



This, the last edition of the St Martin's post this calendar year is dedicated to the learning and progression of your children. I hope you find the contributions of your children's teachers interesting.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas and new year. May 2018 bring only happiness, good health and success to us all. See you all on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018. Best wishes, Joanna Wilson.



## This Week's Shooting Stars



**Form One:** Great effort and consistent hard work

**Max Ng:** A fantastic term's work

**Kim Mia:** A fantastic performance as the Grinch

**Simon:** Having a great week – keep up the good work!

**Musa:** Consistently working hard, doing his best and thinking of others

**Pre School:** Working so hard and achieving so much

**Reception:** Being so enthusiastic and well behaved all term!

### A few words from Miss McCarthy

I would like to say a huge thank you to all of Form 4 and their parents for their support and warm welcome this term. I would also like to welcome Ali, Ritsu and Emily, all wonderful additions to Form 4!

During Literacy lessons this term we have looked at different types of non-fiction writing such as non-chronological reports, biographical writing and persuasive writing. We have also learnt about poetic features and narrative writing. The children have produced fantastic poetry and exciting dilemma stories. During numeracy lessons, we have looked at place value, written methods for subtraction, addition, multiplication and division. We have also looked at different types of fractions. The children have enjoyed challenging themselves greatly in numeracy lessons.

We have had an exciting term in our topic lessons, we have learnt all about mountains across the world as seen in our amazing class assembly! Most recently we have looked at the wondrous world that lives under the sea, which has been extremely interesting for all the children. Overall, a wonderful term's work. Thank you Form 4.

### A few words from Mrs Yaacov-Hai and Mrs Kramer

Preschool has had an exciting start to their St Martin's journey. They have settled into the school routine well and have made long lasting friendships with their Form 6 buddies and with each other. Pre School have been very busy learning their letter sounds, basic blends and pencil control. In numeracy they have been counting, recognising and quantifying 2D Shapes. Their topics this term has been 'all about me' and 'friendship'. We have enjoyed wonderful art activities including, hand printing, collage work and blending. Pre School love using their interactive whiteboard and enjoy participating in group discussions, giving their opinions and listening to the opinions of their friends. We talk about friendship, respect and listening to others. Pre School are amazing – at just 3 and 4 years old they can independently change for PE and take turns and share beautifully. Pre School love learning about world religions, culture and traditions. Pre School love yoga, music, singing, and dancing too. Mrs Yaacov-Hai and Mrs Kramer are proud to be your teachers and are looking forward to seeing just how far you can progress in the new year.

### **A few words from Mrs Doherty**

Form Two have had a busy half term with swashbuckling pirate adventures galore. Treasure hunts, gold coins and rescues at sea entertained us for weeks. Things became a little bouncy after that as we learnt about all things sporty and investigated balls in their various forms. We've rolled, bounced, splatted and written stories and poems about them. They may even be hanging around in your house by now! Form two's reading and independent writing are fantastic. Their times tables and spellings have progressed wonderfully. Form two have been working exceptionally hard and I am proud of the progress of each and every one of my lovely pupils.

### **A few words from Mrs Dreliszek –**

Our topics this term were "Memory Box" and "The Enchanted Woodland". Our Science and Topics lessons were built on the human body and woodland theme.

Your children have been investigating how they change and grow. We have also been identifying and classifying living and non-living things, we have explored school grounds in order to look, identify and name deciduous and evergreen trees.

In Geography we used aerial photographs to recognise landmarks and basic human and physical features. We even devised a simple map and learnt about basic symbols in a key.

During our History lessons your children have been sharing memories of their lives so far and discussing celebrations that are important to them. They have also learnt about The Great Fire of London – as you will know if you came to watch their magnificent assembly!

We have also become familiar with key stories, fairy stories and traditional tales, retelling them and considering their particular characteristics. We have even been learning how to plan and write stories; looking in detail at character and setting descriptions, which developed into the children writing their own adventure stories.

We have learnt about conjunctions, nouns, common nouns, adjectives and verbs and plural and singular nouns. Your children loved investigating tenses in spoken and written text.

In Maths we have followed units on place value, calculations, fractions and problem solving. We have been learning how to tell the time to half hour, quarter past and quarter to. We compared length, height, mass and weight. We have also started learning time tables and divisions!

We recognise the importance of our PSHE classes where we have concentrated on feeling positive and confident about ourselves and caring for the environment.

All this and just 5 or 6 years old! Form 1 are amazing!!! We have been very busy and had lots of fun!

### **A few words from Mr Lacey and Mrs Vietro**

Reception class's topic this term was 'What Happens When I Fall Asleep?' We learned about nocturnal animals, making an information booklet about foxes! We also learnt about the planets in the solar system along with their facts. We found out about people who work at night and how they help us and our country.

In Literacy, the children have been learning their phonic sounds and tricky words. Most children have successfully started our reading scheme. Our children have been learning that sentences should begin with a capital letter and should have a full-stop at the end of the sentence. Our children have enjoyed reading and discussing 'Owl Babies' by Martin Waddell.

In numeracy, the children have been developing their addition and subtraction skills; learning their number bonds to 10. We have been counting forwards and backwards to 100 and your children can even count in 10s. The children have loved learning about 2D and 3D shapes. Reception class have enjoyed learning about the Sikh religion in R.E.

### **A few words from Mr Guyster and Mrs Boxer**

Form 3's topic this term has been 'scrumdiddlyumptious' – all about food, nutrition, and keeping healthy. Kim Mia's mummy is a dentist and she kindly came to talk to the children about keeping our teeth healthy. Summer's mummy is a nutritionist, she also came along to talk to our children about nutrition and healthy eating. We even visited our local branch of Waitrose and tried lots of different and unusual fruits and vegetables. We talked about the food chain. In our maths lessons we covered statistics, shape recognition, perimeter, clocks and time and investigative word problems.

In Geography, we talked about where our food has come from and what Fairtrade is. We talked about how eating different food types prevented different ailments – such as Vitamin C to prevent scurvy. Literacy work has been phenomenal this term. We have written recipes, instructions, non-chronological reports and lots more! We have been delighted to welcome Mrs Gray this term too. Mrs Gray is our new Teaching Assistant and has proven to be a wonderful addition to the Form 3 family.

### **A few words from Dr Walak and Mrs Shonn**

Form 6 have worked incredibly hard this term as they prepare for their 11+ examinations which they will take shortly after the new year. They have completed past papers, learnt interview skills and techniques whilst gaining confidence in their achievements and responsibilities. This term has been a culmination of their academic journey at St Martin's and we are very proud of their tenacity and dedication to their studies. Well done Form 6. You are all amazing and we have complete faith you will all ace your examinations. Any senior school will be lucky to have you join them next year.