

NEWSLETTER



Strive † Aspire † Succeed

Summer Issue 04 8th May 2026

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Multi-skills event A team of nine children from Year 1 proudly represented the school at the Epsom and Ewell Schools Infants Multi-Skills event this Friday. They gave their all, trying out different activities including obstacle courses, fancy dress races, throwing and goal shooting. Everyone was impressed with the team spirit they showed and their skills - awarding them so many stickers that their tops and water bottles were covered!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Mon 11th-Thurs 14th May—Year 6 SAT's

Tues 12th-Thur 14th May—Scholastic Book Fair, large hall, 3.30-4pm

Wed 13th May—Cross Country league race (4), selected children, Danetree School, 4pm

Fri 15th May—Spotlight on Learning assembly, Maple class, large hall, 9am

Fri 15th May—'Pop-up and perform', Years 3 & 4 plus Loud and Proud choir, large hall, 3pm, parents invited

Sat 16th May— PTFA Colour Run, 1-4pm

Mon 18th—Fri 22nd May—Bikeability Level 2, Year 6

Mon 18th May—SRE meeting, Year 4 parents, Plum class, 3.40pm

Mon 18th May— PTFA used uniform sale, 8.30am

Tues 19th May—Year 3 trip to Chessington World of Adventures

Tuesday 19th May—Scatterball Tournament, selected children in year 2, Meadow Primary School, 9.15am

Tues 19th May—SRE meeting, Year 5 parents, Beech class, 3.40pm

Wed 20th May—Sports Day

Thur 21st May—Languages Day

Fri 22nd May—Spotlight on Learning assembly, EYFS, all 3 classes, 9am, large hall

Mon 25th—Fri 29th May—Half Term

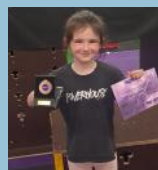
Mon 1st June—INSET DAY

Tues 2nd June—Science Fair, Years 1&2, 3&5



Active Ambassador

This week's Active Ambassador is Mackenzie in Vole class, Year 2 who took part in the Parkour Master's Event last Saturday where she was awarded a bronze medal for achieving Rookie Master level. Well done Mackenzie!



District Sports Dates

Here are upcoming District Sports dates. Children who have been selected to take part will have been told by their class teachers in school today (Friday).

Letters with full information and timings will be sent out to the selected children next week via School Comms.

Early Years and KS1 at Danetree School - Wednesday 3rd June (after school)

KS2 FIELD event at Stamford Green school - Monday 8th June (after school)

KS2 TRACK at Excel Elmbridge - Thursday 11th June (morning)

Donations request for EYFS

Our Early Years team is developing their outdoor garden space and would really value your support. If you have any unused toys or resources at home that could be useful, we would be grateful for your donations. These can be dropped off either in the Early Years area or at the school office. Thank you in advance.

We are particularly interested in:

- Mythical creature figures
- Natural materials such as small logs, leaves, and branches
- Animal figures (e.g. farm or safari animals)
- Construction and building resources.

SATs Poem With the SATs fast approaching, we would like to share with you a popular poem by an anonymous author:



SATs don't measure sports,
SATs don't measure art,
SATs don't measure music,
Or the kindness in your heart.

SATs don't see your beauty,
SATs don't see your worth,
SATs don't see the reasons,
You were put upon this earth.

SATs don't see your magic,

How you make others smile,
SATs don't time how quickly,
You can run a mile.

SATs don't hear your laughter,
Or see you've come this far,
SATs are just a tiny glimpse,
Of who you really are.

So sitting at your table,
With a pencil and your test,
Remember SATs aren't who you
are,
Remember you're the best.



Wishing Year 6 well in their SATs next week.

Year 6 pre-teens workshop

handout If you were not able to attend the 'Pre-teens workshop' on Tuesday this week, run Lesley Lane from HomeStart, [click on the following link](#) to view the hand-out which is full of useful information.



