



St Martin's Post

Edition 261

27th September 2024





The whole of **EYFS** for their amazing behaviour on their trip to Watersplash farm.

The whole of **Form 1** for being so well behaved and for showing so much enthusiasm on their trip to Watersplash farm.

Haadi for always being ready to answer questions in class.

Leela, Iman, Sara and Alisha for teaching Form 3 about Islam.

Kabir for impressive work in all subjects.

Kush for great work on multiples in Maths.

Zahi for a neatly written report on mountain formations.

Sid for writing and performing a humorous poem.

Anushka for achieving highly in her research of Mahatma Ghandi.

Ariana for independently creating an excellent description of Space.

Isla for demonstrating kindness and selflessness towards her peers.

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 contact Mr Zucker.





This week at St Martin's

EYFS

This week in EYFS, we had an exciting time during our trip to Watersplash Farm! The children brushed ponies, built a bug hotel, and went pond dipping. In Phonics, we continued practicing letter formation, blending sounds, and listening to the sounds around us. In Maths, we discussed different types of patterns and continued building our understanding of addition. We also explored how our words can affect others. In PE, we practiced our dance and movement skills.

Form 1

In English, Form 1 continued celebrating Black History Month by learning about the Windrush generation and writing recounts of our trip to Watersplash Farm. The children also explored the British Value of Individual Liberty, creating projects that reflect what makes them unique. In Maths, we introduced number bonds to 10 - pairs of numbers that add up to 10 - and practiced counting in 2s. In Science, we expanded our knowledge of plants by comparing garden and wild plants. Our trip to Watersplash Farm was a highlight, where the children brushed ponies, built a bug hotel, and explored the River Colne to gather materials.

Form 2

The highlight of Form 2's week was our British Values morning, where we learned about democracy and practiced voting. We then formed the *Form 2 Department for Small Changes* and devised campaigns for some minor improvements. We have also completed our lighthouse project in Art. In English, we learned about conjunctions and expanded noun phrases in preparation for some longer writing next week. In Maths, we used multiplication and division skills to solve word problems.

Form 3

This week, Form 3 has been enjoying poetry. We were delighted to welcome poet Abe Gibson, who led performances, workshops, and assemblies around the school. The students learned about the significance of the Windrush generation and the importance of Black History Month, and even had the chance to write and perform their own poems with Abe. Their enthusiasm continued throughout the week, and we have compiled a class anthology of poems. In Maths, we explored unit and non-unit fractions and tackled non-verbal reasoning problems. For British Values Day, we discussed Democracy and the Rule of Law, creating our own countries and establishing rules for their citizens. In IT, we learned about online safety and how computers are connected through switches and backed up by servers. We also had a wonderful lesson on Islam, led by some of the girls in our class.





Form 4

In Maths this week, Form 4 studied multiples, factors, and common multiples. In English, we practiced writing and performing performance poems and persuasive letters, with a focus on the British Values of Tolerance and Mutual Respect. In Geography, we studied the features of mountains and learned how to illustrate them. We also practiced non-verbal reasoning questions involving counting and shapes. Our Art lessons focused on painting mountain landscapes using watercolour pencils and paints. In Science, we conducted an investigation into how insulation affects the melting of ice. In Computing, we continued our mountain research using Google Earth and created persuasive hygiene posters using Publisher.

Form 5

This week in English, Form 5 focused on using dashes and colons to emphasise powerful adjectives. We also explored effective personification, applying these techniques in our own writing. The children have planned their own space-themed stories, choosing different narratives and themes. In topic work, we continued writing persuasive texts about the use of animals in space exploration and how it impacted the USA and USSR space initiatives. In Science, we studied how the Sun produces light, leading the children to develop their own lines of inquiry through surveying, research, and observation. These investigations will take place next week. On Monday, we had a visit from poet Abe Gibson, and the children impressed him with their powerful poetry. On Wednesday, we celebrated British Values Day, focusing on Individual Liberty. The children researched an individual who fought for equality and liberty, and have begun creating informative texts based on their research.

Form 6

In English, Form 6 completed a timed comprehension on *Northern Lights*, focusing on Philip Pullman's language and its impact on the reader. They also worked on various verbal reasoning skills, including logical deductions and word connections. In Latin, the children learned how to use the genitive case to show possession and translated complex sentences from Latin to English and vice versa. In Geography, the children have been writing autobiographies of their chosen polar region explorers, delving into the lives and adventures of these historical figures. In PE, they have started choreographing their own dances, incorporating key elements from contemporary dance. During British Values Day, Form 6 focused on the concept of Democracy, discussing its importance and relevance in today's society. In Maths, the children have continued working through their individualised 11+ past papers, while also learning how to find missing coordinates and translating shapes on a four-quadrant grid.

A **Head Teacher's Award** has been awarded to **Jayden Rughani** for coming into school each day with positivity, and to **Zoe Chee** for her ever-present enthusiasm and positivity.

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.

Joshua Maverick Shayan Elenor





Uniform

Please ensure that all items, particularly hats, scarfs and gloves, are clearly named before they come into school. Our lost property is regularly sorted and named items are returned to their owners.

School Song

At St Martin's we believe that pride in our school values can be expressed in many creative ways. Therefore, this term, we are inviting children to think of a song that captures our school values. Whether it's a catchy tune or a meaningful lyric, the chosen song should reflect the spirit of our school community. Submit your song ideas to competitions@stmartinsmillhill.co.uk and let's celebrate our shared values through the power of music!

Year 6 EYFS Mentor

Our Year 6 pupils have an exciting opportunity to apply for the role of EYFS Mentor, where they will support our youngest learners in the Early Years Foundation Stage. This role will involve working with the children during their short break times, helping to guide and engage them in activities. It's a wonderful chance for our Year 6 students to develop their leadership skills, show responsibility, and make a positive impact on our school community! If you are interested in this role, please contact Mr Zucker.

Be Bright, Be Seen

On Thursday 7th November we will be holding our annual *Be Bright, Be Seen Day* to raise awareness of road safety during the darker months. We would like children to come to school dressed in their brightest, boldest clothes to demonstrate this. TFL have very kindly donated prizes for this which we will be awarding to the brightest and most creative dressed children.

Contact Information

If any of your personal details have changed - such as your address, phone number, or nanny arrangements - please inform Mrs Jacobs as soon as possible. Keeping your information up to date ensures we can contact you quickly in case of emergencies. Thank you for your cooperation.





British Values Day

On Wednesday 9th October, St Martin's dedicated a whole day to celebrating British Values: democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. Each class was given a specific value and thought about how it impacts their own lives as British young people. Activities ranged from an in-class polling station to letters written based on their class text about respect for people of different cultures to the children researching people who have had to fight for freedom and liberty to achieve equality.

Wednesday 16th October: Rec – F6 Flu Nasal Spray Vaccinations

Tuesday 5th November: F5 Trip to British Library

Week Commencing 11th November: F2-F6 Assessment Week / Interfaith Week

Wednesday 20th November: F6 Trip to the Verulamium

Tuesday 26th November: EYFS Trip to London Transport Museum

27th – 29th November F4 Longtown Outdoor Residential

Wednesday 27th November F1 Trip to Museum of Brands

Thursday 28th November F3 Trip to Natural History Museum

Wednesday 11th December Winter Show – St Michaels and All Angels Church at 2pm

Thursday 12th December Pantomime / Christmas Lunch & Party Day

Friday 13th December Children's Disco after school until 5.45pm – Save the Date!

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 2025

Return to School: Wed 8th Jan 2025

Half Term Break: Mon 17th Feb - 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