

NEWSLETTER

Strive † Aspire † Succeed

Autumn Issue 09—10th November 2023



Remembrance assembly This morning, Reverend Nick Parish from St. Martin's Church came to lead our Remembrance Assembly. The children learned about the first 2-minute silence, introduced by King George V and about The Cenotaph, the United Kingdom's national war memorial. Remembrance songs were also performed by the pupils.



A very big thank you to the PTFA and all the volunteers who helped to make Fireworks Night a huge success last Friday (read more on the PTFA pages).

Parent Consultations If you were unable to leave your feedback about parent consultations this week, you can still leave your feedback by scanning the QR code shown here. Your feedback is important to us, thank you.



Year 4 Football On Thursday afternoon, a team of Year 4s attended a local school football tournament hosted by Glyn secondary school. The team played 8 games in total against all the other schools. The team played valiantly throughout the tournament, suffering some narrow defeats, intense draws and a convincing victory. Even more impressive than the teamwork and football skills was their



morale, support and love they showed for each other. Their determination, hard work and perseverance was admirable and they should be very proud of their performances and how they represented our school. Well done, Year 4 football team!

Next Manner of the Week

We say 'Good Morning!'

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Mon 13th Nov—PTFA second-hand uniform sale, after school

Tues 14th Nov—PTFA Meeting, 8pm, Barley Mow Pub, Epsom, all welcome

Tues 14th—Thur 16th Nov—Scholastic Book Fair, 3.30-4pm, school library

Thur 16th Nov—Sponsored Maths event in school, all year groups

Fri 17th Nov—Children in Need day in school—non-uniform day (details have been sent out)

See page 4 of the newsletter for a list of dates leading up to Christmas.

To all of our parents and carers:

Please park safely
outside our
school at all times.



Feet First walking Training Year 3

For those who have not already signed up, we are pleased to be able to offer your child the opportunity to engage with 'Feet First: Walking Training' which is a course provided by Surrey County Council. The training course will provide pupils with road safety skills to better enable them to safely walk to and from school with their parents and carers and prepare them for independent travel. Full details of the training were sent out via School Comms on 1st November. There is a small fee of £6 required for your child to take part. Please note that if your child is eligible for Pupil Premium funding, you can use this discount code FSM8562.

Training will take place on the 22nd, 23rd and 24th November.

Please enrol on to the Feet First: Walking Training using the following link:
https://walkingtraining.online/public/school_training/10000202/

When you have enrolled your child, you should receive a confirmation email from Surrey County Council cycle training team. Your child will be allocated to one of the courses by the school, after which you will receive a further email giving your child's specific dates and times.

Deadline for signing up is Wednesday 15th November.

School Attendance

Each week in the newsletter we will tell you the school attendance for the previous week and list the classes who had the highest attendance. If you have any queries or concerns about your child's attendance, please email the school office.

A reminder that if you are requesting leave of absence from school for your child, a form must be completed at least 2 weeks before the requested absence, as per our Attendance Policy.

Last week's attendance :
31st October—3rd November

Infants— 97.2%
Juniors— 97.5%

Highest class attendance:
Hedgehog—99.6%, Oak—99.2%
Fantastic!



PTFA Sponsored Maths Event: Thursday 16th November 2023



Help to raise money to support our school by taking part in the PTFA sponsored maths event on 16th November.

All children will be given a list of maths facts to practise (these might be early numbers, number bonds, times tables facts or division facts, depending in year group).

Details of the facts for each year group have been sent home in a letter today.

Please help your child to practise at home, so that they are ready to take part in the Maths Event, in school, on **Thursday 16th November**.

Please also collect sponsors amongst your friends and relations. Each sponsor can either sponsor the number of correct answers or a total for entering the Sponsored Maths Event - all children present on the day will enter. The results will be sent home by **Friday 17th November**.

Similar activities traditionally raise a lot of money for the schools and all your hard work collecting sponsorship is very much appreciated.

