

NEWSLETTER



Strive † Aspire † Succeed

Spring Issue 05—6th February 2026

Gladiators visit this week

We had a very EXCITING visitor on Monday afternoon when Zack (aka 'Steel' from the BBC Gladiators TV show) came to St Martin's to talk about what confidence means to him. He also awarded some of our children with a best effort prize for all their hard work during the PTFA



sponsored Sports

event last week. The children were so excited to see him and can't wait for him to come back in September for another special visit. As a school we are now using Zack's 'Zactiv' platform to keep our children focused and active throughout the day. Well done to all our winners and a huge thank you to the PTFA for organising. All sponsorship money raised from our 'Sponsored Sport's event will go towards supporting this. Some of our Year 6 children were also chosen to be in one of Zactiv's fitness videos which we look forward to seeing soon!

Best Effort Winners from Sponsored Sports Week

EYFS - Zara C (Badger)
Year 1 - Austin B (Hedgehog)
Year 2 - Jacob S (Vole)
Year 3 - Grace W (Juniper)
Year 4 - Hiro D (Plum)
Year 5 - Maeva B (Hazel)
Year 6 - Oliver G (Chestnut)



Parent Conversations As per the email sent out on Tuesday, Spring term Parent Conversations will be taking place on Tuesday 3rd March (3.40-7.30pm) and Thursday 5th March (3.40-6pm).

Appointments are 10 minutes long and are face-to-face in one of the school halls. Please use your child's Scopay account to book an appointment time to see your child's class teacher. The booking system closes on Friday 13th February.

Dogs in the playground Please can we remind parents that if you are bringing a dog into the playground, you must stay on the perimeter of the playground. Please do not stand with a dog in the middle of the playground, near the gates or near the lunch box trolleys. Dogs must be under control at all times.

Next Manner of the Week

We say 'Good Morning'!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Mon 9th Feb— Football league match v Meadow Primary, HOME, selected children, 3.45pm

Wed 11th Feb—Epsom & Ewell Schools Cross Country League, second round, selected children, Auriol Junior School, 3.30pm

Wed 11th Feb—Year 5 pop-up planetarium visit in school

Wed 11th Feb—Year 2 'Africa Day'

Thur 12th Feb—PTFA 'Love your School' non-uniform day and pop-up doughnut sale after school, Junior playground

Thur 12th Feb—Year 1 Geography walk in afternoon

Fri 13th Feb—INSET DAY

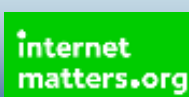
Mon 16th-Fri 20th Feb—Half Term

Mon 23rd Feb—Children back in school

Fri 27th Feb—PTFA used uniform and costume sale, 3.25pm, Junior playground, weather permitting

Fri 13th Mar—PTFA school disco for Early Years to Year 5, further details to follow

Games request We are needing some games for the children to play at early drop-off in the Junior school hall weekday mornings. If you are having a clear-out or have games you can donate, please bring them to the school office. Thank you in advance.



Active Ambassador

This week's Active Ambassador is Noah L in Year 4 for being a fantastic role model and representing our school values so brilliantly at the Epsom and Ewell Schools Panathlon event - well done Noah!



Football News A Year 5 football team took part in a tournament on Monday, competing against other local primary schools in a group stage before a final match. It took the team a few games to settle and find their feet, but they grew in confidence and teamwork as the tournament progressed. Despite some early disappointment, the players showed great determination and worked hard for each other, finishing the group stage with an impressive 5-0 win in their final game. Well done to the whole team for their effort, resilience and great football.



Panathlon Event On Monday, a team of eight children from years 1, 4, 5 and 6 made St Martin's proud by representing our school at a Panathlon event held at Nescot. Just like the Olympians will next week, our team showed friendship, teamwork and

perseverance as they completed each of the eight challenges. A big well done to the entire team for such great sportsmanship!

St Barnabas Advice Cafe The café offers support on mental health, debt help, housing, benefits, employment and physical health—Fridays 10am-12 noon. [Please click on the link for full information](#). The booklet gives information about the different types of support being offered (poster on page 7).



Litter pickers! Pictured here are Grace (Squirrel Class) and her brother Teddy who went litter picking in the local area last weekend. Well done both of you, a fantastic job done, helping to keep our community clean and tidy!