**Years 3 and 4
'Pop-up and Perform'**

**next Friday 15th May
3pm**

Large hall

plus the Loud and Proud choir



Book Corner



Thank you to Florence in Hazel, George in Rabbit and Alisa in Holly class for their donations of books to the library.

As we expect the Book Fair to be popular, please consider coming on the following afternoons to avoid too much of a queue. We would like to suggest the following:

Tuesday: Early Years, Year 2 and Year 4

Wednesday: Year 1 and Year 3

Thursday: Year 5 and 6

Please do come at a time that is convenient to you as all books sold earn rewards for the school to buy more books!



We cannot 'reserve' any books due to the popularity of many titles. Please make payment by card as we will have a very small amount of change available.

Should you have questions about books at the Book Fair or any other book related matter please contact me Librarian@stmartinsepsom.school

School Attendance

**Attendance last week:
27th April - 1st May 2026**

Infant Attendance: 97.4%
Highest class: **Squirrel** for the second week running, with **100%**.

Well done! Atty Bear has spent another week in your classroom!

Junior attendance: 97%
Highest class: Hazel with 99%. Brilliant.

Growing Green: A New Chapter for Outdoor Learning

Celebrating our new outdoor classroom, Eco Hub and Forest School success



There's something exciting growing at our school - and it's much more than trees and plants. Our brand-new outdoor classroom is officially complete, opening up a world of adventure, creativity and hands-on learning for our pupils.

Beautifully designed and built by School Outdoor Learning (SOUL), this inspiring new space will become the heart of outdoor education across the school. From storytelling and science investigations to art, wellbeing sessions and collaborative projects, pupils will now have even more opportunities to learn beyond the four walls of the classroom.

The outdoor classroom will also serve as our dedicated Eco Hub - a vibrant space where children can explore sustainability, discover the natural world and develop a deeper understanding of how to care for the environment through practical experiences and eco projects.

We would like to say a huge thank you to Surrey County Council for providing £7,000 of funding towards the project, as well as to our fantastic PTFA for their additional support and fundraising efforts. This wonderful new space would not have been possible without their generosity.

We are also thrilled to announce that the school has been awarded a Local School Nature Grant, funded by the players of the People's Postcode Lottery, providing £750 worth of outdoor learning and nature equipment for pupils to enjoy. To add to these achievements, we have received £200 from the Surrey Gardens Trust Schools Award for new gardening equipment.

These achievements reflect our school's ongoing commitment to environmental education, outdoor learning and pupil wellbeing. With these exciting new facilities and resources, our Forest School and Eco programmes will continue to flourish.





PTFA news

ptfaepsom@gmail.com

We are on Facebook and Instagram



Next PTFA meeting:
Friday 26th June at 7.30pm
Venue: to be confirmed

Dates and Information

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

We need your help!

We are just 1 week away from the Colour Run and it's all coming together!

We are so incredibly grateful for all who have signed up to volunteer, but we still have lots of volunteer slots that need filling and really can't put on this event without you!

Critical timeslots are:

13:45pm - Year 1 (Finish Line) - at least 1 more

13:45pm - Year 5 (Start Line) - at least 1 more

14:30pm - Powder table - currently 0 volunteers - minimum 3 needed!

14:30pm - Year 4 (Station 4) - at least 1 more

14:30pm - Year 5 (Start Line) - at least 1 more

15:15pm - Entrance - 1 more needed

15:15pm - Goodies Table - currently 0 volunteers - minimum 2 needed!

15:15pm - Powder Table - currently only 1 volunteer - at least 2 more needed

Please don't only consider signing up for a stall assigned to your group, this is now a group effort to make this event run smoothly. Pick a time slot and sign yourself up to any stall at that time.

All of the volunteer slots are on the PTFA Events site, so if you haven't yet, please please log back in to sign up and help put on a great event:

<https://pta.events/stmartinscolourrun2026>.

