

# NEWSLETTER



Strive † Aspire † Succeed

Autumn Issue 01—8th September 2023



St\_MartinsEpsom

Welcome back to the start of the Autumn Term. To all our new families, we hope your children have settled in well. Please take a good look through the newsletter each week which provides upcoming dates and information on what is happening at school as well as celebrating individual successes of the children. Details of our 'Welcome to Year Group' meetings are listed below—we hope as many of you as possible will be able to come along to these as it is a great opportunity to find out about your child's year group and the term ahead.

Enjoy the beautiful September weather this weekend and we look forward to the last group of Early Years children starting their school journey with us on Tuesday.



## Welcome to Year Group Meetings – September 2023

Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> September 6-7pm		Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> September 6-7pm	
Year 1	In Small Hall	Year 2	In Small Hall
Year 4	In Large Hall	Year 3	In Large Hall
Year 5	In classroom	Year 6	In classrooms

\*EYs to deliver their meeting week beginning 18<sup>th</sup> September when the children have settled (after school 3.30-4pm)

**Inset Day Correction** Please be aware that there is an error on the diary dates on the back page of the Learning Diary. There is no Inset day on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October - children are expected to be in school on this day. The Inset day is on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October and children are not expected to be in school on this day. We apologise for this error.

## Next Manner of the Week

We say 'Good Morning!'



**Mon 11th Sept**—PTFA second-hand uniform sale, 3.10pm, large playground

**Tues 12th Sept**—PTFA meeting, 8pm, Rising Sun pub, Epsom, all welcome

**Tues 12th Sept**—Early Years Group C start, 8.45am-1.15pm

**Tues 12th Sept**— Welcome to Year Group meetings, Years 1, 4 and 5, 6-7pm

**Wed 13th Sept**—Welcome to Year Group Meetings, Years 2, 3 and 6, 6-7pm

**Fri 22nd Sept**—PTFA Welcome Back Picnic— 3.30-5pm, large field

## Year group email addresses

Please use the email addresses below to contact your child's teacher about any curriculum/classroom questions. If you are reporting an absence, you must email the school office only.

[earlyyears@stmartinsepsom.school](mailto:earlyyears@stmartinsepsom.school)

[year1@stmartinsepsom.school](mailto:year1@stmartinsepsom.school)

[year2@stmartinsepsom.school](mailto:year2@stmartinsepsom.school)

[year3@stmartinsepsom.school](mailto:year3@stmartinsepsom.school)

[year4@stmartinsepsom.school](mailto:year4@stmartinsepsom.school)

[year5@stmartinsepsom.school](mailto:year5@stmartinsepsom.school)

[year6@stmartinsepsom.school](mailto:year6@stmartinsepsom.school)



**Considerate parking in roads around the schools** At the beginning of the academic year, we would like to remind parents and carers of the absolute importance of parking considerately in the local roads. We want to maintain a good relationship with our local neighbours at all times. Unfortunately we have already had a complaint from a resident in Sandown Lodge flats about the driving and behaviour of a few of our parents and parents parking dangerously on pavements, forcing children to walk on the road. Please drive and park only in designated areas and be considerate to our neighbours.

**Sand pit arriving soon** We have a great new sand pit that is going to be built soon. We are in need of some sand toy donations if you have any that you can spare please! Here are some ideas; buckets, spades, rakes, small construction vehicles, measuring tubes, funnels...or anything you think that would be fun to play with in the sand. Thank you in advance for any donations.



### Start of term reminders / information

**Reporting absence:** If your child is going to be absent from school due to illness or a medical appointment, you must phone or email the school office -

School Office telephone number: 01372 846930  
School Office email: [office@stmartinsepsom.school](mailto:office@stmartinsepsom.school)

Please call the office as soon as possible providing details of the reason for absence. The office must be called on each subsequent day of absence with an update.

**Holidays during term-time:** Family holidays should never be booked during term time. Any holiday requested in term time will be 'unauthorized' on the school register. Requests will only be considered if there are exceptional circumstances (see or Attendance Policy).

**Celebrating excellent 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. In the Infants we have a special attendance bear called 'Atty'. Atty spends the week in any class that achieves 100% attendance the previous week. If you have any queries or concerns about your child's attendance, please email the school office.



**Arriving at school on time:** The school gates are open in the morning between 8.45-8.55am. Please make sure your children are dropped in school during these times ready for class registration. Teachers share all the key information for the day straight after registration and it is very disruptive for the children if they arrive after this time.

**School Clubs:** Clubs start for Year 1 upwards on Monday. Full details of club term dates etc can be found on the school website.  
<https://www.stmartins-infant.surrey.sch.uk/our-school/school-clubs>

**Naming uniform:** Please ensure that all items of uniform, PE Kit and water bottles are clearly named to avoid the lost property bin!



PTFA news .....

### PTFA 100 Club Fundraising Lottery

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

If you would like to be part of the 100 Club, here is 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 the last Friday of each month and if you win, a bank transfer will be made to your account.

For further details and the entry form please follow [this link](#) or scan the QR code.



If you have any questions, please contact: Alan Becken at [stmartins100club@gmail.com](mailto:stmartins100club@gmail.com)

### Second-hand Uniform sale: Monday

The first PTFA Uniform Sale of the year will be taking place next Monday - 11 September 2023- from 3:10pm in the Junior Playground.

