



# St Martin's Post

Edition 265

22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024

## ★ Shooting Stars ★

Leilani: For blending beautifully during phonics.

Reyansh: For experimenting with new foods.

Carter: For working on gross motor skills.

Jayden: For creating a wonderful family tree for the characters in Owl Babies.

Arya: For brilliant work editing digital photographs.

Andrea: For great progress in Maths.

Kiaan: For maintaining great focus in class.

Jessica: For writing an exciting and engaging newspaper article about Beowulf's planned fight with Grendel's mother.

Elenor: For performing a monologue speech from Beowulf, read in a heroic manner.

Aarav: For consistently achieving in every lesson across the week.

Amba: For high-quality persuasive writing in a leaflet.

Form 6: For exemplary behaviour at the Verulamium Museum.

### **Headteacher Award**

The **Head Teacher's award** has been awarded to **Aum** for always being polite and respectful and **Ariella** for excellent participation in assemblies.



## Golden Tea

Golden Tea is an opportunity for children to show Mrs Wilson the work they have completed that week of which they are most proud, whilst enjoying juice and biscuits together. The following children were chosen at random to enjoy Golden Tea with Mrs Wilson during Monday morning break time next week.

**Viya**

**Dahlia**

**Olivia**

**Israel**

## This week at St Martins

This week, **EYFS** have been focusing on expanding their vocabulary with helpful words, writing sentences, practising rhyming, and using their phonics skills to blend two-letter words. In Maths, they have been learning about positional language, such as 'onto,' 'into,' 'under,' and 'next to.' Our subtraction skills are improving as we continue to consolidate our understanding. In Personal, Social, and Emotional development, we focused on road safety and created puppets to help us remember the rules of the road. During Kids' Kitchen, we made oat cookies and carried out a taste test comparing Ovaltine with hot chocolate.

In English this week, **Form 1** explored family trees by creating one for the characters in our core text, *Owl Babies*. In Maths, the children began learning subtraction facts up to ten and used this foundation to tackle subtraction facts up to 20. For History, they delved into different forms of transport through time, examining how materials have changed and placing various modes of transport in chronological order.

In Computing, the children continued to use the online paint programme, 'paintz.app' (a free tool you can try at home). They learned how to create squares and rectangles, applying the flood fill feature to colour large areas. Inspired by Henri Matisse's *The Snail*, they then used these skills to produce their own colourful artwork.

This week, **Form 2** have been exploring newspapers, focusing on their key features, and using this knowledge to write their own articles about the adventure in *Claude in the City*. In Maths, they have continued to develop their understanding of position and direction, including turns, and applied this learning during a walk around the local area. They took photographs of important buildings in Mill Hill that they identified last week. In Science, the class studied the human life cycle, learning about the milestones and abilities at each stage. Additionally, they have been progressing with stop-motion animation in both Art and Computing lessons.



### This week at St Martins (continued)

This week in English, **Form 3** worked on persuasive writing linked to their class text, *Escape from Pompeii*. Some children argued in favour of visiting Pompeii for a holiday, while others warned of the dangers of the looming volcano and urged an urgent escape. Their persuasive arguments were both creative and compelling! In Maths, they practised finding perimeters and completed their maths assessments. In Topic, they explored several types of volcanoes and how they function, while in Science, they investigated soil, classifying organic and inorganic materials. In RE, the children reflected on the significance of the Christmas story to Christians. Meanwhile, in DT, they began constructing a large model of a volcano - an exciting hands-on project!

This week, **Form 4** made excellent progress in Maths, learning how to find fractions of a number and apply this knowledge to challenging word problems. In English, they explored how to plan and write newspaper articles and created vivid descriptions of heroic battles, drawing inspiration from their class text by Michael Morpurgo. They studied newspaper-style language and practised using it effectively.

In History, the children investigated the Viking Great Army's invasion of 865AD, uncovering how these events shaped King Alfred of Wessex into a heroic Anglo-Saxon figure. In Science, they explored electrical switches, while in Music, they practised a song with sign language for our Winter Show. The week was filled with heroic efforts all around!

