



St Martin's Post

Edition 272

31st January 2025

★ Shooting Stars ★

- Matias:** For being kind and helpful to his friends in the class
- Ariella:** For doing supers patterning during maths
- Mila:** For excellent participation in Mrs Wilson's English lesson
- Form One:** For representing the school values exceptionally
- Laila:** For always coming into school with a smile and having the happiest day.
- Max:** For fantastic focus and achievement during reasoning lessons
- Sara:** For working hard on her spellings
- Laith:** For constant cheerfulness and kindness
- Avi M:** For French learning this week
- Israel:** For making a wonderful electric drill
- Dylan D** For a supreme effort in French and for understanding how to tell the time in French
- Dylan D** For improved handwriting and presentation
- Amba** For writing an excellent news report, using a range of high-level punctuation.
- Abir** For achieving in independently using features typical of formal writing.
- Hashini** For excellent independent research skills in Geography

Headteacher Award

Well done to our two well deserved award winners this week!

Saniya for super input during discussions at the Natural History Museum and **Nael** for modelling exceptional, mature and respectful behaviour on the Form 1 trip this week.



This week at St Martins

This week in **EYFS**, our children have been focusing on the difference between capital and lowercase letters, practising correct letter formation, and writing their names. Our Math's objective has been patterns, and the children had lots of fun creating patterned snakes to celebrate Chinese New Year! As part of our Understanding the World learning, we explored the food pyramid and discussed what it means for us to enjoy a balanced diet. In our Personal and Social lesson, we were lucky to have Aariyan's mum come and visit us! As a dentist, she taught us about the food we eat and why looking after our teeth is so important. A huge thank you to her for sharing her knowledge and helping us understand the importance of oral hygiene!

This week, **Form 1** set off on an exciting adventure to the Natural History Museum, eager to uncover the secrets of the prehistoric world! The highlight of the visit was a fascinating workshop all about Stegosauruses, where students learned about these incredible, spiky-tailed herbivores. They even had the chance to take part in interactive activities that brought the world of dinosaurs to life. After the workshop, the students explored the museum's incredible dinosaur exhibit, coming face to face with towering skeletons, lifelike models, and even the famous roaring Tyrannosaurus Rex! Their enthusiasm was contagious as they asked thoughtful questions, marveled at the ancient fossils, and deepened their understanding of these prehistoric creatures. In addition to their scientific discoveries, Form 1 demonstrated fantastic independence and teamwork by navigating London's tubes and trains with confidence. They worked together to follow directions and travel safely - an achievement just as impressive as their newfound dinosaur knowledge! A huge well done to all the students for their curiosity, enthusiasm, and excellent behaviour throughout the trip. It was a truly memorable day of learning, adventure, and discovery!

Form 2 have had a very busy week. They wrote manuals about how to defeat a witch using some advanced techniques to add weight to their points. They have been exploring volume and capacity, comparing, ordering and measuring containers as well as reading scales marked in millimetres. In Science they learnt about classifying materials and writing notes about an experiment as well as using team work to show others how to create an electrical circuit. They have used their knowledge of parts of the body in French to help tell the story of the big bad wolf. The high point of the week however has been the trip to the Tower of London where they have seen some of the crown jewels, explored the white tower and had a go at some traditional skills such as archery and jousting by using the virtual interactive games. They were also taught how to become a knight by Princess Joan daughter of King Edward I.



This week at St Martins (continued)

This week, **Form 3** wrote diaries describing a day in the life of Odysseus or another character, based upon our class reader. In Maths, we are looking at angles, lines and shapes, getting to grips with terms like acute, obtuse, reflex and right angle. In RE they drew pictures to represent the Christian concept of the Trinity and in Science they classified materials into transparent, translucent and opaque. During Topic lessons, they enjoyed researching Ancient Greek gods and goddesses and in IT they learned to design magazine covers using templates to help set out their information. Finally, in Art they finished their Greek vases and began to paint them.

Form 4 have been planning and writing their own fantasy narratives based on the Demon Dentist. We included elements of suspense and description. We also worked on finding areas and perimeters of simple shapes and compound shapes. In DT, we applied our knowledge of circuits to create circuit boards for a demon drill! We look forward to building the casings next week. We also investigated how plaque and acid can cause cavities in teeth and have set up an experiment to see how vinegar and sweet drinks might affect the enamel on our teeth. We played tag rugby and football in Games and taken one last look at the reign of Elizabeth I in Topic. We have also researched more reasons why Elizabeth I might be seen as a good or a bad monarch. In IT, we have again applied our knowledge of coding to create patterns, using repeated codes.

