



## St Martin's Primary

### Class Newsletter

#### Primary 1 – Term 1 2026/2027

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the new term and for those children and families who are joining us this session, a very warm welcome to our St Martin's family! It is wonderful to see our young children so smartly dressed in their uniform, demonstrating our school rules of Being Kind, Ready to learn and Trying their best. This term we are focussing on establishing our pupil voice groups which will be lead in part by our pupil leadership group. The members of this group are our House Captains and Vice Captains, Head Boy and Girl and our Lead inclusion Ambassador. It is very exciting to have such wonderful role models in our Primary 7 this year and I look forward to working with them on our school improvement agenda. I am very keen to increase our opportunities for parents to meet and work together with the school so please make sure you complete the questionnaires at Meet the Teacher session and Parent's night. We are aware that families have different commitments so this year, I am sending out a Year Ahead calendar on paper form and on all our app platforms. Please make sure these dates are in your diary. We will try to ensure that we keep to these dates but if anything changes, we will endeavour to give you as much notice as possible. I look forward to a great year ahead with lots to celebrate in terms of awards and learning. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Mrs McKay



#### Reading

In Term 1, we will enjoy sharing and exploring stories, rhymes and books. We will have opportunities to choose stories for enjoyment within our class library and talk about our favourite stories. We will explore rhyming and sounds in words and begin learning our initial sounds and the letters that represent them. We will use the sounds that we have learned to help us begin sounding out words.

#### Writing

We will develop our fine motor and pencil control skills through a range of practical activities. We will practise mark-making, drawing and developing our letter formation as we begin to learn our sounds. We will also practise writing our own names.

#### Listening and Talking

We will develop our listening and talking skills as we settle into Primary 1. We will learn to listen carefully, follow simple instructions and take turns when talking and listening. Through our topics, stories and play, we will develop our vocabulary and confidence when talking about ourselves, our families, our feelings and our new school.

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Numeracy and  
Maths

#### Numeracy

We will develop our understanding of numbers through songs, games and practical activities. We will practise counting, subitising, recognising numbers and matching numbers to quantities. We will also explore counting forwards and backwards and develop our understanding of how many.

#### Maths

We will explore simple patterns, sorting and grouping through practical activities and play. We will begin to use mathematical language to compare objects, such as more, less, bigger and smaller, as well as exploring shape, position and measure in our everyday learning through play.



In Spanish this term, the children will be learning how to join in with simple, everyday conversations and confidently respond to friendly greetings.



Health and  
Well-being

Our PE days are **Tuesday** and **Thursday** Please make sure your child is wearing a comfortable PE kit. They should also bring **soft-soled, non-marking trainers**. This helps to protect the school hall floor and ensures that children have suitable, comfortable footwear for PE activities. These shoes They should not wear earrings or any jewellery. In PE, we will be focusing on

PATHS lessons will focus on understanding our feelings and emotions. We will learn to recognise how we and others might be feeling, while developing our confidence, self-esteem and friendships through giving and receiving compliments. We will also begin to learn simple strategies to help us manage our feelings and make positive choices.



RERC

We will explore how God created and loves each one of us. We will learn that we are special and unique, and that God has a loving plan for us. We will also talk about how we can love, care and respect ourselves and others.



Life skills

Developing your child's independence and self-care through life skills are very important to us. Please continue to support with some of these suggestions at home:

- Practising putting on and taking off coats
- Encouraging your child to zip coats and fasten buttons
- Support them in packing their own school bag
- Practise opening lunch boxes and snack containers
- Encourage them to look after their belongings



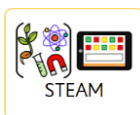
Expressive Arts

### Art

We will explore different ways to draw. We will develop our pencil control and use lines, shapes and colours to express our ideas. We will create self-portraits, exploring our facial features and what makes each of us unique.

### Drama

We will develop our confidence through role play, games and imaginative activities. We will use our voice, body and facial expressions to express our feelings. We will use familiar stories and nursery rhymes as inspiration to create characters and act these out through play.



STEAM

We will explore forces through play and practical activities. We will investigate pushing and pulling and explore how forces can make objects stop, move, speed up or change direction. We will use everyday objects and toys to make predictions, test our ideas and discuss our findings.



SHANARRI



Pupil Voice

SHANARRI helps us think about children and young people's wellbeing through eight areas: **Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included**. We use **pupil voice** to make sure children and young people have a say in what wellbeing means to them and what they feel they need to thrive. Their ideas, experiences and feedback help us shape activities, priorities and support across the school, ensuring that our approach to SHANARRI is informed by the children themselves. We will continue to update you on this throughout the year.



Celebrating  
Wider  
Achievements

Please use this form to share any wider achievements that your child would like to be recognised and celebrated at a school assembly. These could include successes outside of school such as sports, arts, clubs, hobbies, volunteering, or any personal milestones they are proud of.

St Martin's Primary Mainstream -  
Wider Achievements



OPAL

We are delighted to share that our school is working in partnership with Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) to further enhance Health and Wellbeing across our school community.

Through this collaboration, we are reviewing and developing our outdoor spaces to ensure they promote active, creative and inclusive play for all children. We are also looking at how our playground can better reflect children's voices and interests.

Outdoor play is a vital part of children's wellbeing. It supports confidence, teamwork, problem-solving and positive mental health. By working with Outdoor Play and Learning, we are strengthening our whole-school approach to ensuring every child has access to safe, stimulating and meaningful outdoor experiences every day.

We look forward to sharing updates with you as this exciting work

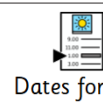


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Dates for the  
Diary

- ❖ Mainstream Meet the Teacher – Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August 3:15pm – 3:45pm
- ❖ First Friday Mass led by P7W – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September 1:30pm
- ❖ Maths Week – 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> September
- ❖ Parents Night – Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September
- ❖ September Weekend – school closed on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September and Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September
- ❖ 8<sup>th</sup> September
- ❖ First Friday Mass led by P7K – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1:30pm
- ❖ School closed on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October – in service day
- ❖ School closed 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> October – October week. School reopens on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October

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