

St Martin's School

Weekly News

ISSUE 36

22nd June 2018

THIS WEEK'S NEWS:



A huge thank you to Mia Hancock and her team of willing volunteers for all their hard work organising and running the summer fete on Saturday. Thank you also to everyone who turned up to support the event – special thanks to those who donated raffle prizes including Hannah Foster for the lovely donations from Giftpop, Spencer Hill for the Cornerstone shaving gift set, Rugbytots for their generous voucher and Laura Hill for the fabulous food hamper. The sun shone, hot dogs were eaten and various games and activities including a helter-skelter were enjoyed by all. The event raised £678 for the school.

Staffing Update

We are delighted to inform you that following interviews on Wednesday, we have appointed Mrs Helen Webster. Mrs Webster currently lives in Inverness and is relocating over the summer to the local area. She has taught in a variety of schools in England, Scotland and Germany. Mrs Webster will be teaching one day a week in Sycamore class to cover Mrs Rennison's Deputy Headteacher time and one day a week in Willow class (as Mrs Bradley is going to continue to work four days a week). I am sure that you can understand that given her current home address, Mrs Webster will not be able to visit school this term but we all look forward to welcoming her to the St Martin's team in September.

Year 6 Winchester Cathedral Trip



On Wednesday 20th June our Year 6 children joined other Year 6 children from Church Schools throughout the diocese of Winchester to take part in the Leavers' Service at Winchester Cathedral. They took part in various activities including a photograph trail around the cathedral and finished with a procession and service to mark the end of their time at primary school and their transition to secondary school.

Year R Donnington Castle Trip

Cherry Class had a super time at Donnington Castle on Wednesday. The weather was perfect, neither too hot, too cold nor too wet or windy! The Cherries behaved perfectly too, exploring bravely and sensibly and thinking hard about how the castle might have looked and been used in the 'olden days'.



Thanks so much to Claudia Lawson, Simon Renouf, TJ Andrews, Tanya Tame and Chantal Tyas for helping with our trip and making it such a lovely morning.

Here are some of their comments:

We went to the castle and Sofia had a den there. Jack
I like the flags because they keep the people safe. Flo T
Castles have arrow slits so they can shoot their arrows. Florence H
Castles keep people safe. Christiaan K
They could shoot easily from the walls to get the baddies. Evie T

Eucharist Altar Cloth

Mrs Rosemary Cahill, Lay Reader at St Martin's church, visited every class on Thursday morning to share with them the altar table cloth that will be used in our school Eucharist next week. Rosemary was involved in creating the altar cloth with Year 6 pupils at St Martin's over a seven year period and each year a different aspect was added to the cloth.



Nature Area



A huge thank you to Mrs Prowse, Ms Mooney, Mr Waite, Mrs Hopkinson, Mrs Bartlett and Mrs Rennison for all their help in starting to clear the nature area. This really is a lovely outdoor environment and the difference that a couple of hours of hard work made in clearing it was unimaginable. We are hoping to make this a regular event in order to keep this area at its best so that it can be used effectively to help support and enrich the children's learning.

Breakfast Club

We are delighted that we are now able to offer a breakfast club on site from 8:00am every morning. The cost of a session will be £5.00. If you wish to book your child in, please request a booking form from the School Office.

School Photographs

Your child should have bought home proofs of the class photographs this week. Please return any orders to school by 25th June to enable us to order photos and get them to you by the end of term.

HCC Librarian

Bookmarks are coming home in the children's bags from HCC librarian to promote the Mischief Makers Summer Reading Challenge 2018. It starts in Hampshire Libraries on Saturday 14th July until Sunday 16th September, so join up at your local library, it's free! Go online at mischief-makers.org.uk for more details.

NEXT WEEK'S NEWS:

Sports Day

We will be holding our traditional sports afternoon on Tuesday 26th June. All friends and family are welcome to join us on the school field from 1:30pm.

Year R Transition Meeting

We would like to invite all parents of children in Cherry Class to a special meeting on Wednesday 27th June at 2:30pm in the school hall. During this meeting we will explain some of the changes that the children will experience as they join Silver Birch Class in September and move from the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum into the Key Stage 1 curriculum.

Second Hand Uniform Sale

There will be a further second hand uniform sale on Friday 29th June, for new parents of children starting in September 2018. It will be set up in Cherry playground at 3.00pm. Please bring in any freshly laundered, unwanted uniform to the school office by Wednesday 27th June.