Many thanks for your support!
The St. Martin's Maths Team

Family Support Worker drop-in clinic

The next clinic will be on **Tuesday 28th November**. If you have any worries you would like to chat through, advice needed or support around your children's behaviour, emotional wellbeing, housing, finances, your own emotional health or anything else that is impacting family life please get in touch. To book an appointment in advance, please email me directly on

howens@schoolsoutreachservice.org

with your name and preference of appointment. You will be allocated a slot time from there.

**Heather Owens-Leather—
Family Support Worker**

This week's house points	
Durdans	80
Hylands	119
Maidstone	81
Woodcote	144

Sports news this week

Active Ambassador

This week's Active Ambassador is **Frankie K** in Year 6 for working so hard to develop his straddle roll in gymnastics, listening to feedback and evaluating his own progress. He is also always so helpful when putting away the equipment. Well done Frankie!



Surrey Sleep Consultant

Quality sleep is essential for children's growth and development. A decent night's sleep will help them to do better at school, allow them to react more quickly to situations, have a more developed memory, learn more effectively, and solve problems, plus it will make them less susceptible to colds and other minor ailments, less irritable and better behaved! (The Sleep Charity).



We are really pleased to be working closely with Roxy, the Surrey Sleep Consultant. Roxy will be in school to offer support to parents and carers experiencing challenges with their child's sleep on **Tuesday 28th November 2023**. You can express your interest and request a **personal 1:1 session** with Roxy by completing this [form](#) (please specify a preferred time if necessary, otherwise your session could be at any point during the day). Please note that this will be on a first come, first served basis. Following this, we will be in contact regarding the time of your session which will take place in school.

You can find out a bit more about Roxy on her website <https://www.surreysleepconsultant.com/home>.

Experience That Matters—With years of dedicated service as a sleep consultant, Roxy has helped many families and sleep-deprived souls. Driven by a genuine commitment to improving the lives of those she works with she has immersed herself in the science of sleep - and continues to stay updated on the latest research and breakthroughs. Her experience has equipped her with the knowledge and insights to address a spectrum of sleep challenges.

Unlocking the Secrets of Your Child's Sleep—Each child's sleep journey is unique. Roxy personalises her coaching to suit your specific needs. Whether you're a parent seeking to establish healthy sleep habits for your infant, are dealing with an unexpected sleep regression, or need to help your child manage night terrors. Roxy will work closely with you to design a customised plan that gives you the tools to navigate this fun, scary, testing, brilliant journey known as parenthood.

Empowering Parents—It's easy to feel like everyone else knows how to do everything perfectly. After many years working in the private sector as a nanny, in local schools and nurseries, and as a mum of two Roxy can confidently say everyone is winging it! There is no 'right' way to parent and no book to show us how to support and guide our child through each stage.

Easy-to-Follow Guidance—Roxy's approach to solving sleep issues is rooted in simplicity and effectiveness. Sleep problems can feel overwhelming, but with the right guidance, they can quickly be conquered. Roxy will equip you with easy-to-follow strategies and practical tips that can be seamlessly integrated into your daily routine.

If you have any questions regarding this support, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Cannon, via the school office.



Children in Need Day this year is on **Friday 17th November**. We have always been proactive in raising lots of money for this incredibly worthwhile charity and we are aiming to beat last year's fundraising total of £681.

The Pupil Leadership Team have been in active discussions with their classes and have come up with lots of great ideas. On Friday 17th, children are being asked to come in non-uniform. If they would like to wear something spotty or 'Children in Need Day'-related, this would be lovely but is not a requirement. We are asking for a £1 donation for this or whatever you feel you can donate.

We will also be holding individual class cake sales in each classroom during breaktimes on that day so we are asking for donations of cakes to be given directly to your child's class teacher, any time during the week of Monday 13th to Fri 17th Nov. Cakes will cost 50p each and any surplus will be sold on the main playground at the end of the day.

