



St Martin's Post

Edition 269 10th January 2025



Sarah: Starting at St Martins with confidence and happiness

Somto: Showing kindness to her new friends

Siya: Settling into St Martins wonderfully

Isabella: Settling into St Martins beautifully

Charlotte: For trying hard to use her taught phonics sounds when writing a holiday recount

Max: For focusing carefully on his learning.

Alycia: For keenly sharing her knowledge and confidence of Roman numerals

Avi M: For spending some of his holiday working to increase his comprehension skills.

Kaylan: For spending some of his holiday working to increase his comprehension skills

Israel: For very intelligent work on character analysis in English.

Ariana: For achieving highly in her inferences about our new class text.

Hussein: For consistent independence and achievement in English lessons.

Yoahan: For demonstrating focus and enthusiasm during his first week of the Spring Term

Headteacher Award

What a wonderful start to 2025 and to the new term. Mr Zucker is delighted to be able to award two Head Teacher's awards this week.

A huge well done to **Ari** for always approaching school life with energy and enthusiasm.

Congratulations also go to **Yunrui** for always displaying respectful behaviour and being a wonderful role model for our younger pupils.





This week at St Martins

This week in the **EYFS**, we have engaged in a variety of exciting and educational activities that have supported our learning objectives. In our literacy sessions, we focused on precursive letter formation, with particular emphasis on the correct formation of our names. In mathematics, the children have been exploring one-to-one correspondence. This concept is critical in helping our young learners understand number relationships and lays the groundwork for future mathematical understanding. In our knowledge and understanding lessons, we have been learning about fruits and vegetables, including their colours and the places we find them while shopping. We have also emphasised the importance of trying new fruits and vegetables to promote healthy eating habits. To complement this learning, we began reading one of our core texts, "Handa's Surprise." Following our discussion of the fruits and the animals portrayed in the story, the children excitedly created their own delicious fruit salad. This practical activity not only reinforced our learning but also encouraged teamwork and creativity. Mrs Norval is incredibly proud of how beautifully the children have settled into their routines and have adapted to our learning environment. It has been a delight to witness their enthusiasm and growth.

In English this week, **Form 1** have written a holiday recount to share with their friends what exciting activities they did over the holidays. We also started to look at their core text in English, 'Where The Wild Things Are'. They have used the front and back cover to write a sensible prediction as what they think might happen in the story – and after reading the book they will see if they predicted correctly! During Maths lessons, the children really enjoyed beginning their 'measurements' unit. They focused on using both standard and non-standard measurements to find the mass of different objects around the classroom.

During their Computing lesson, Form 1 began to learn about algorithms and coding. They used the BeeBots (floor robots) and tried to code them so that they move around a map. The children thoroughly enjoyed this activity and are keen to learn more.

Form 1s topic this term is 'Dinosaur Planet.' The children had so much fun becoming palaeontologists, searching for fossils and dinosaur bones in the school playground. They treated them like jigsaw pieces and loved putting them back together to make a dinosaur.

This week, **Form 2** set themselves goals for the term using bullet points to break these down into smaller steps. This proved to be a wonderful way for the children to reflect on their previous behaviours whilst highlighting how they would like to improve whilst taking pride in things they already do exceptionally well. During Maths, they demonstrated and extended their knowledge of telling the time. For Topic they begun to study the Normans; discussing and planning how the era began with the death of King Edward the Confessor they have also begun to think about how they can design and build a siege tower!





This week at St Martins (continued)

Form 3 have returned from their break energised and full of enthusiasm for their learning.

In English they began their class text - The Adventures of Odysseus, and already know how fickle the gods can be and how the Trojan War began! During their Maths lessons they have been discovering Roman numerals and learning how to use them in simple calculations and when telling the time.

In IT, Form 3 have been looking at desktop publishing with a view to creating our own digital magazines, leaflets and posters. Finally, in Art this week we have been examining ancient Greek artifacts and artworks. A short week – but a fun and busy one!

Form 4 have returned to school fired up for the New Year and our Spring Term curriculum. This week they prepared scripts for their hot-seat role-play activity about Henry VIII's marriage annulment. They also begun to read their new class book, Demon Dentist. Form 4 thought carefully about the main characters, looking at evidence in the text which might shed light on their feelings and their motivations. They revisited salient points about decimals and fractions and how they can be equivalent. They begun their science topic about teeth and digestion — initially by reviewing what the children already know so their knowledge can be expanded from the correct starting point. Finally, they began simple computer programming using logo and screen turtle, creating simple shapes which will eventually turn into beautiful computer generated art. In PE, Form 4 played tag-rugby. A lot to pack into three days!

This week, **Form 5** dived into the world of fractions, exploring how these mathematical concepts apply to real-life situations. They are honing their skills in simplifying fractions and identifying equivalent fractions, deepening their understanding and proficiency. At the start of their topic on Revolution, Form 5 received letters from Queen Victoria inviting them to the Great Exhibition to explore and investigate different inventions used during this time. They made observations of these artifacts and made historical inferences about their use. In English, Form 5 have started to look at their new class text, Cogheart. They were given a variety of objects linked to the text to help them make predictions about the characters, the setting, the plot and the motivations of the characters for their actions. They have also interpreted the character of Lily (the protagonist) by hot seating different children in the role of the heroine; they have then used this to write a question-and-answer piece. In their science lesson, the children have investigated the forces and friction. They have created an aim linked to this and have planned investigations to find out the answers to their questions. In their Verbal Reasoning lesson, Form 5 have practicing letter sequences and looking at complex patterns within them.





This week at St Martins (continued)

Form 6 pupils are very busy with their 11+ exams and interviews and we try very hard to balance the rigour of important work and revision whilst relieving any unnecessary stresses and worries. During Maths lessons, they have been deepening and enhancing their understanding of algebra by solving linear sequences and creating their own sequences to challenge their peers

Form 6 have been introduced to their chosen school play of Wind in the Willows. They have read through the script and have now started to adapt it to make it relevant to St Martin's, bringing their own warmth and sense of humour to the writing. Form 6 are building on their prior knowledge of art techniques to experiment with various shading methods. They are also exploring perspectives in drawing, focusing on the distinction between foreground and background elements.

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.

Saniya Mia Ali H Kush

Autumn Term 2024

Return to School: Wed 4th Sept 2024

Mon 21st Oct – Fri 1st Nov Half Term Break:

Friday 13th Dec 2024 Term Ends:

Spring Term 2025

Wed 8th Jan 2025 Return to School:

Mon 17th Feb - Fri 21st Feb Half Term Break:

Term Ends: Friday 28th March 2025

Summer Term 2025:

Tue 22nd April 2025 Return to School:

Mon 26th May - Fri 30th May Half Term Break:

Friday 11th July 2025 Term Ends:

Autumn Term 2025

Return to School: Wed 3rd Sept 2025

Mon 20th Oct – Fri 31st Oct Half Term Break:

Term Ends: Friday 12th Dec 2025

Spring Term 2026

Return to School: Tues 6th Jan 2026

Half Term Break: Mon 16th Feb - Fri 20th Feb Friday 27th March 2026 Term Ends:

Summer Term 2026:

Return to School: Tue 21st April 2026

Half Term Break: Mon 25th May - Fri 29th May

Term Ends: Friday 10th July 2026



