



Edition 262

18th October 2024





The whole of EYFS for a super half term.

Gabriel E for showing very good understanding when learning number bonds to ten.

Mia P for exceptional work when learning her times tables.

Charlotte L for great contributions to class discussions.

Kiaan H for being incredibly brave and resilient when having his flu jab.

Ali H being incredibly brave and resilient when having his flu jab.

Israel D for completing his targets in English.

Naoto A for his oral presentation in class.

Ethan L for independent use of high-level punctuation in his writing.

Noah G for using new and unfamiliar vocabulary.

The whole of Form 6 for all their hard work, resilience and determination throughout Autumn 1.

Website Update

We are excited to let you know that after half term we will be making upgrades to our website by including short soundbite videos. A videographer will be coming into school on Wednesday 20th November to record footage. If you do not wish for your child to participate, please let me know.

We would also love to include soundbite testimonials from parents. If you are able to come into school for a short time from 3pm on 20th November, please do let me know. Thank you in advance.

Joanna Wilson Joanna.wilson@stmartinsmillhill.co.uk

A Head Teacher's Award has been awarded to Mila Mehta and Freddie Guppenbeger for outstanding artwork.





Reminder: Lower School Pickup Time

We would like to kindly remind all parents of children in the lower school that pickup time is at **3:30 PM**, even if you have a sibling in the upper school who is collected at 3:40PM. Please ensure you arrive promptly to collect your child at the designated time to help us maintain a smooth and safe dismissal process. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Calling All Young Poets

As part of our upcoming Armistice Day commemoration, we are inviting children to write their own poems reflecting on themes of peace, remembrance, and hope. Selected poems will be read out during our Armistice Day assembly as a special tribute to those who served and sacrificed. We encourage all children to take part and submit their poems to their class teacher by **November 4th**.

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 after half term.

Raphael	Somto	Suleman	Quinn

Poppy Appeal

We are proud to support the annual Poppy Appeal. After half-term, poppies and small gifts will be available for purchase at the school entrance. This is a wonderful opportunity for our community to show appreciation for those who have served and sacrificed. All proceeds will go to the Royal British Legion, helping to support veterans and their families. Thank you for your generosity!

Christmas Cards

This week your children completed their drawings for the front of their personalised Christmas cards and gifts. You will receive your child's proof shortly after half term and you will be able to place your orders shortly after.

A huge congratulations to the following children who created the selected designs in their classes:

EYFS - Viya Form 1 - Charlotte Form 2 - Maverick Form 3 - Alessandro

Form 4 - Israel Form 5 - Noah Form 6 - Lara

An extra big congratulations to Charlotte in Form 1 for winning the overall competition.





This week at St Martin's

This week in **EYFS**, we have been consolidating our addition skills as well as learning about different 2D shapes, where we can find them in our surroundings, and how we can use different shapes to create pictures. Rhyming is an important part of reading, and this week we have been rhyming in many different ways: feeding the monster rhyming words, playing rhyming snap, and building rhyming towers. We also learnt about Diwali and how it is celebrated. Thank you to Mrs. Gupta for your time today.

During our English lessons this week, **Form 1** have been creating rhyming words. The children then used their rhyming words to create funny rhyming poems, using senses and adjectives to make them more interesting. In Maths, the children have continued working on their number bonds to ten. They have also been adding numbers together to cross ten, using dice to generate two numbers and adding them together. To finish our DT topic, the children decorated their bug hotels with natural materials. The class has now placed their bug hotels in the front garden, ready for their new occupants to move in for the winter. As we approach the end of the half-term, the children took part in their Wonder Session, which prepares them for what they will be learning next half-term. This gives the children the opportunity to think of questions about the new topic, which I will then endeavour to answer over the course of the topic.

This week, **Form 2** has been writing the longest pieces of work they have ever done! They wrote different endings to the book Oliver and the Seawigs, trying to use all the new language features we have discussed this half-term. In Maths, they have recapped 2D shapes and learned about the properties of 3D shapes. In Science, they learned about material scientists MacAdam, MacIntosh, and Dunlop, and also conducted an experiment with surfaces and toy cars. They have also reviewed their learning in Topic ahead of next half term's learning.

Form 3 has been focusing on persuasive writing in English this week. They have been exploring features such as selling points, rhetorical questions, emotive language, and FOMO (fear of missing out) to create advertisements for Stone Age products. In Maths, they have been investigating tenths and consolidating their understanding of fractions. In Topic, they have studied the Bronze and Iron Ages and brought in some fantastic Topic homework for our Whole School walkabout. In Science, they drew conclusions from their friction investigation, learning how to represent data as a bar chart and evaluate their results. In RE, they reflected on their learning about Islam and enjoyed creating their own Islamic patterns. In Digital Literacy, they completed their SMART posters, understanding how to stay safe online. Finally, in DT, they prepared fruit and vegetables to create a tasty Stone Age stew and fruity compote! Another great week!





This week at St Martin's (continued)

Form 4 has come to the end of this half term's work by finishing their class reader, *The Ice Palace*, and writing their own narratives based on themes from the story. They have also studied a unit on 3D shapes, graphs, coordinates, and reflections. We concluded our topic on mountains by looking at mountains in the UK and taking a forward look at our planned residential trip to Longtown Activity Centre on the Welsh border. We also reviewed our Science unit on the water cycle, revisiting the key vocabulary covered this term. In RS, we made and decorated clay Diwa lamps, and we celebrated our wonderful topic homework projects in school. Thank you to all the Form 4 parents who contributed. In IT, we completed our School Hygiene persuasive posters using Publisher. As a class, we are looking forward to next term's units on Vikings and our new class text, *Beowulf* (a translation by Michael Morpurgo).

This week, in English, **Form 5** has continued to write their sci-fi narratives, focusing on how to write different types of endings. They also explored the use of relative pronouns within clauses and applied this to their writing. In Verbal Reasoning, Form 5 worked on questions related to antonyms. In Science, the children completed planned enquiries linked to the Sun. Some students researched scientific questions, others completed surveys, and some measured and observed shadows over time. They recorded their results, wrote conclusions, and evaluated how successful their investigations were. In Latin, Form 5 learned to recognise singular and plural nouns and translated them from Latin to English within sentences. In Computing, they presented their collaborative presentations on Space to the class, including embedded videos, links, and quizzes. In Maths, Form 5 has been problemsolving with prime numbers and prime factorisation. They also completed a Maths Mystery linked to their learning.

In English, **Form 6** completed a timed composition with a choice of titles linked to Halloween, producing suspenseful and frightening narratives using high-level vocabulary and punctuation. They also wrote discursive pieces, considering both sides of arguments related to deep, spiritual questions from their class text, *Northern Lights* - such as whether Lyra (the protagonist) always exhibits bravery and whether it is ethical for Lyra to lie as she often does. In Latin, Form 6 looked at how Latin has influenced modern languages like Italian and explored similarities and differences in etymology. In Geography, From 6 began researching the impact of climate change on the polar regions and the wildlife there. In RE, they explored the Noble Eightfold Path in Buddhism. In Art, they completed their Inuit Art designs using lino printing, which will be presented in the style of Andy Warhol. In Maths, the children continued working on their individualised 11+ past papers, alongside mastering transformations and using vectors.