

St Martin's School Weekly News

ISSUE 37

5th July 2019



Our focus in worship this half term is Humility. As always, we love to hear about how your children are demonstrating the Christian Values at home. Please share any examples on our board in the hall entitled 'Humility in Action'.

THIS WEEK

Thank you to Penwood Nurseries

We are thrilled that Penwood Nurseries have recently donated a number of plants to St Martin's. Answering a request from us for plants for our nature area and playground tubs, Penwood contacted us to offer to donate, and they kindly chose a selection of plants specifically for us, that would attract more insects and fill our nature area with different colours and smells. We are incredibly grateful to Penwood Nurseries for their donation. Should you wish to visit Penwood Nurseries, more details are available on the website <http://www.penwoodnurseries.co.uk/>.

Opportunity to See Your Children's Work

It was lovely to see so many friends and family at the start of this week at the drop in sessions to look at the children's work. The children loved sharing their learning with you and we hope you enjoyed the experience.

Multi Skills Competition

Congratulations to the Year 1 and 2 children who represented St Martin's at the Multi Skills competition at Park House School on Tuesday. They did an amazing job, demonstrating our school values and working together as a team, and they all came away with a gold medal! Thank you to Mrs Burke for accompanying the children and all the parents who helped with transport.

Move Up Morning

The children all enjoyed the morning working with their new class on Wednesday morning. Changing classes always creates a mix of emotions, with the majority of children feeling both excitement and some anxiety, as is normal with any change. The children took part in a variety of different activities designed to help them get to know the new class and to address any worries or anxieties they may have. It was also lovely to welcome some new children to St Martin's on this day – they all went home after the experience very happy because of how welcome our children had made them feel.

Following some comments this week about Year 1 and Year 4 children either 'moving up' into the next class or 'staying down' in the same class, we just wanted to clarify the class system, to make things

clearer and to allay any concerns you may have. As a small school we have to have mixed age classes. We use a range of criteria when splitting the Year 1 and Year 4 children. We consider factors such as siblings, friendship groups and personality. The teachers use their professional judgement to split the children fairly between the two classes, considering what is in the best interests of all the children. We aim to have an equal ability split across the two classes - the children are not set. With the introduction of our new curriculum in September 2019, the children in both classes receive the same learning experiences – this has been carefully monitored by both the Senior Leadership Team and the Governors. Monitoring shows that not only are the children receiving the same learning experiences but the outcomes of the children in Year 2 and Year 5 this year have improved on last year, especially when looking at the percentage of children working at greater depth with age-related expectations. Please be aware that we talk to all the children about the fact that they are all 'moving up' into the next year group. The Year 1 and Year 4 children who are staying in Silver Birch and Maple are still moving up into Year 2 and Year 5 respectively and will be doing the same learning as those children in Year 2 and Year 5 in Sycamore and Willow.

A huge thank you to those children who are moving on from St Martin's at the end of this year, who spent Wednesday morning working in our nature area. They have cut back an amazing amount and the area is now much more useable. If anyone has a trailer and is able to help us dispose of the bits they have cut back, please talk to the school office – thank you!

Southsea Trip



Lower school had an amazing trip to Southsea yesterday! The weather, as you can see from our lunch photo, was incredible – just perfect. We enjoyed activities such as a nautical i-spy, visiting Southsea Castle, and some lovely activities on the promenade, before having an ice-cream! The children were brilliantly behaved all day long and two members of the public spoke to Mrs Rennison to say how well-behaved they all were. What a super day!

Dodgeball Competition

Congratulations to the Year 5 and 6 children who represent St Martin's at Dodge Ball on Thursday. They did an amazing job on a very hot afternoon. They played 3 matches and won one, drew one and lost one. The team showed great sportsmanship and there was some accurate throwing, some very nimble footwork and some amazing catching.

A huge thank you to Mrs Hopkinson who stepped in at the last minute to ensure the team could still attend the event, following staff sickness, and to all the parents and carers who helped with transport and supported the team, especially Mrs Bennett, who ended up helping to referee!



Donnington Castle Trip



This morning the Cherries went to Donnington Castle. We had a great time learning all about castles and spotting some of their features. The children had chosen to have a picnic there for their Cherry Class reward. We spent a lovely morning in the sunshine, climbing and exploring the castle ruins and pretending to



be goodies and baddies. Thank you to our parent helpers Mrs Santana, Mrs Rehling and Mrs Fullick for giving up their morning.

Staffing News

Sadly, Mrs Pretorius will be leaving St Martin's at the end of this term to focus on her family. We would like to thank her for everything that she has done for the school over the last year – she is going to be greatly missed by staff, children and parents.