In English lessons, **Form 5** have written their news reports which took the form of newspaper articles, websites and live news reports. In preparation of planning and writing their own penny dreadful stories, they have analysed some of the language in Cogheart which the author used to describe the setting. They used this to write their own gothic setting descriptions and focused particularly on personifying the weather. In Topic, Form 5 looked at further sources and retrieved information from these to learn how the rich and poor differed in their living conditions during the Industrial Revolution. In Computing, the children learned how to use selection in their programming in which a button can be used to turn on a light source. In their Science lesson, the children investigated pendulums; they chose their own input variable to test such as how mass affects a pendulum's oscillation. Our brilliant Form 5 students have been diving deeper into the world of fractions, exploring a variety of problem-solving strategies. They've been putting their skills to the test by comparing different methods and discussing which ones are the most efficient. It's fantastic to see their enthusiasm and teamwork as they challenge themselves and each other!

Form 6's English lessons this week were particularly enjoyable as they rehearsed their lines for the whole school show, whilst working on both stage presence and positioning. In Latin, the children have learnt how to recognise and translate masculine nouns in both the singular and the plural.



This week at St Martins (continued)

In art, Form 6 have been unleashing their creativity behind the lens, experimenting with photography through the theme "Close, Closer, Closest." They've been discovering how perspective and detail can completely transform an image, capturing fascinating shots that showcase their artistic eye. During maths lessons, the children have sharpened their skills by identifying linear and non-linear sequences and taking their learning to the next level by plotting the n th term on a graph. They've been uncovering patterns, making predictions, and bringing numbers to life in a whole new way. Form 6 have been putting their coding skills to the test by creating their very own animations! Using creativity and logic, they've been programming moving graphics, bringing their ideas to life on screen.

PE has been hugely exciting this week as we extend a huge congratulations to our students who have successfully completed their swimming course and earned their well-deserved life-saving skills certificate! 🏊 🦺 Their dedication and hard work has equipped them with vital water safety knowledge and rescue techniques.

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.

Abir

Sid

Laith

Max

Autumn Term 2024

Return to School: Wed 4th Sept 2024
Half Term Break: Mon 21st Oct – Fri 1st Nov
Term Ends: Friday 13th Dec 2024

Spring Term 2025

Return to School: Wed 8th Jan 2025
Half Term Break: Mon 17th Feb - Fri 21st Feb
Term Ends: Friday 28th March 2025

Summer Term 2025:

Return to School: Tue 22nd April 2025
Half Term Break: Mon 26th May - Fri 30th May
Term Ends: Friday 11th July 2025

Autumn Term 2025

Return to School: Wed 3rd Sept 2025
Half Term Break: Mon 20th Oct – Fri 31st Oct
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
Term Ends: Friday 27th March 2026

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



Recycle, Raise Funds, and Support School Projects!

Dear Parents and Carers,

Do you have old clothes or textiles that you no longer need?

If so, we're collecting items for recycling and raising money for school projects in the process! Drop them to school at any time!

What can you donate?

- Clothes (in any condition)
- Shoes (paired, please!)
- Bedding and curtains
- Towels
- Bags

Simply bag up your donations and bring them to the school office.

Not only will this help reduce waste and support the environment, but the funds raised will go directly towards exciting school projects and initiatives driven by our School and Eco Councils.

Thank you for your support – together, we can make a difference!

**** DROP AT SCHOOL AT ANY TIME ****



13th February:	Form 6	Natural History Museum Trip
13th February:	Form 5	Ragged School Museum Trip
24th – 28th February:	Form 6	Bikeability Course
24th – 28th February:	Whole School	Assessment Week
24th February – 7th March:	Form 3 & 4	Swimming course 10am – 12.15 daily
3rd March:	Upper School	Drama 4 all morning workshop[
6th March:	Whole School	World Book Day
10th – 11th March:	Form 3	Golden Hinde Trip
12th March:	EYFS	Highgate Woods Trip
13th March:	Form 4	Science Museum Trip
13th March:	Form 6	Bank of England Trip
14th March:	Form 5	British Museum Trip
20th March:	Form 1	Tate Modern Trip
24th March:	Form 2	Southend Beach Trip
27th March:	Wind in the Willows – Full School Production 6pm Performance at The Radlett Centre	

The ISCB's (Independent Schools Council Board) legal action over the introduction of VAT on independent school fees has been fast tracked – the legal challenge will take place in the High Court between 1st and 3rd April. The defendant to the claim is the chancellor, Rachel Reeves, as the minister responsible for the Treasury. Lord Pannick KC, who is leading the case, will argue that the introduction of VAT impedes access to education at independent schools and is incompatible with the right to education guaranteed by Article 2 of the First Protocol of the European Convention on Human Rights.

I will continue to follow this case closely and update as I am unable.

Joanna Wilson