**Form 5** have been busy crafting persuasive texts inspired by *Tom's Midnight Garden*, debating whether Tom should stay in the magical garden or return home. They experimented with different formats, including posters, leaflets, and newspaper articles. In Science, they studied human gestation, using scientific vocabulary to present their findings through development cycles, mini books, or comic strips.

During Topic lessons, the children analysed survey data, inferred conclusions, and began creating informative texts in their chosen formats. In Latin, they practised translating sentences and honing their understanding of verb endings. Verbal Reasoning sessions focused on compound words and expanding vocabulary. In Maths, Form 5 tackled problem-solving tasks in division and non-verbal reasoning and successfully completed the Primary Maths Challenge - an impressive achievement! In History, **Form 6** created detailed fact files on aspects of Ancient Roman life. Their learning was enriched with a visit to the Verulamium Museum in St Albans, where they explored the region's rich Roman history. In Maths, the children completed the Primary Maths Challenge and participated in investigations, such as creating magic squares and solving Addagons, showcasing their creativity and problem-solving prowess. In English, they wrote discursive texts on topics like the abolition of zoos and the necessity of school uniforms. They also analysed language in selected texts and used inference skills to evaluate the effectiveness of literary devices. In French, the class explored Roman inventions, using topic-specific vocabulary to determine the accuracy of statements through translation activities.



### **Winter Show Costume Request**

As we prepare for our much-anticipated Winter Show, we kindly ask for your support in helping your child come dressed in the appropriate costumes for their performance:

- Form 6: Please ensure your child is dressed entirely in black for their dance routine. This includes black leggings or tracksuit bottoms and a plain black T-shirt or long-sleeved top. We kindly ask that there are no logos on the clothing.
- Form 1-5: Christmas hats are needed for their performance.
- EYFS: The children should wear Christmas jumpers and/or festive headgear (e.g., antlers, Santa hats, or other Christmas-themed accessories).

Thank you for your support in making the Winter Show a memorable and magical experience for all! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

### **Football Match Update**

Please note a correction to the upcoming football match details:

The match on Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> November will be exclusively for Year 5 pupils.

Year 6 pupils will have their fixture in January, with the exact date to be confirmed.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

### **Preloved Uniform Sale**

We are holding a preloved uniform sale next Friday, 29<sup>th</sup>, from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. Come along to find gently used items at great prices. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to refresh your child's uniform for the new term!



## Black Friday Uniform Sale

If you don't find what you're looking for at our preloved uniform sale, we are also excited to share that **Uniform4Kids** is holding a special **Black Friday sale!**

**Date:** Friday, 29th November 2024

**Where:** Online only at [www.uniform4kids.com](http://www.uniform4kids.com)

**Offer:** 20% off all products, including schoolwear, sportswear, footwear, and accessories

**Discount Code:** BLACKFRIDAY20

Important: The discount is valid for one day only and must be applied at checkout. Unfortunately, discounts cannot be added to orders already placed.

Don't miss this opportunity to stock up on essentials at a great price!

## Change of Details

Please remember to inform the school office of any changes of circumstance, such as new address, emergency contact number, new work number and any allergies or illnesses that your child may have developed.

Thank you.



## Diary Dates

Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	EYFS	Trip to London Transport Museum
27 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup> November	F4	Longtown Outdoor Residential
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	F1	Trip to Museum of Brands
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	F5	Synagogue Trip (am)
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	F5	Football Match vs Mathilda Marks Kennedy School (pm)
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	F3	Trip to Natural History Museum
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	F4	Class Assembly at 9 am - Parents and family invited
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	All	Winter Show – St Michaels & All Angels Church at 2pm All invited
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	All	Pantomime / Christmas Lunch & Party Day
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	All	Children's Disco after school until 5.45pm

## Term Dates

### Autumn Term 2024

Return to School: Wed 4<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024  
 Half Term Break: Mon 21<sup>st</sup> Oct – Fri 1<sup>st</sup> Nov  
 Term Ends: Friday 13<sup>th</sup> Dec 2024

### Spring Term 2025

Return to School: Wed 8<sup>th</sup> Jan 2025  
 Half Term Break: Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Feb - Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Feb  
 Term Ends: Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025

### Summer Term 2025:

Return to School: Tue 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025  
 Half Term Break: Mon 26<sup>th</sup> May - Fri 30<sup>th</sup> May  
 Term Ends: Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July