

NEWSLETTER



Strive † Aspire † Succeed

Summer Issue 01 17th April 2026

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Sayers Croft 2026
.....
Awesome!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Mon 20th April—NSPCC 'Speak Out, Stay Safe' workshops, Years 2 & 5, morning

Tue 21st April—Year 3 Spinnaker Day

Tues 21st April—Epsom & Ewell Schools girls football tournament, 1pm, Glyn School, selected girls, year 4

Wed 22nd April—Class photographs, all year groups, morning only

Fri 24th April— PTFA non-uniform day, donations welcome

Mon 27th—Thur 30th April—Bikeability Course Level 1—Year 4

Mon 27th April—Pop-up and Perform, Years 5 and 6 plus Loud and Proud Choir, 3-3.30pm, large hall

Mon 27th April— PTFA meeting, 7.30pm, Derby Arms pub, Epsom Downs

Tues 28th April—'Coffee and chat' with Senior Leadership Team, 9am, small hall

Fri 1st May—Pop-up and Perform, Years 1 and 2 plus Songbirds, 3.10-3.30pm, outside Year 2 classrooms

Year 6 are excited to launch Junior Trailblazers 2026...

Please see Page 7 for full details of the event.

To donate please visit:
[Trailblazers Team Just Giving Page](#)
Thank you!



SLT meeting On Tuesday April 28th there is an opportunity to catch up with the Senior Leadership Team. Members of SLT will be in the small hall from 9am. Please come along and have a catch up to find out about some of the key things St Martin's are working on at the moment.

Used uniform donations We are at capacity for used uniform donations. At present we cannot accept any more donations with the exception of hoodies. Thank you.

Police link Following recent unrest in Epsom we have had the following advice from the police which we are sure families will find to be a useful source of information. The police recommend encouraging parents to follow and reiterate Surrey Police media posts, as well as to keep an eye on the local Facebook beat pages, so everyone gets accurate and timely information. [Home | Surrey Police](#)

No dogs in our school buildings A reminder to parents and carers that dogs must not be taken into any school building (including the Early Years entrance and office reception area) - we believe a number of parents with dogs have walked through the building to pick-up at the EYFS gates. Thank you for your co-operation.



Active Ambassador

This week's Active Ambassador is **Teddy** in year 4 for demonstrating excellent courage, perseverance and determination when tackling the exciting outdoor activities at Sayers Croft - well done!



Cross Country Well done to the St Martin's cross-country team who competed brilliantly on Wednesday in the third race of the Epsom and Ewell Borough Schools cross-country league. Mrs Heasman was very proud of all of them for their fantastic perseverance and teamwork throughout the event. Well done also to our Year 2 children - Milo, Arthur and Amelia - who stepped up to run in the place of our Year 4 children who were at Sayers Croft. We are currently in first place in the league so with one more race to go, let's hope we can keep the top spot!

Summer term lunchtime clubs On Thursday we sent out information by School Comms for Summer term lunch time clubs.

Sign up for EYFS and KS1 opened at 6.30pm Thursday evening (16th) and closes at 9pm on Monday 20th April [via the following link](#).

Please note there is an amendment to the time of the Football lunchtime club for Years 5 and 6. This will run from 12.15-12.45pm.

[EYFS and KS1 timetable](#)

[KS2 club timetable](#)

Sayers Croft residential trip ...

This week, Year 4 visited Sayers Croft for their residential. They took part in many activities with enthusiasm and resilience with many overcoming personal challenges. The children enjoyed a night walk scavenger hunt, a story in the Anglo Saxon roundhouse, orienteering in the woods using a compass, nature art, a stream study with measuring the difference between the inside and the outside of the meander, disco, caving, ropes, bouldering, shelter building, blind-fold trail and maze to name but a few.

In their own words, the food was 'delicious' and they even learned how to make their own beds! Those who remained in school created some amazing art, made some delicious food, a trip to the park and Epsom along with Forest School.

They were all a credit to the school with their positive attitudes, fantastic behaviour and teamwork, creating stronger bonds across the year group.

Thank you, Year 4, you were a pleasure to take away. We were very proud of each and every one of them!

**POP-UP AND PERFORM**

Dates for next term:

Monday 27th April: Y5&6 plus Loud and Proud Choir 3:00-3:30PM

Friday 1st May: Y1&2 plus Songbirds 3:10-3:30PM

Monday 4th May: Y3&4 plus Songbirds 3:00-3:30PM

What is a St Martin's POP-UP?!

KS2 children will be released from their classrooms early, they will come down to the hall, *Pop Up and Perform* a song using the screen (no word learning stress!) to a friendly audience of parents and carers (limited seating, standing room around the sides only - it's a Pop-Up!)

Year 1&2 children will Pop Out and Perform outside as above, together with Songbirds (Y1&2 children)

We hope you enjoy our Pop-Ups!