Club Vale Holiday Club: Monday 16th Feb to Thursday 19th Feb 2026

To sign up, your child does not need to be a regular user of our wrap-around care. If you wish to enrol, please click on the following link: <https://enrolmy.com/club-vale-ltd/book-now/20-Club-Vale-February-Half-Term-Holiday-Club-2026>

Attendance last week: 26th – 30th January 2026

Infant Attendance: 96.6% Highest classes were **Dormouse & Hedgehog** both with **100%. Brilliant!** Closely followed by **Otter** with **99.2%**

Junior attendance: 95.1% Highest class was **Juniper** with **98%**.

Book Corner

This week's news from the Book Corner: As we race towards World Book Day, please keep an eye on the newsletter for some of the great treats and activities that we will be organising during the week and on the day itself.

For the avoidance of any doubt, St Martin's will be celebrating World Book Day on **Thursday 5th March**. There will be an option to wear costumes, however, we are aiming to make World Book Day more inclusive and move away from the expectations of having to buy a costume for just one day. In light of this, we suggest that children attend on the day in loungewear/ comfortable clothes that are appropriate for the events they will be participating in. Multiple classes will be going to Forest School and participating in games lessons, and we are keen to make sure the children are adequately prepared for both the weather and activities.

Have a look at some of the great £1 books that you can get for exchanging your World Book Day Token for. World Book Day tokens will be given to all children on 5th March. Please note that they are redeemable until 15th March so please do not wait too long to use your token! As usual the token may also be used for £1 off a book or audiobook costing £2.99 or more in participating booksellers.



A huge thank you to Karl at our local Waterstones in Epsom for giving St Martin's some excellent book related materials with which we hope to make the children's experience even more special in the National Year of Reading.



Our local book sellers Waterstones and T J Jones (formerly WH Smith) are participating in World Book Day.

Thank you to Alisa from Holly and to Erika from Pine class for their donation of books to the library.



PTFA news

ptfaepsom@gmail.com

We are on Facebook and Instagram  

Next PTFA meeting:
Friday 20th March at 8am
Venue: In school

Zactiv Continued thanks to everyone who has returned their Sponsored Sports Week sponsorship forms and funds so far. Please keep them coming and remember to return your funds by the end of February.



As an extra special treat we were thrilled to host a school visit from Zack (Steel) himself on Mon 2-Feb! Zack hosted 2 inspiring assemblies, one with the Infants and one with the Juniors, speaking about confidence, bravery and positive mental attitude. He also personally awarded the 7 x Sponsored Sports Week 'Effort Prizes' of a signed framed photograph (1 winner per year group). It was a complete surprise for the children and teachers, and they were totally engaged, delighted and so incredibly excited to see him.

We were super lucky to be able to squeeze in this impromptu and unpaid visit around Zack's busy Zactiv and Gladiator schedule and extra special for the Year 6 children to meet him before they finish school in the summer, but we do appreciate that not all of the children got to meet him this time around due to other commitments. We want to reassure you that we will be seeing him again when he visits in September for the full school workshop!

'Love Our School' Non-Uniform Day - Thurs 12-February Bring some colour to school by wearing something red to mark our 'Love Our School' non-uniform on Thursday 12-Feb (last day before half term). In return a monetary donation would be welcomed. Cash and card donations will be collected on the day, or pay online via our Sum-up store - <https://stmartinsepsom-ptfa.sumupstore.com/product/love-our-school-non-uniform-day-donation>. **As a special treat to end the first half term we will also be holding a pop-up doughnut sale after school on Thursday. Come and find us in the Junior playground at pick up!**



PTFA Quiz Night Sincere thanks to everyone who joined us and helped to put on a fantastic Quiz Night last Friday! We had an amazing 76 people across 10 teams, hosted by local councillor Eber Kington, who kept us challenged and entertained with a great range of questions and opportunities for spot prizes and extra points.

Huge congratulations to the winning team - "I Dunno Whatever"! And an honorary mention for "We're Here For the Wine" who graciously received the wooden spoon!

A particular shout out to Hayley Simms, Alex Burke and Brigid Ryan for all of their help with planning and throughout the event. Thanks also to Mrs Rattos, Mrs Brookbank, Mrs Down, Mrs Dove, Mrs Squires and Mrs Howe for manning the bar and the points scoring support. We are incredibly grateful to Kingfish, Epsom who catered our huge order in the middle of their busy Friday night service and we really appreciate the help from all of you who helped to clear-down at the end of the evening.