HOUSE OF THE WEEK:		AVERAGE MERITS
North		
House Captains: Elri K, Brandon W		3.32
Louis K, Milla B	East	2.22
Emily D, Katya B	South	2.58
Jack R, David S	West	2.41

There are no Special Learning Awards or School Value Awards this week, as we are unable to hold our usual Celebration Worship due to the School Hall being used.

Other Awards:

Congratulations to:

Ben B has received ILSP Octopus 1 swimming award

Olivia B has received the ILSP Sharky 3 swimming award

NOTICES:

Monday Funday

Many of you know Mrs Geraldine Priest, who has helped and supported Monday Funday for a considerable length of time. From September Geraldine will no longer be coming to Monday Funday. We would like to thank Geraldine for all the time and commitment she has shown to Monday Funday. She will be greatly missed but we hope that she thoroughly enjoys all the plans she has, especially spending time with her grandchild. Thank you Geraldine!

End of the School Day

Please can we remind all parents and carers that children need to be collected promptly at the end of the day (3:20pm in Cherry Class and Silver Birch Class and 3:25pm in Sycamore Class, Maple Class and Willow Class). Unfortunately we cannot allow children to play on the school site after school has finished, unless they are part of Fun Club. Thank you for your support with this.

Cloths for Worship Tables

We are keen to replace the cloths we use on our worship tables in the hall and in the classrooms. These change colour to mark the seasons of the church year. We are hoping that there is a budding seamstress out there that would be happy to help us with this project. If you think you could help, please let the school office know. We will, of course, provide all the resources and materials needed.

School Eucharist

The school Eucharist will take place on Wednesday 4th July at 9:30am in the school hall. All members of the school community are more than welcome to join us for this service. If your child takes communion at your church and you would like them to receive communion at the school Eucharist, please inform their class teacher. During the service all the children will be invited to come forward to receive a blessing. If you do not want your child to receive a blessing, please inform their class teacher.

Uganda Day

Our Uganda day is being held on Friday 6th July. During this day the children will take part in a variety of activities to raise their knowledge and understanding of what life is like for children at Bukuya school, our link school in Uganda. On this day the children can come to school wearing a red, yellow or black T-shirt – the colours of the Ugandan flag.

Last Day of Term

As you are aware from the school diary dates, we are holding our Leaver's Service on Friday 20th July at 11:00am. During this our Year 6 children will reflect on their time at St Martin's and share their memories of their time here. We will also wish them all the very best as they leave us and move on to secondary schools. Following the service, parents and carers of our Year 6 children are very welcome to stay on and enjoy a picnic lunch with their children on the school field. The whole school community will then gather on the field at 1:45pm to present various awards and trophies – everyone is very welcome to join us (we are all hoping for sunny weather). We are aiming to finish at about 3:00pm and children will then be allowed to leave with their parents and carers.

Work Over the Summer Holidays

We are delighted that over the summer holidays we will be having our reception area redesigned. The plan is to create a 'welcome desk' so that when parents and visitors come into school they are able to talk to Mrs Carter and Mrs Jenn easily, without having to squeeze into the office itself. We will also be having the front door replaced (as you are all aware our current door is a little temperamental) and having a security lock added to the door between reception and the main part of the hall. This majority of the funding is coming from the Diocese of Winchester which the remaining 10% coming from the Governor 10% account. This account is separate from the school budget and there are very strict guidelines on what it can be used for.

We are also hoping to arrange to have interactive whiteboard panels fitted into every classroom. As you are aware, the School Association have been fund raising for this project since the Autumn term, when Sycamore class trialled an interactive whiteboard on a loan scheme and were amazed with how it could be used. Watch this space for confirmation that we are able to get the necessary plans in place for this work to take place over the summer.

A huge thank you to everyone who has made these improvements possible – the diocese, the governors, the school association and everyone who has supported the fund raising events!

Horse Riding Opportunity

Nigel Smith, one of our school governors, has organised an opportunity for our children to experience horse riding. If your child is interested in giving this sport a go, please see the flyer at the end of this newsletter. Thank you Nigel!

Lost Property

Herbie B has lost his named PE sweatshirt can you please check PE bags and return to Herbie if you find it.