For those parents and carers who are new to the Sale, there is no fixed charge for uniform items - you can make a donation of any amount to the PTFA from 1p upwards. Cash and card payments are accepted - if you could bring coins rather than notes that would be very helpful.

Unfortunately the PTFA can not guarantee that we will have particular items in stock - we also generally have fewer items of uniform available in the smallest sizes due to the greater level of wear and tear at those ages. Uniform sales take place after school on Mondays in the second week of every half-term. The next Uniform Sale following this one will take place on Monday 7 November. Should you need any uniform between sale dates please speak to the School Office and they will do their best to assist.



We are on Facebook  
and Instagram.



## PTFA news .....

ptfaepsom@gmail.com

### Next PTFA meeting

Tuesday 12th September 2023, 8pm, Rising Sun pub.  
All welcome!

## Welcome back! And a special welcome to all of our new families.

We hope you had a great summer. The PTFA would love to hear all about it at our **Welcome Back Picnic on Friday 22nd September, 3.30pm-5pm** on the school field. We will be selling tea, coffee, Prosecco, scones and after-school snacks. Bring a picnic blanket; listen to the music and come and have a catch up with your friends and get to know the new parents. We are looking for volunteers to set up from 2pm and to man the stalls from 3.30-5pm, plus clear up. If you are able to help for any time slot at all, please email us.

**Fireworks Night, Friday 3rd November** We are looking for volunteers to form a committee for this event. Please get in touch if you are able to help.

**Next PTFA meeting is Tuesday 12th September, 8pm**, at the Rising Sun (in the garden – so fingers crossed for sunshine). We welcome all parents, old and new, but particularly request that at least one (if not all) class reps attend from each class. If you can't make it, please see if you can send one representative from your class. We will be allocating stalls for Fireworks night to each class, so please come along if you want to request something specifically.

**Dates for your diary** Please keep a close eye on the PTFA page in the newsletter each week for dates of forthcoming events. Future dates are also listed in the front of your child's Learning Diary to help you plan ahead.

**New Class Reps** Please can all new class reps contact us as soon as possible with your year group; class name; name; telephone number and email so we can add you to the St. Martin's WhatsApp. If you would like to be added to the group, whether you are a class rep or not, please get in touch.

If you don't have a class rep yet, we recommend two or three reps per year on a rotational basis. This is an essential role to provide another source of communication between the parents, teachers and schools. Over the course of time, there is a chance for everyone to be class rep and we are looking for any parent or guardian to take on the role. Please can you let us know your details by the end of next week.

**Recruiting** We are looking for more people to join our amazing team. Although everyone at St. Martin's is part of the PTFA, we would welcome more parents to join the general organising committee. If you would like to be involved, please email us—ptfaepsom@gmail.com

**PTFA Survey:** We are carrying out a survey of PTFA events and activities. It would be great if you could give us a few minutes of your time to fill it in. [Click here to complete the survey.](#)

Thank you for all your support in 22/23. We raised a lot of money for the school and had a great time doing it. Let's see if we can do the same in 23/24...!



Welcome to the Aspens Autumn newsletter. We hope you and your children enjoyed a fabulous Summer break.

We are so very excited here in the kitchen at St Martin's to be introducing the dates for our various themed lunches coming up over the next few months.

Don't forget to put these dates in your diary! Christmas Lunch will be on the 7th December.

You will be available to order via Select and we will still keep our Hot Pasta Option and Jacket Potato Options on offer alongside any Theme Day Menu

We hope that your child will come and celebrate these days with us!



## TRY OUR BONFIRE MENU

**Friday 3rd November**

'Crackling' Fish Fingers  
Or  
'Sky rocket' Quorn Hot dog

'Snap' French fries,  
'Popping' Peas,  
Smoky Baked Beans  
Sizzling Tomato Sauce

'Sparkler' iced sponge  
Or  
'Firework' fruit salad

**Aspens**

### Up & Coming Themed Days...

Below are the dates for all themed lunches happening at St Martin's Schools. We hope your child can join us!



6th October



9th November



13th November



### Is your child eligible to receive Free School Meals?

If your child is either in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 at St Martin's then they are eligible to receive a free school meal.

- Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:
- Income Support
  - income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
  - income-related Employment and Support Allowance
  - support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
  - the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
  - Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
  - Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
  - Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

Please contact the school's office for more information.



Come and take part in a fun Tree Trail in Rosebery Park, Epsom. Find the specially selected trees to reveal clues and once completed hand in your answers to claim your mystery prize.

1 prize per entry ticket

All children must be accompanied at all times.

*(Accompanying adults do not have to pay unless you would like to claim a prize)*

In association with Epsom & Ewell Tree Advisory Board we invite you to take a stroll around Rosebery Park to learn fascinating insights about the trees that have been in place for many years.

The tree trail forms part of our  
**Health & Wellbeing Fair**

A free event which takes place in Rosebery Park, Epsom  
from 10am - 3pm

Tree Trail

£3

Per  
Ticket

A fun interactive day for all the family with stalls and local groups giving talks, demonstrations & performances.

To book a place please visit:

<https://www.jumblebee.co.uk/roseberyparktreetrail>

Tel: 01372 732 451

This event is to raise funds for Age Concern Epsom & Ewell.  
Registered Charity No: 1139652