As many of you are aware, Mrs Lovell has been poorly this half term. Unfortunately this has had an impact on the amount of ELSA support that we have been able to offer our children. If your child usually receives ELSA, please be assured that we have reminded the children that they can talk to any trusted adult in school. The teachers and LSAs in their class have been touching base with them and offering them the opportunity to talk if they want to. This is obviously not the same as regular ELSA support and if your child is struggling, please make their class teacher aware. I know you will all join with me in wishing Mrs Lovell a speedy recovery and we hope to see her back in school soon.

I am delighted to be able to tell you that following interviews over the last two weeks, we have appointed two new LSAs to join our team in September – Mrs Louisa Rehling and Miss Ellena Butt. We are currently making final decisions about which LSAs will be supporting which classes and we will share this information with you as soon as possible.

We are also interviewing for the Willow class teacher job next week and will keep you informed of the outcome. We really appreciate your support and understanding regarding this situation.

We are currently advertising for an After School Club Manager. If you or anyone you know is interested, please see the advert on the Hampshire website.

Reports

Please be aware that your children should have brought home their end of year report today. These include the end of Key Stage Assessments for Year R and Year 2 and the outcomes of the phonics screening for Year 1. Year 6 should receive their SATs results next week. If you wish to discuss your child's report, please make an appointment to see the class teacher after school on Wednesday next week.

Class Photos

Class photos are coming home today so if you ordered photos please check your children's school bags.

NEXT WEEK

Celebration worship

Please be aware that there is no celebration worship next week. Our final celebration worship of the year will be on Friday 19th July at 9:15am.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Upper School Performance

Please be aware that we have taken the decision to move the Upper School Performance planned for Tuesday 16th July to Wednesday 17th July. This is because reserve sports day is on Tuesday 16th July and we feel that if the children have spent the afternoon in the sun (fingers crossed) they will be tired and will not want to return to school to perform. The performance on Monday 15th July remains unchanged.

Lower School Mini-Performance!

Lower school have been working on a couple of things to perform for parents this half term, in music session this half term and last half term. Friends and family are invited to a performance on Monday 22nd July at 3pm in the hall. We will be using many of the new percussion instruments that the School Association have fund-raised for and purchased for the school.

Last Day of Term

As you are aware from the school diary dates, we are holding our Leavers' Service on Tuesday 23rd 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 1:30pm to present various awards and trophies – everyone is very welcome to join us (we are all hoping for sunny weather!). This usually takes about an hour and children will then be allowed to leave with their parents and carers for the summer holidays.

Plans for Next Year

As we approach the end of this academic year and start to plan for the next one, we just wanted to share some exciting plans for St Martin's.

Newsletter

Following feedback from carers and parents about our school newsletter, we are going to be trialling some changes. A new style newsletter will be sent every fortnight, from September.

Coffee Mornings

We will be introducing a half termly coffee morning for all parents and carers. This will be an opportunity for you to come and share a coffee and an informal chat with Mrs Bartlett, as Headteacher, and the Chair of Governors.

Facebook Page

Our school does have a Facebook page, however this has not been widely used. Social media is a brilliant way for us all to stay in touch, so over the summer, Mrs Rennison will be revamping this page and making it available for you all to connect with. The aim is to use it as an additional way of school keeping parents and carers informed of all the exciting things that go on at St Martin's. Watch this space for more information in September!



HOUSE OF THE WEEK: North
House Captain and Vice:
Annabelle P, Freddie B

AVERAGE MERITS

2.55

Florence H, Will A
Jozef S, Natalie E
Gabriella A, Logan A

South 2.51
West 2.16
East 1.16



School Values Awards



Courage Awards

Congratulations to:

Elissa P for being so brave and persevering even though she found her Maths tricky.

Creativity Awards

Congratulations to:

Sebastian B for always coming up with great ideas in Discovery Time and leading the learning.

David S for imaginative character portrayal in rehearsals.

Will F and Isaac R for Fabulous Fibonacci spirals.

Friendship Awards

Congratulations to:

Harry F for being very helpful and a friendly face to a new student!

Respect Awards

Congratulations to:

Paddy W for being very calm and considerate when Mrs. Wellings hurt herself.

Other Awards:

Congratulations to:

Katya B represented Newbury Athletics Club in the Hampshire and Wessex district Athletics competition. She did very well in all of her events - 1200m (silver), 200m (4th) and High Jump (bronze).

Katya B, Gabriella A, Louis C and Isaac R all performed in the Wizard of Oz at the Corn Exchange in the Rare Productions theatre group. All did so well singing, dancing and acting.

Rare Productions and Newbury Young Stars offer great opportunities for children to build their confidence in Performing Arts. Hopefully Y4-6 St Martin's children will be involved in future years.

