



St Martin's Primary

Class Newsletter

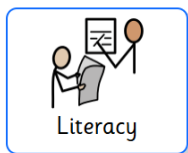
Primary 3/4 – Term 1 2026/2027

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

We will continue to develop our reading skills by exploring strategies to use before, during and after reading to support understanding. In class they will continue reading their Story World books to build fluency, sequencing and comprehension. Our class novel that we are reading together is 'The Giraffe and The Pelly and Me'. This will provide the children with the opportunity to develop their vocabulary and share their knowledge and understanding of text, particularly rhyme.

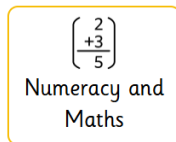
Writing

In writing we will be focussing on Narrative this term. We will be focussing on key features such as characters, settings, plots, problems and resolutions. We will also be developing descriptive language and dialogue to bring their ideas to life.

Listening and Talking

Our class will be using the Diamond Nine exercise to develop decision making, listening and talking skills.

The children will be participating in solo talks about what they have learned from our class topic 'From Farm to Fork'.



Numeracy - In Numeracy, we will be developing our understanding of number processes. We will focus on comparing numbers by using symbols such as less than, greater than and equals to. We will also focus on putting numbers into the correct order according to their place value. We will continue to develop our knowledge and understanding of the four operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

Maths - In maths, we will be exploring measure and information handling. The children will have the opportunity to use a variety of instruments to measure and will record their results. We will also be collecting information using tally marks and will record this information on a bar graph.



In Spanish this term, the children will be learning how to take part in simple, everyday conversations and confidently follow classroom instructions. They will work on developing Spanish listening and talking skills. They will also practice understanding and responding to a variety of friendly greetings with increasing confidence and accuracy.



Our PE days are Monday 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. They should not wear earrings or any jewellery. In PE, we will be focusing on developing our skills in ball games. This will include practising throwing, catching, bouncing, dribbling, aiming and teamwork skills. We will also work on co-ordination, agility and spatial awareness through a range of fun and engaging team activities.

PATHS lessons will focus on establishing a positive classroom ethos. This will include creating a Class Charter with classroom rules and discussion around our school rules. We will also be learning about feelings and behaviours.



RERC

This term the children will be learning about the Creation story in the Book of Genesis and what it teaches us about God the Creator of the World. We will also be introducing and learning about Laudato Si and the seven goals inspired by Pope Francis. The first two goals we will focus on will be to understand 'Response to the Cry of the Poor' and 'Ecological Spirituality'. Our First Friday mass will resume on Friday the 4th of September.



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:

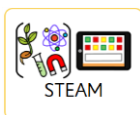
- Practising putting on and taking off coats
- Encouraging your child to zip coats and fasten buttons
- Support them in packing their own school bag
- Practise opening lunch boxes and snack containers
- Encourage them to look after their belongings



Expressive Arts

Dance -The children will be working with a dance specialist from Determined to Dance. They will work together to choreograph a series of movements which they will then put into a sequence. They will have the opportunity to perform their dance in front of an audience.

Art – The children will be exploring printing using vegetables. Learners will use potatoes, carrots, onions and other vegetables to create repeated patterns.



STEAM

Learners will use a range of simple food preparation techniques to make pizza bagels. The class will grow their own fresh basil to use as a topping on their pizza.

The children will learn how to use a range of cooking utensils safely.



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 progresses.



@StMartinsPSGCC



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Dates for the
Diary

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

Email: headteacher@st-martins-pri.glasgow.sch.uk

Phone: 0141 557 3722