SCHOOL ASSOCIATION:

Bag2School

Thank you for all your contributions for Bag2School. The total weight was 393kg which has raised an amazing £157.20 for school funds. Thank you!

COMMUNITY NEWS:

Hatha Yoga

Wednesday morning Hatha yoga in the barn will be continuing over the holidays. A x7 week series 9-10.15am, cost £56, which runs from 4.7.18 to 15.8.18 or £10 to pre book as a drop in.

Joteyoga@gmail.com or Joanna on 07970 166675.

Charity Walk and Cake Competition

Vic Gethin and Nicky Bonner are scaling the Yorkshire 3 Peaks in aid of the British Red Cross on the 21st July!!

In order to raise sponsorship, Vic will be hosting a cake competition at the Yew Fest, a one day festival at the Yew Tree pub in Highclere on 30th June. The winner gets a meal for 2 with cocktails! See the attached flyer. There will also be a free gin bar, beer tasting, live music and local craft stalls! Please go along to support them, enter a cake or just go for a cuppa (or a gin) and taste the entries! Contact Vic for more details victoriagethin@yahoo.co.uk.

ACTIVITIES: 23rd June – 29th June 2018

School

Monday 25 th	French Club 12.30pm Monday Funday 2:00pm Yr 2 – 6 Football Club 3:30pm – 4:30pm
Tuesday 26 th	Brass/Woodwind 3:00pm Judo Club 8:00am – 8:30am Italian Club 12:25pm Sports afternoon 1:30pm Yr 1 and 2 Multi Skills 3:25pm – 4:25pm
Wednesday 27 th	Cross Country Club 12:00noon Meeting for Cherry Class parents 2:30pm
Thursday 28 th	Brass/Woodwind 1:00pm Celebration Assembly 2.50pm
Friday 29 th	

Governors

Friday 29 th	PayPerFin 8:30am
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Church

Sunday 24th	Holy Communion	Highclere	8:00am
Trinity4	Morning Worship	Woolton Hill	9.30am
	Family Service	East Woodhay	9.30am
	Matins	Highclere	11.00am
	Holy Communion	Ashmansworth	11.00am

Flyers:

National Garden Scheme – Old Rectory
The Great Highclere Bake Off
Messy Church
Top Club Horse Riding
St. Swithun's Day Fun



NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME
Garden Open For Charity

The Old Rectory

East Woodhay,
Newbury RG20 0AL

Sunday 1 July

Monday 2 July

2 - 5pm

Adults £5 Children free



TEAS



DOGS WELCOME



PLANTS FOR SALE

More information at ngs.org.uk

THE YEW TREE

RED
VELVET
RM 14

CARROT
CAKE
RM 15

THE
GREAT HIGHCLERE
CHARITY BAKE OFF

HONEY
WHOLEWHEAT
CAKE RM 11

YEW FEST

SATURDAY, JUNE 30TH

WINNER ANNOUNCED AT 14:00



British Red Cross

TALK TO US:

INFO@THEYEWTREE.CO.UK

01635253360



Friday 22nd June

*wonderfully
made*

**In Burghclere Church
3.30 pm**

TOP CLUB



Experience the thrill of Horse Riding

- £15 each for a 30 minute lesson (6 to 8 children max)
- Ride with your friends
- Helmets and instruction included
- Indoor & Outdoor riding facilities
- Pay on the day

BOOK YOUR LESSON NOW

9.30 – 10am

Sat 23rd June

Sat 30th June

Sat 7th July

Sat 14th July

(Call / Text or leave a message for Sandra)

Holtwood Farm Riding Stables

Watery Lane, Holtwood, Nr Gore End,

Newbury, Berkshire, RG20 0JH

Tel: 07548-071362



Come along to Combe Church at 2.45pm to hear the story of St Swithun, followed by fun and games in the Barn with superb children's entertainers Sharky & George, including free tea, cakes & soft drinks, plus an ice cream van on site too!



Sunday 15th July 2018 2.45-5.00pm
 Combe Manor Barn, Combe, Hungerford, RG17 9EJ
 Tickets - Adults: £5 Children: £2.50
 Please email: combechurch@gmail.com to register

Gift Aid No. XN111802

Have you considered ...

*Car sharing with a friend as often as possible?

*Parking at a friend's house and walking with them?

Help the environment, improve your fitness and make the school run safer for everyone!