



"though many, we make up one"
(1 Corinthians, 12:12)

2025/26 NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2026



Happy New Year to you all! This month has just flown by. The children have come back eager to learn and are enjoying their new topics.

We had a whole school review last week and we are so proud of all our staff and pupils. Highlights were; exemplary behaviour, exciting lesson and high engagement.

Our first family assembly/school parliament were led by the Year 6 children. These gain all pupils views. The focus this time was OPAL Play and the British Value Democracy.

OPAL PLAY

The children have all had great fun at playtime this term continuing on the school's OPAL Play journey.

Thank you all for your amazing donations which have been gratefully received.
(Please can we ask you to check and ensure that any donated items dropped off are safe, usable and not faulty as unfortunately we have needed to pay to dispose of a few items).



School Calendar

Did you know that you can subscribe to the school calendar on our website? We have lots of events each term, which I list in our newsletters but our online school calendar might help you keep track of events more easily.

Visit our website here:

<https://www.stmartinsschool.org.uk/calendar/?calid=1&pid=85&viewid=1>
and hit the subscribe button!



Parent Planner!

- Order school meals in advance before the 9,00am daily cut off.**
- Term 3 Ends on Friday 13th February.**
- Term 4 Starts on 24th February.** (Staff INSET Day 23rd February - school closed to pupils)

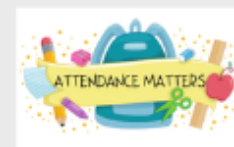
We raised a fantastic £184.61 last term from Christmas performances for our chosen charity **Sarcoma UK**. Thank you all for your generosity.



Key Dates

Dates for the year can be found on the School Website Calendar which you can also share with your phone/tablet

- 4 Feb - Messy Church event 3.15-5pm
- 10 Feb - Safer Internet Day
- 9-13 Feb - Children's Mental Health Week
- 12 Feb - Year 6 Educational Visit to Lifeskills, Bristol
- 13 Feb - Last Day of Term 3
- 23 Feb - INSET DAY
(School closed to children)
- 24 Feb - First Day of Term 4
- 5 Mar - World Book Day (details to follow)
- 10 Mar - Orcas and Stingray classes visit to Wessex Water
- 12 Mar - Seal class visit to Wessex Water
- 20 Mar - Red Nose Day (details to follow)
- 25 Mar - Messy Church event 3.15-5pm
- 26 Mar - Y6 Lifeskills Visit
- 2 Apr - Class Photos Tulip Photography
- 2 Apr - Last Day of Term 4
- 20 Apr - Start of Term 5
- 6-8 May - Year 4 Camp Hill House, Cannington (details to follow)
- 11-14 May - Y6 SATs Test Week
- 22 May - Last Day of Term 5



We are celebrating class attendance each week in our assemblies.

The children all know that as a school we are working towards improving our whole school attendance to meet the national target 95%. Our current attendance for the year is 94.67% so we need to keep working together to meet this target and reach beyond. We want all our children to be here as much as they can, each child is an important part of our school community.

As a school we are also working to reduce the number of children who are regularly late. Missing the start of the day means missing important instructions for the day and practice of key skills which can make children unsettled and worried about their day.

Can we please remind parents that, doors open at 8:40am, registers are taken at 8:45am and children who arrive after this are marked as late. Persistent lateness is also an area reviewed regularly with our Education Welfare Officer alongside attendance under 90%.



WEBSITE: STMARTINSSCHOOL.ORG.UK



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Reception has had a great start back after Christmas exploring Winter. The children have spent lots of time outside noticing the seasonal changes that happen in Winter and we have read lots of Winter stories together. The children have created some beautiful artwork based around this topic!



Year 1 & 2 had a Fabulous Fairy Tale WOW Day! There were so many creative and fantastic costumes! During the day, we took part in a range of fairy tale themed activities and made some brilliant fairy tale creations!



Uniform Reminder

Please see uniform update below* We ask that every child should come to school in full **LABELLED** uniform:

- White polo shirt (please, no round-neck t-shirts)
- School/burgundy jumper or cardigan (if you need a replacement, please see **Pre-Loved Uniform Shop** below).
- Grey/black skirt, shorts, or trousers
- Black school shoes – not trainers

For PE:

- Plain white t-shirt
- Blue, navy or black shorts. Leggings or *straight joggers not flared for safety reasons
- School hoodie
- Trainers

A few extra reminders:

- Hair should be tied back
- Stud earrings only, no other jewellery please

Our **Pre-Loved Uniform Shop** has St Martin's Logo Jumpers and Cardigans for just £2. These can be ordered via this link: <https://app.uniformd.co.uk/items/st-martins-c-of-e-primary-school>

Thank you for helping us keep everyone looking smart and ready for learning!



Waterproof coats needed!

Our very British weather means that it can be sunny in the morning and pouring with rain by the afternoon. Regardless what the weather apps say, please make sure your child has a coat every single day. If it is drizzling we still have outdoor play times. Also hats and gloves for colder weather.



Last Thursday, our Year 1 & 2 classes took a lovely walk around the surrounding area and down Worle High Street. The Year 1s have been practising map making and the Year 2s have been practising mapping compass directions. They all behaved superbly and showed our community how respectful they are. Well Done KS1.



Year 3 & 4 classes had an exciting trip to Worle Secondary School on Wednesday to watch their production of Annie. They were lucky enough to be the first audience watching. The children were impressed by the singing and how well everyone knew their lines. It was lovely to spot past students in the show.



Year 5 & 6 are being Geographers this term and are studying European biomes. In class they have been locating Europe's major biomes using globes and atlases.



WOW! Walk to School with Living Streets

Last week, our school started our 'WOW - Walk to School Challenge'. This is an exciting initiative to encourage more children, and their families, to walk to school when possible. This is delivered by Living Streets, the UK charity.

Each day, pupils self-report how they get to school. If they travel actively (walk/wheel, cycle, scooter, 'Park and Stride' or hop off) at least once a week, for a month, they get rewarded with a badge. It's that simple! The badges are made of recycled plastic in Cornwall and there are new badges every month.

What are the benefits of walking to school?

- Children feel happier and healthier
- They arrive at school refreshed and ready to learn
- Helps reduce congestion and pollution at the school gates

Park and Stride is when a journey has been partially made by vehicle, but has included at least a 10 minute walk as part of the journey by parking further away or using a different bus stop. We understand that mornings are busy and active travel is not always possible, so an active journey homeward can be recorded the next morning. Children who are not able to take part in active travel will be included in the project in other ways in class. Our school has already recorded 965 Active journeys! Well done. The first badges will be issued early next week for the end of January results.