Used Uniform and Costume Sale—Friday 27th February The next used uniform sale will be held on Friday 27-Feb from 3:25pm in the Junior playground weather permitting supported by Year 1 parents. This will include a used costume sale just in time for World Book Day on Thursday 5th March! Please donate any children's costumes ages 4-11 you no longer need via the school office no later than drop off on Monday 23-Feb. We will also empty the lost property boxes on Monday 23-Feb. Any named items will be returned to your child; any unnamed items will either be added to the uniform sale or discarded.

We are also looking for the following uniform items (nothing else please at the moment!):

- All ages: ties, hoodies, PE shorts and joggers, white and house-coloured PE T-Shirts, book bags, PE bags
- Ages 3-4: shorts, skirts, polo shirts, pinafore dresses
- Ages 4-5: girls' trousers; logo'ed jumpers
- Ages 5-6: trousers, shorts, skirts, dresses
- Ages 10-11: girls' trousers, skirts, dresses, shirts

Please only donate clean and good quality items - as a general rule: if you wouldn't buy it for your child, please don't send it in. We **CANNOT accept items which are stained, ripped/frayed or with broken zips**. A significant number of donated items do not make the sale table and a lot of time is spent sorting and taking these items to clothes recycling.



As a school we have signed up for the Hidden Treasure Hunt 2026 through The Pod in order to increase the recycling of old tech.

Every time a family recycles electricals and logs their recycling, our school will earn Planet Care Points. The more points we collect, the higher we rise on the national leaderboard — and the greater our chance of winning Microsoft tech prizes.

Why take part?

- Reduce one of the UK's fastest-growing waste streams — electrical and tech waste
- Bring sustainability learning to life across science, geography and citizenship
- Empower pupils with meaningful, real-world environmental action
- Strengthen home-school-community engagement
- Earn Planet Care Points and climb the national leaderboard

Win incredible tech prizes for your school.

Here's how it works:

- Families take old or broken electricals to collection points across the UK
- Families register their drop-off online and choose our school

Every registered drop-off earns our school a **Leaderboard** point.

The more points you collect, the higher you climb the Leaderboard — and the greater your chance of winning a top prize*. Plus, your school will be entered into the termly prize draw for a chance to win Currys' vouchers for Microsoft tech.

You can recycle small electrical items at any Surrey refuse centre or Curry's; you need to take a photo of the item at the recycling point as proof and then upload it on the website.

How the Hidden Treasure Hunt works

STEP ONE Rummage
Time to pounce! Hunt out your old, unwanted or broken tech and small electricals. Anything with a battery, plug or cable - have a good clear out.

STEP TWO Recycle
Bag them up and bring them to **Currys** — you'll get at least a £5 discount voucher to spend on purchases over £25. Even better, if you have tech like laptops, mobiles, or consoles, they could be worth more. Just ask the friendly Currys team about their trade-in offer* and see how much extra value you can unlock! Visit **'recycle your electricals'** for all your local drop-off points.

STEP THREE Register
Scan the QR code in-store at Currys and register your recycling to earn a Planet Care Point for your school. Every point helps your school climb the leaderboard for a chance to win tech prizes* — and you'll automatically be entered into our termly tech prize draw!

[Register your recycling](#)

If you're dropping off your items at a collection point other than Currys, your registration will still earn a point for your school. But to be entered into the termly tech prize draw, you'll just need to snap a photo of your recycling at the drop-off point and upload it when you register.
*Terms and conditions apply for Hidden Treasure Hunt prizes and Currys promotions.

Awarded to the top three schools at the end of the campaign:

- **1st place** — £10,000 Microsoft tech vouchers
- **2nd place** — £3,000 Microsoft tech vouchers
- **3rd place** — £2,000 Microsoft tech vouchers

[The Hidden Treasure Hunt - Recycle Unwanted Tech | The Pod](#)

This is a great time to sort through your old, unwanted or broken tech and recycle responsibly whilst earning points for our school.

Thank you , Eco and Happy and Safe Teams

Values Tie and Stars of the Week



Badger- Values Tie: Zara. Superstar: Sadie

Star of the week: Louis has been a brilliant Thinking Thedrick, he has shown fantastic listening, and also been a Brave Branley by putting his hand up and joining in lessons. Keep it up, Louis!

Dormouse– Values Tie: Rosie B. Superstar: Caleb

Star of the week: Max has been a real Thinking Thedrick and Resourceful Reggie this week. He has thought about and used Set 2 phonics sounds when writing words independently. Well done Max, keep up the super work!