Attendance Penalty Fines

A reminder at the beginning of the Summer term: From September 2025 our school began formally enforcing attendance penalty fines in line with [Department for Education \(DfE\) guidance](#) and our [Attendance Policy](#). While this has always been part of our school's policy, we will now be taking a firmer approach to unauthorised absences.

Regular attendance at school is not only a legal requirement but also crucial for children's learning, progress and overall development. Missing school days can have a significant impact on both academic outcomes and a child's sense of belonging and routine.

Penalty notices may be issued where there are unauthorised absences, including unauthorised holidays taken during term time or persistent absenteeism without valid medical or exceptional reasons. All schools are required to consider a fine when a child has missed 10 or more sessions (5 days) for unauthorised reasons during a 10 week period. These absences do not have to be consecutive.

The current fine is £80 per parent, per child, rising to £160 if not paid within 21 days. This follows the national guidance set out by the government and our local authority.

We strongly encourage all families to support their child's education by:

- Booking holidays outside of term time
- Attending medical appointments outside of school hours where possible
- Ensuring children attend school regularly and on time

We remain committed to working in partnership with families to promote excellent attendance and provide early support where there are genuine difficulties. If you are facing challenges with your child's attendance, please speak to your child's class teacher or the school office.

Every request for absence will be considered on its own merit at the headteacher's and Attendance Officer's discretion. We may require medical evidence where applicable.

If you need to put in a request for absence for your child, a form must be completed and returned to the school office for the attention of the Attendance Officer. These are available from the school office or website. This must be done at least 2 weeks in advance of the requested dates.

School Matters!



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow



Book Corner

I hope everyone enjoyed their break from school and had fun reading lots of books. Huge thanks for the entries already received for the Scholastic Book Fair competition. **All books bought at the Book fair earn rewards for new books for our school.**

If you feel inspired to enter the Scholastic Book Fair poster competition and be in with a chance of winning a £5 voucher to spend at the fair, please make sure you include the following information:

When: 12,13, 14th May 2026

Time: 3.30-4pm

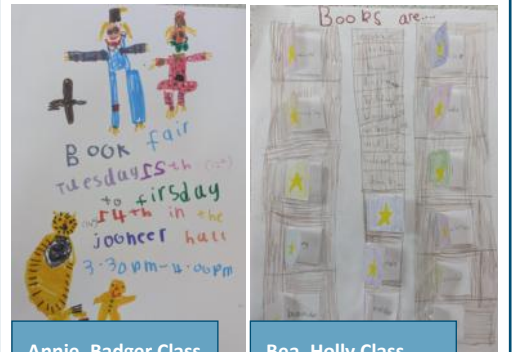
Where: St Martin's Junior Hall

Please also check your name is on the back of your poster and hand your poster to Miss Delpuch or the main school office by Monday 20th April. I look forward to seeing more of your amazing creations.

The following are entries from:



Ethan, Holly Class



Annie, Badger Class

Bea, Holly Class

Thank you to Tomas in Willow and family for a donation of magazines to the library and Henry in Poplar for the donation of books. Thank you also to Alisa in Holly and family for their donation of craft supplies to the library.

Please contact me if you have any queries regarding the library or loaned books at: librarian@stmartinsepsom.school



PTFA news

ptfaepsom@gmail.com

We are on Facebook and Instagram



Next PTFA meeting:

Monday 27th April at 7.30pm

Venue: Derby Arms pub, Epsom Downs

Dates and Information

Easter gift for all children - How is it growing?

We would love to see how the flowers grow and would really welcome you to share with us photos of progress. Pop a picture across to Suzy on WhatsApp, email to ptfaepsom@gmail.com or post to social media:

https://facebook.com/PTFAStMartinsCofEschoolstmartins_ptfa

Colour Run - Saturday 16-May from 1-4pm

Book your tickets!

Tickets are selling quickly and slots getting booked up, so don't miss out by visiting <https://pta.events/stmartinscolourrun2026> to get your tickets booked!

Ticket sales will close on Friday 1-May at 12:55pm.

We need your help!

To put on a great event for everyone we would really appreciate some of your time to take on one of the volunteer slots. Sign up to volunteer on the PTA Events site.

There are slots open to all to help, plus those we have allocated to each class:

- **All** - Set-up, Entrance, Colour Run Packs table, Powder table and Colour Run Goodies stall, Clear down
- **Early Years** - Station 3 - on the course with a supply of coloured powder which you will safely spray / throw over the course runners.
- **Year 1** - Finish Line - on the course with a final spray of colour and helping guide the runners where to go.
- **Year 2** - Station 2 - on the course spraying the coloured powder
- **Year 3** - Station 1 - on the course spraying the coloured powder
- **Year 4** - Station 4 - on the course spraying the coloured powder
- **Year 5** - Start Line - excite the runners at the start and spray them with a little water as they head off on to the course
- **Year 6** - Water tent - have some fun whilst spraying the

runners with water before they start to help the paint to stick whilst fundraising for Year 6 leavers activities

Have some ideas for the event?

