnt a range of subordinating conjunctions to ensure variation in their writing. In Geography the children have begun to research a variety of wildlife that live in the Polar regions. They will create individualised reports on their chosen animal. In Science the children have completed a number of experiments involving our eyes and have recorded some interesting results. In Maths the children are working through individualised 11+ papers and have been investigating 3D nets.

A Head Teacher's Award has been awarded to **Freddie Melconian** for positivity and enthusiasm in all areas of school life, and to **Hussein Hasham** for showing superb focus and effort in Maths.

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 Monday morning break-time next week.

Zayn Ali

Jessica

Ethan

Izzy



Interfaith Week: 11th - 15th November

As part of our upcoming Interfaith Week, we are seeking parent volunteers who have connections within the Hindu, Jain, or Muslim communities, or who would feel comfortable speaking about their own faith during our Interfaith Assembly on **Friday, 15th November**. We are excited to announce that we already have confirmed speakers, including **Rabbi Debbie Young-Somers** from EHRS and **Father Steven Young** from St. Michael's and All Angels Church, Mill Hill. If you are able to contribute or know someone who can, please contact the school office. Your support would be greatly appreciated as we aim to celebrate the rich diversity of beliefs in our school community.

Class WhatsApp Groups and FoSMS Meeting

While the class WhatsApp groups are not officially managed by the school, we acknowledge that they serve as a valuable resource for new parents, offering reminders and informal communication. These groups provide a supportive space for Mums, Dads, and Carers to stay connected. If you're not yet part of your child's class WhatsApp group, please reach out to your class rep, who will be happy to add you. Additionally, we'd love to see you at the first **Friends of St Martin's School (FoSMS)** meeting on **Monday, 30th September at 7pm** in school. Whether you're a class rep or not, everyone is welcome to join this friendly group as we plan fundraising and charitable events for the year ahead. It's a great opportunity to get involved and meet other parents!

Food Bank Aid

We are delighted to be supporting Food Bank Aid once again to mark Harvest Festival. Kindly bring your donations to school on Friday 4th October. This year the Food Bank are mostly in need of:

Tinned Food – meat, fish, fruit and veg. Breakfast cereals and porridge, Instant coffee, tea, sugar and UHT milk, Honey, jam and marmalade, Cooking oil (1l containers), Biscuits, crackers, cereal bars and dried fruit, Shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste and deodorant, Baby formula and nappies (large sizes), EMPTY egg boxes

If you would prefer to give a small cash donation, please hand it to Mrs Jacobs and we will purchase items on your behalf. Thank you, in advance, as ever for your kindness and generosity.



St Martin's School



Celebrate Your Family Background and Heritage in Assembly!

We are inviting children to take part in a series of assemblies, where they can share stories about their family background and heritage. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to celebrate their culture, traditions, and unique experiences with the school community. Whether it's through a short presentation, a piece of artwork, or even a traditional song or dance, we encourage all children to get involved and proudly showcase what makes their family special. If your child would like to participate, please let Mr Zucker know by October 11th.