



St Martin's School Newsletter

Our current
Worship
Value is
Respect and
Reverence

Upcoming Events

December

Sunday 22nd 11.00am
Christmas Carol Service at St.
Martin's Church – all welcome

January

Monday 6th all children return
to school
Monday 13th – Thursday 16th
Year 5 bikeability
Thursday 16th Census day –
special lunch (to help
maximize school funds,
please can all children in Year
R, 1 and 2 order a school
dinner).

Staff News

We were all very sorry to say goodbye to Mrs Burke on Wednesday. We would like to thank her for everything she has done for St Martin's over the past 5 years. We are all going to miss her lots but wish her luck with her new job – we know she will be great!

We would also like to thank Mrs Andrew for everything she has done for Willow class this term. They have thoroughly enjoyed having her as a class teacher and are delighted that they will still be having her for two afternoons in January.

We are looking forward to welcoming two new teachers to the St Martin's team in January. As you are aware, Mrs TJ Andrew will be teaching Willow class every morning and, as I shared with Silver Birch Class parents and carers last week, Mrs Sonia Ashby will be teaching Silver Birch Class on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. I know you will all help welcome them to our school team in January and that they will quickly settle in.

Christmas Sing-a-Long

It was lovely to see so many friends and family at the Christmas Sing-a-long yesterday. We hope you enjoyed joining us for some fun songs to celebrate the start of our Christmas holidays!

Christmas Lunch

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed our Christmas Lunch on Tuesday. The whole school came together, along with invited guests, to celebrate Christmas and enjoy a Christmas meal. The children's Christmas hats were really creative and, along with the Christmas jumpers, helped ensure a festive feel to the meal. A huge thank you to everyone who helped to prepare, set up for and serve our Christmas lunch. We made an amazing £90 for the Save the Children Christmas jumper campaign!

Christmas Carol Service

All friends and family are invited to the Christmas Carol Service at St Martin's Church at 11:00am. We hope to see you there. Any children that come are welcome to join in with singing a nativity song!

Christmas Nativity

Huge congratulations to everyone who took part in the lower school nativity – the acting, singing and dancing was amazing! It was lovely to see the children so confident in the performances. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to support the children to put on such an amazing performance and thank you to all who came to watch and support their children. Also a huge thank you to everyone who made a donation – we raised an amazing £280. This money has been used to purchase a brand new, whole class set of badminton equipment for Lower school PE next term and a new Tuff tray for Year R (their old one has recently been broken).

House Treat

Congratulations to North House who earned the most merits this half term. They thoroughly enjoyed their treat with Mrs Bartlett this morning – a Christmas DVD!

Christmas Service

The whole school came together on Wednesday afternoon for our School Christmas Carol Service. The children sang beautifully, read clearly and created a nativity tableau to celebrate Christmas. The retiring collection made an amazing £70 which we have added to our Bukuya Toilet fund.

Grant for a Prayer Space

Your children may have spoken to you about our plans to develop an outdoor prayer space in the nature area. The Worship Team are leading this project. They have lots of ideas of things they would like to include in the space and we feel that having a quiet reflective space the children can access at playtime and lunchtime would be really beneficial. Unfortunately at the moment our school budget is not able to fund this initiative. However, Mrs Rowe and Mrs Chorley, our Chairs of Governors, have put together a grant application and we are hopeful that we may receive the necessary money this way – watch this space for further information.

WoW

We are still looking for a volunteer to help with our WoW scheme on a Tuesday and Wednesday morning, to stand at the midway point and help keep our children safe. If you can help, please let the School Office know.

HC3S

Menus are available to download from the link below. We have a few paper copies in the School Office and all classes will have a copy displayed in the classroom.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/hc3s/primaryschools/menu>

Awards

Details of children receiving certificates and house merit points can now be found on our website at

<https://www.st-martins.hants.sch.uk/website/awards/418990>

Raising Money

As you are aware from Mrs Rennison's email, we have raised £60 for McMillian Cancer Support through recycling ink cartridges – as well as doing our bit for the environment. Please continue to send these in to our charity collection point. We are also hoping to get lots of stamps from cards received over Christmas. Finally, a huge thank you to those of you, anonymous or named, who have already made donations to the Bukuya Toilet Fund on the crowd funding page. Last year several members of staff decided to make a donation to a charity rather than sending Christmas cards – this year several of us have opted to donate to the toilet fund! At the last look we had raised an amazing £573! What a difference we are making, through the wonderful people of St Martin's, for other people.

Bukuya Update

It was great to see Dodie, who lead our whole school worship on Monday. She shared with us photos from her latest visit to Bukuya and returned the 'friends' that we had sent out with her, where children from Bukuya have written about themselves. Our children loved finding out about their friends at Bukuya school. Dodie was also delighted with the amount of money we have already raised for the toilet fund!

Clubs

If your child would like to join any of our clubs, please speak to the school office. Please be aware that this information will no longer be included in every newsletter but can be found on our school website at

<https://www.st-martins.hants.sch.uk/website/clubs/418992>

Please see attachments for booking forms for Spring term, paper copies will also be available from the school office.

Finally, on behalf of all the staff at St Martin's, we would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We hope you all have a restful, peaceful break with family and friends and we look forward to welcoming you all back to St Martin's on Monday 6th January.