A few of us will be getting together to talk about Colour Run ideas on Thur 23-Apr from 7:30pm and would welcome anyone to join us who may have some suggestions or ideas about the event. Maybe you have been to a colour run before and seen something work well, you think something could work well and the kids would enjoy, you might be able to help with something in advance but not on the day. Don't worry we aren't expecting you to sign up to anything major, just keen to get great minds together to make the event come together in the best way possible.

Might your company / community group sponsor a colour station in return for some advertising?

More details on page 6

Join our 100 Club Lottery

Support our school AND be in with a chance to win a cash prize every month. The more members, the bigger the prize, and the more we can help our children's school.

Interested? Find out more and buy your tickets here: <https://st-martins-epsom-ptfa-100-club.sumupstore.com>

Upcoming date

Year 6 Book Sale - Friday 8th May

St Martins C of E School
COLOUR RUN

Our first ever – and we'd love your support!

We're the PTFA at St Martin's School, and we are thrilled to be organising our very first Colour Run! We're looking for local businesses and community supporters to help sponsor the paint that makes the event so special.

Yellow Green Purple Pink Blue Red Orange Turquoise
£100 per colour to cover the cost of the paint at each station.

What your sponsorship includes

- Your own signage displayed at your sponsored colour station (please note, it will inevitably get a little colourful!)
- A thank-you post on the St Martin's PTFA social media channels

Email: PTFAEpsom@gmail.com

Values Tie and Stars of the Week



Badger- Values Tie: Luca. Superstar: Elisa

Star of the week: Sadie has had a great first week back! She has had her listening ears on and has been making good choices. Keep it up Sadie!

Dormouse– Values Tie: Grace. Superstar: Rory

Star of the week: Peyton has been such a Resourceful Reggie this week. She independently chose and used resources in the classroom to help her practise writing sentences with greater accuracy. Well done, Peyton keep up the great work!

Fox - Values Tie: Ali. Superstar: Chijindum

Star of the week: Hannah has been a real Brave Branley during her first week at St. Martins. It has been so lovely to see Hannah confidently sharing her ideas with the class during whole-class lessons. Keep up the great work!

Hedgehog- Values Tie: Jemima. Superstar: Carter

Star of the week: Jack worked really hard on his cold task in English - writing lots of facts about sharks, using 'and' in his sentences and remembering all of his full stops. Well done, Jack!

Mole– Values Tie: Rian. Superstar: Arthur

Star of the week: Nadia's English work has really impressed me. She wrote 5 sentences in her Gruffalo story and remembered a capital letter and full stop for every single one! Wow Nadia!

Otter– Values: Eden. Superstar: Willow

Star of the week: Lily has been a shining example to Otter Class since coming back to us after half term - ready and refreshed! She has been sitting well, showing me that she is ready to learn and participating during lessons. Her engagement and progress in her written English cold task has also been brilliant. Well done and greatly deserved.

Rabbit– Values Tie: Serine. Superstar: Rosie

Star of the week: Adam showed great skill in Guided Reading and was a real Thinking Thedrick answering questions about our text on shipwrecks.

Squirrel– Values Tie: Zachary. Superstar: Zerya

Star of the week: Meli– for being a Curious Cully, working hard in all of our lessons and always giving of her best.

Vole – Values Tie: Amber W. Superstar: Alex T

Star of the week: Marianna for being a Thinking Thedrick challenging herself in all areas of learning.

Holly– Values Tie: Kamil. Superstar: Arya

Star of the week: Everley has had a fantastic first week back at school. We have been impressed with how well she has settled back in. She has approached her learning with excellent focus and enthusiasm, showing a real commitment to doing her very best in every lesson. Super

Juniper– Values Tie: Lily. Superstar: Omer

Star of the week: Aras has made a fantastic start to our new Shakespeare unit. He listens carefully, contributes his own ideas in class and has produced some great work as a result. Well done Aras.

Willow– Values Tie: Sofia. Superstar: Sophie

Star of the week: Well done, Tomas, for wowing me with your amazing general knowledge. It is wonderful to listen to your ideas and to hear the amazing facts you know during our lessons.

Keep up the hard work and good listening. Well done!

Year 4:

Star of the week: Everyone for their outstanding behaviour, teamwork and resilience shown during our trip to Sayers Croft and for the in school activities. Your positive attitude, cooperation and determination were a credit to yourselves and the school. Well done Year 4, you truly blew us away.