There will be various events/activities running during the day, including: guess the name of the teddy; guess the sweets in the jar; football shoot out; design Pudsey t-shirt colouring competition and these will also cost 50p each. Children are allowed to bring in up to £3 to participate in these activities and it would be really helpful if they could bring it in 50p pieces, to help with payment, change etc.

Many thanks for your continued support with all our fundraising endeavours and here's to a very successful Children in Need Day 2023!





Diary dates for this half term

Friday 17th November

Oak Class Spotlight on Learning Assembly 9am

Friday 24th November

Hazel Class Spotlight on Learning Assembly 9am

Friday 1st December

Plum Class Spotlight on Learning Assembly 9am

Monday 4th—Wednesday 13th December

Christmas card post box in school. Envelopes must have the recipient's name and class on the front. (Please do not add anything with the card eg. sweets).

Tuesday 5th December

Early Years and Year 1 Christmas Celebration from 2.15pm. Parents/carers invited. Further details to follow.

Thursday 7th December

Early Years and Year 1 Christmas Celebration from 2.15pm. Parents/carers invited. Further details to follow.

Thursday 7th December

Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day - The children can wear a Christmas Jumper or any top in 'Christmassy Colours'. Please note, this is not a 'non-uniform' day—the children wear the jumper over their school uniform.

Friday 8th December

Willow Class Spotlight on Learning Assembly 9am

Tuesday 12th December

Open Afternoon – classrooms will be open from 3pm

Thursday 14th December

Year 2 and Key Stage 2 Christmas service at St. Martin's Church (AM)

Service for children and staff. Only adults (no pre-school aged children) who are able to help walk to and from the church will be invited to stay for the service due to limited space in the church. More details to follow.

Friday 15th December

Last day of term – school finishes early

Early Years, Year 1 and Year 2 finish at 1.15pm

Years 3 to 6 finish at 1.20pm

Tuesday 2nd January 2024

Inset day – children not in school

Wednesday 3rd January

Children return to school for the Spring term

For specific events listed above, further details will be sent out nearer the time. In addition, look out for information on PTFA events in the school newsletter on the PTFA pages.



The Book Corner

Thank you to Amelia from Beech and Liah from Hazel for their donations of books to the library. **Also a huge thanks to Jack from Pine for the wonderful donation of Bear Grylls adventure books and Beast Quest books to the library. These will all be very popular.**

We are very excited about the Book Fair starting next week, some of our creative year 3's have been working on more posters during lunchtime in the library to entice you to the book fair.

Buying books at the book fair earn free books for the school. You could even start on some Christmas shopping before Black Friday! We look forward to seeing you there.

**When: Tuesday 14th
Wednesday 15th
Thursday 16th November
Time: 3.30-4pm
Where: St. Martin's Library**




The section in our weekly newsletter— 'Parent to parent'... where parents can make suggestions and recommendations to other parents, anything from books to possible autumn activities or clubs. The following points must be adhered to:

Name of contributor will need to be listed with their suggestions.

- *Suggestions are from parents and are not necessarily endorsed by the school.*
- *Should a parent wish to suggest something the school deems in appropriate then we reserve the right to decline/not include.*
- *Parents will not be able to use this as advertising for their own businesses.*

Any requests can be sent to:
office@stmartinsepsom.school
FAO Communications Officer

This week



'I'm big on Self-Help!'

Check out Empowering Parents website at <https://www.empoweringparents.com>

This is especially useful if you have a child that is neuro-diverse, but the skills and techniques are applicable to all children and all parents and carers and for children of all ages.

If you sign up to the newsletter, you will be sent a weekly article that gives you the tools you need to be a kind, compassionate but effective parent.
Charlie Webb



We are on Facebook
and Instagram.



PTFA news

ptfaepsom@gmail.com

Next PTFA meeting is:

Tuesday 14th November, 8pm at the Barley Mow Pub, Epsom

Fireworks Night

A **big thank you** to all who helped, organized, attended, made the wonderful atmosphere and contributed to such a great night! This was a team collaboration and shows St. Martin's at its best, with parents and teachers from across the school coming together. The children had a blast; the fireworks were a big hit and the stalls were hugely popular (as were the burgers and mulled wine).

