



St Martin's Post

Edition 267

6th December 2024

★ Shooting Stars ★

Ariella: For beautiful sentence writing and working hard on her letter formation.

Ruqayya: For enthusiastic participation during music lessons.

Gabriel: For showing wonderful understanding when learning about 2D shapes.

Haadi: For using fabulous language in his Claude story.

Nyla: For working hard on her Fact File and showing great focus and enthusiasm.

Alessandro S: For working hard on his writing and presentation.

Shaan: For his work on the assembly playscript.

Zahi: For his work on the assembly playscript.

Bhim: For outstanding writing in his entertaining narrative.

Rania: For achieving highly in her research of different mammals' gestation periods.

Raphael: For demonstrating enthusiasm and showing initiative in DT.

Headteacher Award

The **Head Teacher's award** has been awarded to **Tiam** for always being friendly and respectful and **Kiaan** for always approaching school life with positivity.



This week at St Martins

This week in **EYFS**, we have been busy practising our writing skills, focusing on phonemes we've learnt and how to apply them to writing words. Keep a lookout – we have a surprise coming your way! In Maths, we explored 2D shapes and began investigating some 3D shapes, looking at their properties and identifying where we can find them in our environment. In Science, we carried out an exciting Gingerbread Man experiment! The children explored how different liquids affect a gingerbread man when placed in them. We made predictions, observed what happened, and recorded our findings. For RE, we learnt about Chanukah and created beautiful menorahs to take home.

In English this week, **Form 1** have been developing their speaking and listening skills by acting out the Owl Babies story for their classmates. They have also been working on book reviews, writing about what they liked and thought about the story. In Maths, the children revisited 2D shapes, learning their names and counting the corners and sides. They then applied this knowledge to identify and name some common 3D shapes. As part of our topic, My Memory Box, Form 1 have been comparing the past and present. They explored how materials have changed over time and arranged events and items in chronological order. To wrap up the topic, the children shared their ideas on how household objects might look in the future. During our Computing lessons, the children used software paintz.app to practise creating lines, boxes, and circles freehand. Using these skills, they produced artwork inspired by Wassily Kandinsky's Squares with Concentric Circles.

This week, **Form 2** have been writing their own unique stories featuring Claude, the white dog with the red beret, whom they've been reading about all term. These creative stories have allowed the children to showcase their vocabulary and storytelling skills. In Maths, the children applied their knowledge to a range of problem-solving challenges. From puzzles to practical activities, they've been strengthening their skills in a fun and engaging way. In Science, Form 2 learnt about the importance of exercise, particularly for humans, and discussed how staying active contributes to overall health and well-being. As part of their topic work, the children revisited the photos they took of local landmarks in Mill Hill, demonstrating their growing knowledge of the area.

This week, **Form 3** have had a fantastic time engaging with a variety of exciting activities. In English and Topic, they explored non-fiction by writing informational texts. Each child chose their favourite type of natural disaster to research and created imaginative guides and fact files. The results are outstanding, and the children thoroughly enjoyed the challenge. In Maths, they focused on adding and subtracting money, using column methods, number lines, and bar models to solve word problems. In Science, we examined soil samples, observing how particles separated in water to recreate the layers of a soil profile. RE brought creative fun as they made Christingles and sang a festive song, which we proudly shared on the class YouTube channel. In IT, the children have been busy creating stop-motion animations, while in DT, they completed their working volcano and disaster models – a brilliant culmination of their hard work! Well done, Form 3 – a fantastic week of learning and creativity!



This week at St Martins (continued)

Form 4 have been reflecting on their incredible experiences from the Longtown residential visit. They prepared speeches, plays, rap songs, and other creative pieces for an assembly, which will be performed for parents on Monday. In Maths, the children have focused on decimal numbers, practising how to order and round them with confidence. In French and RE, we have explored language and traditions related to Christmas. Meanwhile, Music lessons were devoted to perfecting our song for next week's Christmas celebrations. In History, we studied the final part of Alfred the Great's story, examining his legacy. In Science, the children built functional Christmas lights, and in DT, they constructed bath-worthy Viking longships!

This week, **Form 5** have honed their problem-solving skills by tackling multi-step mathematical challenges. They consolidated their knowledge with an exciting codebreaker activity, testing their non-verbal reasoning skills to "Escape the Room." In English, Form 5 have planned and started to write their own narratives linked to the concept of time. They have analysed how to write a dramatic part of their story using suspense through high-level vocabulary, emphatic punctuation and varied sentence structure. In Science, the children plotted their data in scatter graphs from last week's research and determined what we could conclude from their data representations. In Latin, Form 5 have learnt how to recognise the subjects and objects within a sentence and have translated sentences into English. This week's Verbal Reasoning lesson focused on missing words and letters. In Topic, Form 5 have been finishing their chosen reports on the local area and have included their graphs created in their Computing lesson.

In Maths this week, **Form 6** collaborated in groups to design their own Maths Mysteries. They created a series of clues featuring a variety of calculations to challenge and engage their peers. In English, they completed their final batch of 11+ papers. We are extremely proud of the hard work and effort that they have put into their work and they deserve every success! They have also written different entertaining narratives, including poetry, linked to the theme of winter. In French, the children have worked on conjugating different verb types and have applied this into their writing to describe the difference between a wealthy child and a poor child in ancient Rome. In DT, Form 6 began crafting their mini Ancient Roman models after refining their prototypes. Insights gained from previous science investigations were used to improve their designs. In History, the children explored Roman religious practices, including rituals, temples, and festivals, comparing these to those of Ancient Greece. Through these comparisons, they developed a deeper understanding of how religion shaped both societies, influencing their art, literature, and daily lives.



Winter Show

A quick reminder that our **Winter Show** is happening on **Wednesday, 11th December @2pm in St Michaels & All Angels Church!**

All family and friends are warmly invited to join us for this festive celebration. Don't forget that **all pupils need a Santa hat** for the performance.

We look forward to seeing you there! 🎄 ✨

End of Term Arrangements

As we approach the final week of term, we'd like to remind parents that there will be **no after-school clubs or Teatime Club** running during this time. However, our **G&T sessions** will continue as usual throughout the week.

Christmas Party

We are very excited for the children's end of term Christmas party next Friday. A huge thank you to FoSMS who have arranged a silent disco for our children. If your child has a special song request, please inform your class rep who will forward it to Mrs Dadoun who is arranging the playlist. Thank you as ever to FoSMS and school staff, without whom it couldn't take place.

Mr Zucker's News

A huge congratulations to Mr Zucker, who has officially completed the rigorous ISI Inspector training programme and is now a fully qualified independent school inspector! This outstanding achievement reflects his commitment, and we are incredibly proud of him. The knowledge and expertise he has gained through this process further strengthen our commitment to staying at the forefront of best practice in education. Well done, Mr Zucker – a fantastic accomplishment!



Reports

We are pleased to inform you that your child's school report will be available to view on the parent portal from **Thursday evening**. Please log into the portal on or after this date to access the report. If you have any difficulty logging in or require assistance, please contact the school office. Thank you for your continued support.

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.

Sophia T Naoto Kiaan James

Diary Dates

Monday 9th December	F4	Class Assembly at 9am - 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