Hazel- Values Tie: Maeva. Superstar: Amal

Star of the week: Skyla-May for joining in with class activities and settling into the routines of Hazel Class. Keep it up.

Hawthorn- Values Tie: Aureya. Superstar: Issie

Star of the week: Eloise, well done for using our sentence starters in English so effectively and for your excellent effort in your writing this week. Keep up the great work!

Beech– Values Tie: Isaac. Superstar: Brittany

Star of the week: Max F, well done for creating a fantastic Dali—style model with clay and wood. You took so much care to ensure that it was a sturdy structure and able to stand freely. Great job!

Oak– Values Tie: Noah. Superstar: Charlotte

Star of the week: Sophie for her entertaining diary entry about your trips to Marchant's Hill. What a pleasure to read!

Chestnut—Values Tie: Raphael. Superstar: Grace

Star of the week: William for good focus and accurate work in our shape topic in maths.

Pine—Values Tie: Evie. Superstar: Beau

Star of the week: Isabelle E for improved confidence when it comes to tackling tasks; sharing ideas and asking more questions to extend her learning -well done.



St Martins C of E School



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PTFAEpsom@gmail.com



[Trailblazers Team Just Giving Page](#)

We are excited to announce the launch of Junior Trailblazers 2026!

What are we doing?

On Saturday 20 June 2026 a group of Year 6 children will be hiking 25km from Leith Hill back to Epsom! Before the event, led by a group of parents, the children will participate in 5 training walks over a 2 month period, gradually building up in distance. **Our first training walk takes place this Sunday – 19 April!** We hope that participating in 'Trailblazers' will be a great experience for the children; not only providing them with a unique physical challenge, but an opportunity to learn more about the essential work charities perform and to give back to their school and community.

Which charities are we supporting and what will the funds raised be used for?

This is a sponsored event in aid of two local charities, Home-Start Epsom, Ewell and Banstead and St Martin's School PTFA. The sponsorship funds collected through Just Giving will be split equally between the charities. The funds generated for St Martin's PTFA will be used for Year 6 'Leavers' resources and activities. If we raise PTFA funds exceeding these costs, they will be used for the benefit of the whole school.

[Home-Start Epsom, Ewell and Banstead](#) supports local families with children aged 0–11 through emotional and practical early help. They reduce isolation, strengthen mental health, and help parents build confidence and resilience, creating a stronger foundation for children entering school and beyond. Your support for this event can make a significant difference in the lives of local families, providing them with resources and opportunities to help them thrive.

Thank you to our event sponsors!

We would like to say a big 'Thank You!' to the companies who have generously sponsored the T-shirts and other equipment for this event:

- Alturas Consulting Services Ltd.
- Gastrax Gas & Heating Ltd.
- MW Early Years Training & Support Services Ltd.

To support Year 6 with meeting their **fundraising goal of £10,000** please visit the [Trailblazers Team Just Giving Page](#).
Your support is greatly appreciated! Thank you for sharing!

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SNAP STREAK

97

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

With over 900 million active monthly users and billions of 'Snaps' sent each month, Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family while using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.

SCREEN ADDICTION

Snapchat boosts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak's been going for a few days, users will see a 🔥 emoji. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.

SEXTORTION

Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.

SNAPCHAT+

Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2025, Snapchat introduced a new tier called Lens+, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.

ACCESSIBILITY

Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's disappearing messages feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB

Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a Family Safety Hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.

BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger connects with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report somebody for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'nudes'.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately, talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explain why some settings are safer than others, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes in their friendship groups.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat>

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 17.09.2025



Cygnets in Surrey

Where is it being delivered?

6 week in person course being delivered at The Greville Primary School, Stonny Croft, Ashted, KT21 1SH from 21st April to 19th May with the final session on the 2nd June at 9.15am to 11.45am.

Who can attend?

Parents, carers or other family members who have responsibility for your child. Your child must be of school age and live in Surrey. They may show traits of autism, be waiting for or have a diagnosis of autism.

What does Cygnets involve?

The programme is delivered over six 2 ½ - 3 hour sessions which include:

- Introductory session
- Overview of autism with parent and carer experience
- Thinking & sensory
- Social interaction & communication
- Understanding & supporting behaviour
- Analysing behaviour

Who will deliver the course?

Surrey's Cygnets offer is coordinated through the Autism Outreach team but our team of trainers are made up from professionals working across Surrey in education, health and charity organisations.

Can I ask some questions?

Email us at parenttraining@freemantles.surrey.sch.uk or contact Mrs Williams at The Greville – awilliams@greville.surrey.sch.uk

How do I join a course?

Please register by scanning the QR code or by using the link <https://www.tvbooking.com/uk/79736>

Course Name: Group 28 The Greville

There is a £10.00 booking fee. If you are not in a financial position to pay for this please contact parenttraining@freemantles.surrey.sch.uk, to discuss further.