Fox - Values Tie: Sofia. Superstar: Hayden

Star of the week: Quintin has been a real Thinking Thedrick this week. He has shown lots of progress with putting his hand up to ask and answer questions, especially in our afternoon lessons. Well done Quintin!

Hedgehog- Values Tie: Betty. Superstar: Beau

Star of the week: Rutwikaa has been a real Thinking Thedrick in phonics. She has been working hard on her blending and showed good progress in our Freddy Frog quiz. Well done, Rutwikaa!

Mole– Values Tie: Bethan. Superstar: Marion

Star of the week: Maya has been a Brave Branley this week, completing her maths work independently and even asking for challenges! Its brilliant to see your love for learning shine! Keep up the good work.

Otter– Values: Dylan. Superstar: Elliot

Star of the week: Bauti has been a real Thinking Thedrick this week. I am so proud of how he has contributed his answers in maths, demonstrated his understanding in number bonds to 20! He has grown in confidence and applied his knowledge of bonds to 5 and 10 to help him! I'm so proud of you - well done.

Rabbit– Values Tie: Kylan. Superstar: Serine

Star of the week: Luke has been a real Thinking Thedrick in Maths this week, he has been working hard in our Multiplication and Division unit. Well done Luke!

Squirrel– Values Tie: Zerya. Superstar: Rose

Star of the week: Saesha for being a Resourceful Reggie, applying her knowledge and skill to create excellent pieces of writing in English.

Vole – Values Tie: Jake. Superstar: Lottie

Star of the week: Margot for being a superstar in all areas of her learning especially in Phonics. Well done Margot.

Holly– Values Tie: Beatrice. Superstar: Max

Star of the week: Everley has been a star in our Art lesson this week. She demonstrated fantastic building skills creating her very own volcano. She showcased her impressive practical skills, carefully gluing, securing bottles, and using newspaper to build a strong and well-shaped structure. Everley worked with great focus and creativity. Well done!

Juniper– Values Tie: Empress. Superstar: Ezekiel

Star of the week: Max J - we have noticed how hard you have been working to pay close attention to classroom instructions and to follow our classroom rules and routines carefully. Thank you for the extra effort you have been putting in - well done for being such a great role model for your classmates!

Willow– Values Tie: Christian. Superstar: Kaeden

Star of the week: Well done to Max for working extremely hard at his joined up handwriting over the last few weeks. We are very proud of the enormous effort you are putting in to all your tasks and can see a great improvement. Well done Max, keep it up!

Maple– Values Tie: Emily G. Superstar: Albie D

Star of the week: Hudson for displaying the school value of responsibility showing a more conscientious attitude to his learning. Well done, Hudson - keep it up!

Poplar– Values: Matthew. Superstar: Michael

Star of the week: Ruken, for your perseverance and fantastic attitude in swimming this week! I'm so proud of your for pushing yourself even when it felt challenging. Well done!

Plum– Values Tie: Arya. Superstar: Josh

Star of the week: Jesiah for his effort, determination and resilience during swimming this week. It was great to see him push through and keep trying. Well done Jesiah!

Hazel- Values Tie: Annie. Superstar: Ava

Star of the week: Johnny for his thoughtful discussion in Art and for the good ideas he has for his portal story, being whisked away to the robotic future.

Hawthorn- Values Tie: Laila. Superstar: Rebecca

Star of the week: Well done Mirabella for making great contributions to our class discussions in all lessons this week and for working hard to practise your skills at developing mood in writing.

Beech– Values Tie: Myla. Superstar: George

Star of the week: Well done John, for making such a fantastic start to your time at St Martin's. You have already shown what a great addition you are to Beech Class and we are very happy to have you.

Oak-Values Tie: Isabella. Superstar: Minhah

Star of the week: Elijah for excellent contributions in maths lessons and working so carefully through some tricky decimal problems.

Chestnut-Values Tie: Akhira. Superstar: Charlie

Star of the week: Penny for enthusiastic participation in the Panathlon competition and for being such an excellent ambassador for our school.

Pine-Values Tie: Elsie C. Superstar: Izzie Mc

Star of the week: Johan for his excellent and detailed contributions in all lessons - particularly when writing about his mythological creature in English.

Top Tips for Adopting SAFE & HEALTHY ONLINE HABITS

Everyone has so much going on in their lives, and that includes children: from exams and deadlines to anxiety and mental health struggles. It's quite easy to send memes, make jokes and vent online about the things that irritate us, but when was the last time you – or your child – took a moment to share something kind or positive instead? In fact, when did you last stop and think about your family's online activities? To help keep them safe and teach them healthy online habits, we need to develop our children's digital resilience. There are lots of ways that children can become more digitally resilient, and we've pulled together some popular strategies here ...