PAYMENT

Please remember that all Fun Club and Breakfast Club accounts must be cleared by the last day of this term.

Should you have a Year 6 child and you want to be sure that you do not have credit on your account when you leave please get in touch with j.james@st-martins.hants.sch.uk.

Your child's dinner money account must show as a zero balance or show in credit, this will mean that you will need to put credit on your dinner money accounts to cover your child's lunches. St Martin's does not allow you to build up a debt on these dinner money accounts.

Should you need help accessing your online account, please email t.carter@st-martins.hants.sch.uk. Please see the SCOPAY flyer at the end of the newsletter if you are not already registered.

When paying by Childcare Vouchers, please remember to let j.james@st-martins.hants.sch.uk know that you have made a payment in this way. Please send on your confirmation email. Thank you.

CLUBS

Breakfast Club and Fun Club

The booking form for Breakfast Club and Fun Club is attached, paper copies are also available from the school office.

We have spaces each morning for Breakfast Club and spaces in Fun Club on a Friday, if you would like to make a booking please contact the school office or email t.carter@st-martins.hants.sch.uk.

Grassroots Football

The registration form for Grassroots Football in autumn term is attached, please complete and return to the school office if you would like your child to have a place next term.

Simply Guitar

If you are interested in Guitar lessons with Greg Bakke in autumn term there are spaces so please get in contact with the school office.

Summer term 2019 dates for clubs

Club	Session Begin	Sessions End
Simply Guitar	Tuesday 23 rd April	Tuesday 23 rd July
Keyboard/Violin	Friday 26th April	Friday 19 th July

Cross Country	Friday 3 rd May	Friday 5 th July
Grassroots Football	Monday 29th April	Monday 22 nd July
French Club	Monday 29th April	Monday 22 nd July
linkai Judo	Tuesday 30th April	Tuesday 16 th July
Italian Club	Thursday 2nd May	Thursday 18 th July
Ace Dance	Thursday 2 nd May	Thursday 11 th July
Brass/Woodwind	Thursday 25 th April	Thursday 18 th July

SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (PTA)

School Disco 80's Night

Thank you to those people who have bought tickets for this fund raiser event. Tickets are still available so please contact Caroline Bridge/ Vic Gethin or fill in your forms at the office and pop them into the PTA box. All monies raised will go towards buying a new stage for the school. We are also looking for anyone who works for a company who would provide any matched funding for us. This is such an easy way to increase the profit on this event and make more money for the school. Please contact Caroline Bridge if you can help. Many thanks indeed!

Inset Days 2019 - 2020

Wednesday 4th September 2019

Monday 4th November 2019

Friday 20th December 2019

Friday 3rd April 2020

Monday 1st June 2020

ACTIVITIES: 8th – 12th July

School

Monday 8th French Club 12.30pm
Grassroots Football 3.30pm

Tuesday 9th Judo Club 8.00am
Guitar lessons 9.00am
Netball Club 3.30pm

Wednesday 10th Teachers to see parents re: reports 3.45pm-5.00pm

Thursday 11th Brass/woodwind lessons 1.00pm
ACE Dance 3.30pm

Friday 12th Reptile man visits Lower School
No Keyboard/Violin lessons
Year 3 swimming lessons
Thank you tea 2.30pm
School Association 80s disco

Church

7 th July	All Together	Woolton Hill	9.30am
Trinity 3	Matins	Highclere	11.00am
	Parish Communion	East Woodhay	11.00am
	Evensong	Ashmansworth	6.00pm

Flyers

PTA 80's Night

The Clere School

ST MARTIN'S SCHOOL PTA PRESENTS

80s

80's attire
encouraged!

Night

80's inspired
supper &
welcome drink!!

FRIDAY 12th JULY 2019
EAST WOODHAY VILLAGE HALL

8:00PM
TIL LATE

TICKETS £20 BEFORE 7th JUNE, £25 AFTER.
MONIES RAISED WILL BUY A NEW STAGE FOR SCHOOL.
DROP PAYMENT SLIPS INTO PTA BOX AT SCHOOL
OFFICE.

CONTACT CAROLINE BRIDGE 07971 867712



The Clere School

"This is a Good School" (Ofsted, May 2019)



The Clere School was inspected by Ofsted for two days in May 2019 and we are delighted to announce that we are a "Good" school in all areas.

"Teaching is good. Teachers strive to support pupils' learning and challenge them to make strong progress. Pupils receive useful feedback which they value and use to improve their work"

"Pupils are excellent ambassadors for The Clere School. They are polite, courteous and respectful to all and are proud of their school"

"Pupils feel safe in school and have an understanding of how to keep themselves safe"

Earlstone Common, Burghclere, Newbury, Berkshire RG20 9HP

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