



St Martin's Post

Edition 266

29th November 2024

★ Shooting Stars ★

Viya : For knowing how to read and spell her helpful words

Arjun: For working hard during phonics

Avi: For being a super star on our trip

Niko: For being a super star on our trip

Form 1: For showing patience and good behaviour on our school trip.

Max: For putting lots of effort into his writing.

Avi M: For great selflessness in donating his advent calendar.

Form 4: For displaying independence, responsibility and resilience on our residential trip to Longtown and the Brecon Beacons

Yugo: For excellent independent writing in his persuasive article.

Anushka: For achieving highly in a mini book about human gestation.

Zakariya: For excellent teamwork in both DT and Maths.

Headteacher Award

The **Head Teacher's award** has been awarded to **Viya** for always displaying a positive attitude and to **Mia P** for super effort during our French lesson.



This week at St Martins

We've had an incredibly busy week in **EYFS**! In Maths, we explored the concept of fair sharing by dividing mini chocolate chip biscuits and popcorn equally to ensure everyone had the same amount. Our topic work included learning all about water transport. We made boats using sponges, oranges, and paper plates, then sang *Row, Row, Row Your Boat* with actions, scarves, and rhythm sticks to bring the learning to life. We also worked hard on creating Christmas decorations and artwork to decorate St Michael's Church, ready for Thursday morning. The highlight of our week was our exciting trip to the Transport Museum!

In English this week, **Form 1** have been writing letters to and from the characters in our core text, *Owl Babies*. The children also received some fantastic letters from their favourite character, which they then responded to with thoughtful reply letters. In Maths, the children have been using their number facts up to 20 to create number families. For example, with the numbers 20, 11, and 9, they can form the equations $20 - 9 = 11$, $20 - 11 = 9$, $11 + 9 = 20$, and $9 + 11 = 20$. We've also continued practising counting in 5s. This week we visited the Museum of Brands in Ladbroke Grove. The children explored how different brands and household items have changed over the last 150 years, with a particular focus on the materials used throughout history. Despite some long delays on the train, Form 1's behaviour was exemplary, showing incredible patience and maturity. Well done, Form 1!

Form 2 have been learning all about fractions this week and are becoming experts in using terms such as "numerator" and "denominator." They've been practising important skills for writing a story, with plans to begin drafting their own stories next week. In Science, the children used fact files to learn how to care for different pets by understanding their basic needs, including those shared by all animals - humans included! In Topic work, Form 2 focused on the key parts of a town and had fun designing their own towns. They've also continued working on their stop-motion films, bringing their ever-impressive creativity to life!

This week, **Form 3** have been writing persuasively about Pompeii. Some have been advertising it as a holiday destination, while others have been warning the townsfolk of an impending volcanic eruption. They also wrote letters as characters from their class text, urging their families to escape the city. In Maths, the children have been practising counting and adding money, becoming familiar with notes and coins. In Topic, we examined the structure of a volcano and had an exciting trip to the Natural History Museum, where we learned about volcanoes and earthquakes and took part in a hands-on workshop. In Science, the children explored the different layers of soil and considered what lies just beneath our feet. In RE, we freeze-framed and acted out parts of the Nativity story, bringing the events to life.



This week at St Martins (continued)

This term, **Form 4** have been developing key skills in RSHE and this week have been putting them into practice during an action-packed week of caving, mountain walking, orienteering, and climbing challenges. We've also demonstrated teamwork by working collaboratively with our peers, keeping our rooms tidy, and organising our clothes and equipment efficiently. Back at school, we've been solving fraction word problems, and analysing how language is used in *Beowulf* to craft vivid mythical settings. We're now looking forward to reflecting on our incredible experiences at Longtown as we prepare for our assembly!

Form 5 has focused on tackling multi-step mathematical problems this week, showcasing a broad range of mathematical skills. These include estimation, applying BIDMAS (Brackets, Indices, Division/Multiplication, Addition/Subtraction), and using effective mental calculation strategies. In English, the children have explored the features of various narrative types and have begun planning their own engaging, time-themed stories. In Science, they have investigated the gestation periods of different mammals, researching potential correlations with factors such as life expectancy, mass, and size. In French, Form 5 have been learning to talk about hobbies, expressing preferences and giving reasons for their likes and dislikes. This week's Verbal Reasoning lesson focused on letter relationships and sequences, encouraging logical thinking and pattern recognition. In Computing, the children have used Excel to plot survey data, applying formulas and generating various types of graphs to represent their findings effectively.

Form 6 have deepened their analysis of texts this week, focusing on making inferences based on the author's use of language. They have also completed their penultimate set of 11+ practice exams. In French, the children have practised conjugating different verb types and applying negation to their sentences. In DT, Form 6 worked on constructing prototypes for their Roman-inspired inventions. They evaluated their designs critically, identifying areas for improvement to enhance the resilience of their structures during stress tests. After careful adjustments, they successfully developed improved prototypes. In Maths, the children reinforced prior learning by collaborating in groups to create their own Maths Mystery challenges. They designed a range of clues involving different mathematical calculations to test and engage their peers. Science lessons complemented their DT work, with the children conducting research to support their Roman invention projects. Their investigations included exploring the behaviour of heat molecules, the impact of gravitational force, and the scientific principles behind stress testing.



Child Car Seat Checking Events – your views matter



Around 90 child car seats were checked by an expert from Good Egg during six events in Barnet with a total of 180 errors reported. The events took place in supermarket car parks during August – October 2024 and future events are planned next year. We'd love to hear your thoughts on how we can host these events to best meet your needs. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey: [Child Car Seat Survey](#) or scan the QR code



Form 6 Bikeability

We are pleased to inform our Form 6 parents that we will be delivering Bikeability on the 24 - 28 February 2025.

We have arranged for cycle trainers to provide the training with the objective being to teach your child to deal with traffic on short journeys. The training will take place in the playground and on local residential roads. We would like the children to supply their own bicycle and helmet for this course and wearing of helmets are compulsory. Letters will be sent out to parents shortly with more details.



Form 5 Football Fixture – A Match to Remember!

This week, Form 5 enjoyed an exciting football fixture against Mathilda Marks Kennedy School. Form 5 played brilliantly, exemplifying teamwork, collaboration, and fun. Our players demonstrated fantastic sportsmanship and worked together magnificently on the pitch, cheering each other on and celebrating every effort.

It was wonderful to see the smiles, determination, and camaraderie among the team, reminding us that the true goal of sports is fostering friendships and enjoying the game. Well done to all involved - you made St Martin's proud!



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.

Freddie G

Hashini

Ariella

Oliver



Diary Dates

Monday 9th December	F4	Class Assembly at 9 am - Parents and family invited
Wednesday 11 th December	All	Winter Show – St Michaels & All Angels Church at 2pm All invited
Thursday 12 th December	All	Pantomime / Christmas Lunch & Party Day
Friday 13 th December	All	Children's Disco after school until 5.45pm – Save the Date!

Term Dates

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