A special thank you to all the class reps who worked hard to get their stalls manned and organised; and for those who stepped up when others couldn't. There is a team of dedicated parents and teachers who always help set up; clear up; and step in when we are short and we are so grateful to each and every one of you for all that you do.

Thank you also to all the staff who helped make this happen; especially to Mr Webb whose work begins before everyone else's and ends long after we have gone home. We really wouldn't know what we would do without him!

We don't know the full total yet but we will share how much the PTFA raised and where those funds will be allocated in due course.

I wish I could fit in a list of all the individuals but as a taster, thank you to all those who volunteered to First Aid; set up in the morning; set up the stalls in the afternoon; run the stalls; purchased stock; organised rotas; manned stalls; stepped in; marshalled; cleared up; ran for supplies and generally made the event go well.

Thank you also to the committee, who always work with dedication before and after the event as well.

We would be very grateful for any feedback you can give us to help us get even better, and to alert us to anything that you have found did not work. Please either feedback via your class rep or to the PTFA email at ptfaepsom@gmail.com.

Alternatively, attend our next PTFA meeting where we will discuss what went well and what didn't (next Tuesday 14th at the Barley Mow).





PTFA news

ptfaepsom@gmail.com

Next PTFA meeting is:

Tuesday 14th November, 8pm at the Barley Mow Pub, Epsom

We are on Facebook
and Instagram.



Dates and Information

Non-uniform day, Friday 1st December

We are holding a non-uniform day on Friday 1st December for our Hamper Raffle. Please bring in donations of luxury hamper items, so that we can make up hampers for the raffle. Items can include: wine; tea; coffee; chocolate; soap; shower gel; hand lotion etc, and anything else you would like to find in a hamper!

Christmas Disco, Friday 1st December

The PTFA are hosting a **Christmas Party - Disco on the 1st December** at the following times:

Infant Hall

4:45 - 5:30pm : Early Years

5:45 - 6:30pm : Year 3

Large Hall

4:45 - 5:30pm : Year 1 & Year 2

5:45 - 6:30pm : Year 4 & Year 5

Tickets are £5.50 each and will be available on Scopay next week. Please note that numbers are limited. A letter with consent form will also be sent home next week (spare copies will be available from the school office). If you are able to volunteer on the night, please email Gretchen Rusby-Gale: gretchenjgale@gmail.com

Christmas at Ask, Wednesday 6th December

Ask restaurant in Epsom has offered us the chance to hire out the restaurant. This is for parents, friends, and carers only. More information to follow.

Quiz Night

Our next big event is Quiz Night. If you are able to help organise the quiz night, please can you get in touch with the PTFA and ideally come to the next meeting, so we can discuss. Thank you.

100club

Join the PTFA 100 Club - Raise funds and win money!

Each year the PTFA runs a private lottery called "the 100 Club" giving you the opportunity to win cash prizes as well as raising funds for the school.

How it works - £2 per month buys you one ticket, which enters you into the monthly draw. The prize pool is 45% of the money raised each month, with the rest donated to PTFA. A draw takes place on or around the last Friday of each month and if you win, a bank transfer will be made to your account.

NEW - You can now buy tickets online, just click [this link](#) or scan the QR code.

If you have any questions, please contact: Alan Becken at stmartins100club@gmail.com



Values Tie and Stars of the Week



Badger- Values Tie: Isabella and Chloe. Superstar: Malakai
Star of the week: Kayla for being a Thinking Thedrick remembering the ways that Hindus celebrate Divali.

Dormouse– Values Tie: Ela. Superstar: Margot
Star of the week: Yilmaz has been a real Thinking Thedrick this week. He has really thought about the questions being asked during our number of the week lessons and answered these questions with accuracy. Well done Yilmaz, keep up the super work!