Thank you so much for your support!

Are you a childminder with spaces becoming available from September?

Our new Early Years parents are confirming their places with St Martin's and already thinking about wrap-around child-care.

If you are a childminder with slots becoming available and able to take on some of the new joiners from September, please get in touch with Suzy directly or via the ptfaepsom@gmail.com and we will be able to connect you with the new parents.

Let's help the new families feel supported and prepared for joining St Martin's.

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>

Emptying of Lost Property Trolleys

Please take note that the Lost Property trolleys in the office and Early Years areas will be emptied after drop off on Monday 18-May.

Please make sure you collect any lost items that belong to you before this time. Any items left will be removed - all named items will be returned to your child via the school office/class, any unnamed items in good condition will be washed and added to the next second hand uniform sale after half term, the rest will be recycled.

Used uniform sales

The next used uniform sale will take place at 8.30am on Monday 18-May from the kitchen area in the Music/Library block. This will be your last chance to check out the remaining selection of house coloured T-Shirts of all sizes before Sports Day on 20-May!

The online request form for second-hand uniform items remains open until Sunday 17-May at 6pm. You can find this under Uniforms & Merchandise on the PTFA website: St Martin's Cof E Schools PTFA

The Colour Run Needs YOU!





It's fun, it raises money for school and the more volunteers the better.

Sign up – your kids will love you for it!



We are recruiting for a PTFA Chair/Co-Chairs!

The Chair role is instrumental in ensuring the smooth running of the PTFA.

Responsibilities include:

- Becoming a trustee of the charity
- Leading the relationship between the PTFA and school
- Leading PTFA meetings, including creation of agendas
- Event coordination of all PTFA fundraising events
- Coordination of volunteers, PTFA committee and class reps
- Liaising with external agencies and companies in respect of events
- Creation of PTFA event calendar with support of committee and school

In line with all the PTFA positions, this role is voluntary. If you would like to find out more, please contact us: ptfaepsom@gmail.com

Values Tie and Stars of the Week



Badger- Values Tie: Jayden. Superstar: Kai

Star of the week: Badger Class - For being so well behaved on our trip to Godstone Farm and having the best time! Well done all of you.

Dormouse– Values Tie: Caleb. Superstar: Piper

Star of the week: Han has shown fantastic thinking skills this week. He is using a broader range of vocabulary during play and when speaking with adults. Keep up the excellent work Han!

Fox - Values Tie: Freddie. Superstar: Joel

Star of the week: To Fox Class for being fantastic ambassadors for St. Martins during our farm trip. Well done on your great behaviour and engagement. Keep it up Foxes!

Hedgehog- Values Tie: Mayson. Superstar: Reuben

Star of the week: Sloane was a real Thinking Thedrick in English— saying her sentences before writing them to make sure they make sense, using full stops in all the right places, and beginning to edit her work. Well done, Sloane!

Mole– Values Tie: Jacob. Superstar: Bethan

Star of the week: Rian has been working super hard recently, especially with his handwriting and taking his time with his work so that it looks beautiful and doesn't miss out any important bits! Fantastic work, keep it up!

Otter– Values: Aiden. Superstar: Sam

Star of the week: Emma G has created an excellent fact file booklet all about Owls as her innovation in English this week. Her handwriting and formation was incredible, and she even self-edited to correct any previous mistakes. A great piece of work, well done!

Rabbit– Values Tie: Jack. Superstar: Esmee

Star of the week: Freya showed amazing mathematical thinking this week when explaining her answers in maths. Well done Freya!

Squirrel– Values Tie: Havin. Superstar: Yan Yu

Star of the week: Emaan - being a Thinking Thedrick and using sounds to blend when reading and recognising red words.

Vole – Values Tie: Monty. Superstar: Hans-Josef

Star of the week: Amelie for being a Thinking Thedrick reading with great expression and fluency. Keep up the great work Amelie.