WHAT IS DIGITAL RESILIENCE?



Resilience doesn't mean being so tough that nothing gets to you, and it's not about "putting up with things" either. Instead, it's the ability to recover from setbacks. Everyone feels sad, worried, scared or upset at times: it's how we respond and adapt to those situations which is important. Digital resilience is about making choices that keep us safe and happy online, even when we're exposed to something negative or upsetting. Building your child's digital resilience will help reduce the impact of potential risks as they engage with and navigate around the online world.

MAKE POSITIVE LIFESTYLE CHOICES



- ✓ Make time for the people and things that make you happy.
- ✓ Monitor your screen time and stick to your limits.
- ✓ On social media, follow people that make you feel good about yourself – and unfollow the ones who don't.
- ✓ Spread some positivity: post good reviews, leave encouraging comments and share good news.

KEEP YOUR HEALTH IN MIND

- ✓ Try to factor in regular breaks offline and away from your screen – ideally, outdoors for some revitalising fresh air.
- ✓ Exercise is a brilliant stress-buster: even a walk around the block, a bike ride or a stroll to your local shop can really work wonders.
- ✓ Be strict with yourself about putting devices away in plenty of time before bed: they can interfere with a good night's sleep, which is essential for staying healthy.

REACH OUT FOR SUPPORT

- ✓ If you have a problem online, don't be afraid to reach out to specialist people or organisations that could help.
- ✓ Follow people on socials who have the same values and morals as you.
- ✓ You could always talk to a friend, or a trusted adult like a teacher or family member for some advice.

PUT SAFETY FIRST

- ✓ If you see something online that upsets or worries you, tell a trusted adult about it as soon as possible.
- ✓ You could also report the content that's making you feel uncomfortable to the site or app that you saw it on, so they can look into it.
- ✓ Another option is to block the person or the account that's causing you a problem – or you could go one step further by totally deleting the app you were using.

GET THINGS CLEAR IN YOUR HEAD

- ✓ Ask yourself what kindness online actually looks like. Can you remember the last time someone was kind or supportive towards you online? What did they do?
- ✓ Think about how it makes you feel when someone sends you a positive or funny message online.
- ✓ What about the opposite: has someone ever been deliberately unkind to you online? What did they do and how did it make you feel?
- ✓ If someone's behaviour online is causing you stress, try to remind yourself of all the steps you can take if a person's being unkind online.

Meet Our Expert

Cayley Jorgensen is a registered counsellor with the Health Professions Council of South Africa, working in private practice to offer counselling to children, teenagers and young adults. She is the founder of Ingage Support, a mobile app focusing on mental health awareness with the goal of providing resources and solutions to schools worldwide.



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ADVICE CAFE

Welcome Pack

**FRIDAYS
10AM-12PM**

Free drop-in hub with cake and refreshments for advice on debt, benefits, and other important issues.

St Barnabas | KT19 8HA | 020 8224 9838

Our regular advisors can help with:

Mental Health

Physical Health

Debt Help

Employment

Housing

Benefits

Other areas of support are also available, please get in touch to find out if we can help support you.

St
BARNABAS







Club Vale – Sunshine Room Breakfast Club

Club Vale's Sunshine Room Breakfast Club provides a safe, welcoming environment for children before the school day begins.

Children can enjoy a nutritious breakfast, take part in fun activities and creative play, or spend time relaxing and socialising with friends.

Our club is run by caring, qualified staff who focus on creating a calm and positive start to the day.

Key information:

-  Nutritious breakfasts provided
-  Games, activities and creative play
-  Safe, child-focused environment
-  Flexible drop-off, with breakfast served until **8:15am**
-  Open to **Reception to Year 1**
-  Regular and ad-hoc bookings available

To book or for more information:

 07905 394029

 clubvale@hotmail.co.uk



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ACTIVITIES INCLUDE MULTI-SPORTS, ART, DANCE, DISCO, LEGO BUILDING, PUZZLES, THEMED GAMES & MORE!

*** **CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED** ***

Half term: 16th- 19th February

- STAMFORD GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL, EPSOM (KT19 8LU)

Rec-Y6

For
Boys & Girls

8.45am

Start time

4.00pm

Finish time

5.30pm

Extended Day
Finish

www.headstartsportscamps.com

Strive † Aspire † Succeed