Fox - Values Tie: Ava and Thomas. Superstar: Havin
Star of the week: I am so impressed with how **Sheya** has returned back from half term - ready and motivated to learn. Well done for participating in class and giving each activity a go!

Hedgehog- Values Tie: Max and Olivia. Superstar: Delilah
Star of the week: Mila is a real Thinking Thedrick - she listens well on the carpet and applies her learning to group and independent tasks. This shone through in Science this week when she was able to identify the features of each animal group. Well done, Mila!

Mole– Values Tie: Amiya and Rose. Superstar: Kamil
Star of the week: Ethan has impressed me so much this week. In science this week his knowledge and understanding of the five animal groups amazed me. He was helping all his friends when discovering the different features of the animal groups. Well done Ethan, such a positive attitude to learning. I am very proud.

Otter– Values Tie: Marly and Harry. Superstar: Ymouna
Star of the week: Ted was a real Thinking Thedrick in maths lessons this week. He was carefully using the important information in a question to successfully work out the answer. Well done Ted! Keep up the hard work!

Rabbit– Values Tie: Zaki and Jacon T. Superstar: Ruken
Star of the week: Ben has been an incredible mathematician this week. Making connections when adding and subtracting across 10 using the column method. Well done Ben, I am so proud of you!

Squirrel– Values Tie: Charlie and David. Superstar: Betsy
Star of the week: Emily has been working incredibly hard on her next steps in English and taking on board feedback that I have given her. She has been practicing cursive writing and has started doing it in her work already. I am very proud of you Emily, keep it up!

Vole – Values Tie: Sam and Emily. Superstar: Abi
Star of the week: Rudy proved to be a brilliant scientist this week, when testing and evaluating the best resource to fix a whole in a bucket. He has shown great teamwork and was a Resourceful Reggie when experimenting with different materials. He was able to reflect and present his results fluently. Well done, Rudy!

Holly– Values Tie: Lilia and Brittany. Superstar: Arson
Star of the week: Olivia's contributions to our history lesson this week were inspiring. I am proud of the amazing effort you put into everything you do. Well done!

Juniper– Values Tie: Rebecca & Austin. Superstar: Sebastian
Star of the week: Teddy for fantastic contributions in history.

Willow– Values Tie: Maximus and Emilia. Superstar: Myla
Star of the week: Well done Harvey for being an absolute star in all areas this week. I am so proud of your amazing work ethic and perseverance. You are always willing to have a go and can be relied upon to try your best. Keep up the great work, Harvey!

Maple– Values Tie: Mitchell. Superstar: Narin
Star of the week: Alarik for his super science work this week, exploring how we hear sound. Alarik is also taking responsibility of his learning and striving to progress and develop. Well done, Alarik; keep it up!

Poplar– Values Tie: Isabelle and Alan. Superstar: Alana
Star of the week: Mason for your enthusiasm to your learning, especially in maths. Keep it up!

Plum– Values Tie: Cassidy and Violet. Superstar: Oliver
Star of the week: Elodie for consistently working hard in all areas of the curriculum. Well done Elodie!

Hawthorn– Values Tie: Aadhya & Abi. Superstar: Joshua W
Star of the week: Louis for being super enthusiastic and participating really well in all subject areas– Keep it up Louis :)

Hazel- Values Tie: Emily and Joshua. Superstar: Ralph
Star of the week: Hattie for consistently working with determination to master fractions.

Beech– Values Tie: Leonardo and Harry. Superstar: Amelia
Star of the week: Ben for planning such a creative and thoughtful Art project based on sustainability - fantastic !

Pine– Values Tie: Luca and Millie. Superstar: Jack M
Star of the week: Florence for her fantastic instruction writing in English - working super hard to include all the features on our toolkit and being so adventurous with her vocabulary.

Oak– Superstar: Lea
Star of the week: Sapphire for always challenging herself to go the extra mile in English lessons.

Chestnut– Values Tie: Max and Stacy. Superstar: Chloe
Star of the week: Lizzie for always putting 100% effort into every lesson.