Holly– Values Tie: Noa. Superstar: Hugo

Star of the week: We are incredibly proud of how well **Erin** has been doing in class recently. She has shown a fantastic attitude towards her learning and has been demonstrating excellent learning behaviours in all lessons. She is also trying really hard to participate more regularly. Keep up the great effort Erin :)

Juniper– Values Tie: Ymouna. Superstar: Alex

Star of the week: Well done **Clara** for being an excellent role-model to your peers in Juniper class. You listen carefully and try hard with your independent activities. Keep up the good work!

Willow– Values Tie: Wilf. Superstar: Sofia

Star of the week: Well done to **Phoebe** for demonstrating responsibility and for being consistently kind and thoughtful towards others. You are a huge help in class, always showing a positive attitude, offering support when needed, and setting a wonderful example to others. We are very proud of you. Thank you!

Poplar- Values Tie: Robin. Superstar: Lacey

Star of the week: Evan for being a hard worker, contributing to discussions and sharing valuable ideas in class. Your effort and input make a real difference - you're great!

Maple- Values Tie: Kaylie. Superstar: Charlie

Star of the week: Albie D for showing an impressive attitude to all your learning, striving to develop your understanding and learning outcomes. Well done, Albie, keep it up!

Plum- Values Tie: Erin. Superstar: Jacob T

Star of the week: Emilia for consistently doing her best in maths and showing increased confidence and courage when answering questions in class. Well done Emilia!

Hazel- Values Tie: Eunice. Superstar: Emily

Star of the week: Maximus- for joining in with lessons more regularly this week. It has been great to hear your opinions on topics. Keep it up!

Hawthorn- Values Tie: Laila. Superstar: Evin

Star of the week: Rebecca, well done for writing an incredibly thoughtful acrostic poem about Christian hope in RE this week. Your deep understanding of the learning clearly shone through your beautiful work!

Beech– Values Tie: Joanna. Superstar: Emmi

Star of the week: Raffi for being a computer whizz in the Beech class assembly.

Oak– Values Tie: Cassidy. Superstar: Violet

Star of the week: Oliver for working so well in maths. Thank you for contributing with enthusiasm and always trying your best!

Chestnut—Values Tie: Alana. Superstar: Lettie

Star of the week: Aaron for his positive approach to everything we do in school and his hard work and great contributions in every lesson.

Pine—Values Tie: Ollie H. Superstar: Thea

Star of the week: Bea for her fantastic use of vocabulary and skill at creating a balanced argument in her discussion text hot task - well done!

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

YOUTUBE

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Almost anyone with an internet connection knows YouTube. The Google-owned site lets anyone upload videos to be shared around the world, and as a result, it's an incredible resource with instant free access to material covering every conceivable topic. But with over 500 hours of video uploaded every minute, not all of it will be appropriate for young eyes.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate content. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but it can also lead to binge-watching and screen addiction – especially if 'auto-play' is active. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

RADICALISATION

YouTube's algorithm tends to promote content that's getting the most traffic – a lot of which can be quite extreme. This can be fine for harmless topics, but YouTube isn't regulated like television, and that means that conspiracy theories, fake news and hateful ideologies can occasionally surface to warp impressionable minds all too easily. Remember – the more they watch, the more they'll be recommended.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as message other users directly. Connecting with strangers online can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, cyberbullying and – in the worst cases – online predators. If a child is creating content themselves, this can increase the likelihood of them becoming a target.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends and challenges, some of which are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may cause physical or emotional harm children who watch or copy them. The painful 'salt and ice challenge' – where people use these two ingredients to burn their skin – is just one of many examples.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

The comments sections of popular content creators regularly have scammers posing as that influencer, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and often offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users aren't who they claim to be.

Advice for Parents & Educators

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

For older children, Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate material (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence, and sexual content) to underage viewers. To prevent children from changing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that they use to access YouTube. It's worth also turning the auto-play feature off, to prevent YouTube's algorithm automatically recommending something inappropriate.



TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows parents and carers to monitor what their child is watching, uploading, and sharing with other users; it will also display their recently watched videos, searches, and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives a parent or carer oversight of how their child uses sites like YouTube and helps to ensure that they are only accessing appropriate content.

MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them under 18. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course. You may want to keep an eye on how children interact with this material – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand what they're interested in. Remember that creators often share content outside of YouTube, so don't ignore their web presence elsewhere!

CONSIDER YOUTUBE KIDS

It's possible to sidestep most inappropriate content completely via Google's own YouTube Kids app for Android handsets and iPhone. This lets you filter content by "preschool" (4 and under), "younger" (ages 5 to 8) and "older" (ages 9 to 12). This isn't a perfect substitute for personal supervision, as the app's filtering system is automated, and Google can't manually review all videos.

CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that a child is subscribed to can be hidden. If the child is only uploading videos set as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.

LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases. For example, users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch. If you'd like to avoid children purchasing content online, limit their access to online payment methods. Many parents have discovered the hard way that a child happily consuming a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



The National College

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Changing childhoods.
Changing lives.



Surrey Paediatrics Parenting Service



The Paediatrics Parenting Support Service has been commissioned by Surrey Heartlands Trust to offer support to parent/carers and their families living in Surrey whose children aged 5 and under who may be neurodivergent, exhibiting challenging or avoidant behaviours, or are seeking help to improve their child's social and emotional skills.

Empowering parents/carers with the support and tools they need to allow their children to thrive.

What we offer

Our service encourages parents/carers to explore the early developmental stages of young people, offer a deeper understanding into emotional regulation, explore strategies that can be used at home and shared with childcare provisions.

Our practitioners provide a 6-week online group or a 3-week face-to-face group within the community with the option to bring children along.



Referral Process

Our service accepts referrals from the community. This includes but is not limited to:

- Professionals working with the family (School, social care etc)
- GP surgeries
- Parents or Carers themselves

Referrals can be completed by scanning the below QR code.

Any questions can be sent to: SurreySupportU5@barnardos.org.uk

OR

Barnardo's Paediatrics Parenting Service,
Dorset House,
Kingston Road,
Leatherhead, Surrey,
KT22 7PL



TENNIS OPEN DAY
Adults and juniors welcome

Saturday 30th May
11am - 3pm

Epsom Lawn Tennis Club, Woodkote Road, Epsom, KT18 7QN

- 👉 Coaching tips, fun activities and games
- 👥 Meet & play with members
- 🍖 BBQ & bar open
- 🏆 Fastest serve competition

WHAT WE OFFER

- 4 x Grass Courts
- 5 x Artificial Clay Courts
- 2 x Macadam Courts
- Surrey Team Tennis
- Coaching Available
- Social Sessions, Tournaments and Box Leagues


epsomtennisclub.co.uk

INFORMATION EVENT




Considering a career in teaching?

Would you like to train in a school in your local community?
Come and chat with a member of our friendly South Farnham SCITT team and find out if teacher training is the career for you.

 St Martin's C of E Schools, Ashley Road,
Epsom KT18 7AD.

 Tuesday 2nd June 2026

 Drop in anytime between 12:00-4:30pm

No need to book. Ask us about:

- Do I need experience?
- Which programme is right for me?
- What finance options are available?




FOR MORE INFO

 scitt@sfet.org.uk

 www.ssfscitt.org.uk



Club Vale Summer Holiday Club 2026

 Epsom, Surrey

DISCOUNTS
AVAILABLE

We are running our Summer Holiday club from Monday 20th July until Friday 31st July 2026
All children welcome, they don't need to be a regular user of our wraparound care.

Click the link to book: <https://enrolmy.com/club-vale-ltd/book-now/21-Club-Vale-Summer-Holiday-Club-2026>

Website: <http://www.clubvale.co.uk>

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