



Martin News

Issue no: 18
Date: Friday
23rd January
2026

The newsletter for the Martin School community

Attendance Awards

Winners of this week's class awards:

Year 1 & Year 2:	1CM with 99.6%
Year 3 & Year 4:	3JL with 99.3%
Year 5 & Year 6:	5SR with 98.0%

Thought for the month

What is the difference between right and wrong?



This week, the children in 4SK treated us to a wonderful class assembly. They told us all about life in Roman times and we were so impressed by how much they have learned. Well done 4SK!

As promised, please find below the actions that were agreed at the parent/carer forum last week:

- future parent/carer forums will take place annually in phases—Nursery/Reception, Years 1&2, Years 3&4 and Years 5&6; all parents/carers in each phase will be invited
- an email address has been set up for parents/carers to contact the school about sensitive issues that they feel should be sent directly to leadership: welfare@martinprimary.barnetmail.net. Emails to this address will go directly to either myself or Chantal Lust, the Deputy Headteacher
- the MHSA has re-distributed guidelines for class reps
- information about reading volunteers in the school will be included in a future newsletter
- maths homework will include examples of calculations, where relevant, so that parents/carers can support their child's learning at home
- the school will arrange maths workshops at accessible times for parents/carers to explain the different methods of calculation that we use at school.

We also discussed a number of other issues including Google Classroom, Forest School, school lunches, how to reach parents and carers from all communities in the school and parent behaviour. Thank you again to those who attended and I look forward to future opportunities to share and discuss ideas.

Ziz Chater

This week's winners

★ Gold Stars ★

1BT - Emilia	4CP - James
1CM - Luca	4SK - Noah
1LK - Chiara	4TH - whole class
2CF - Liam	5AE - Hiba
2EB - Lina	5GB - Thuwayba
2OD - Rafa	5SR - Zelda
3LR - Cleo	6BG - Abdul S
3JL - Haroon	6LC - Assya
3RT - Kai	6WW - Atifa

Rights Respecting



1BT - Sinan	4CP - Georgia
1CM - Emma	4SK - Annabella
1LK - Emilia	4TH - Janos
2CF - Melisa	5AE - Shahd
2EB - Jack	5GB - Husna
2OD - Rihaan	5SR - Hannah
3LR - Diego	6BG - Zainab
3JL - Martina	6LC - Zara
3RT - Alisa	6WW - Monica

Reader of the week



1BT - Kairon	4TH - Yusra
2CF - Nora	5AE - Freddie
2EB - Lara	5GB - Nondas
2OD - Mimi	5SR - Oliver
3LR - Millie	6BG - Lara & Anastasia
3JL - Rei	
3RT - Masha	6LC - Gus
4CP - Edi	6WW - Zak
4SK - Hope	



Secret Superstar awards

Jasim in 1LK, Rayan in 3JL and
Fatima in 6LC

STEM Dorado Science Magazine

The Science Team are pleased to share another issue of STEM Dorado Science — a Winter Special designed to spark curiosity, critical thinking, and wonder in young readers.

This issue brings together world-class science institutions and celebrated scientists, all writing especially for children. Highlights include:

Cover Story – The Secret Life of Trees in Winter

Contributed by the Birmingham Institute of Forest Research (BIFoR), this beautifully explained feature explores how trees survive freezing temperatures, why snow can protect forests, and how climate change is reshaping winter life for trees.

Are We Alone in the Universe?

Written by Dr Matt Bothwell, acclaimed science author and Cambridge astronomer, this fascinating article takes children on a journey through our Solar System to explore where alien life might exist — and how scientists are searching for answers.

Growing Plants in Space

Dr Affelia Wibisono from the Institute of Physics (IOP) explains how astronauts are learning to grow plants in space — and why this research is vital for future missions to the Moon and Mars.

Medicines That Know Where to Go

An eye-opening article from VaxHub introduces children to the idea of smart medicines that can self-navigate inside the body, helping treatments become safer and more effective.

Alongside these features, the issue also includes:

- A Winter Solstice feature exploring science and Traditions from around the world.
- Children's posters on "Why Are Trees Terrific?"
- A fun maths story for younger reads in TT Forest Mini Club.

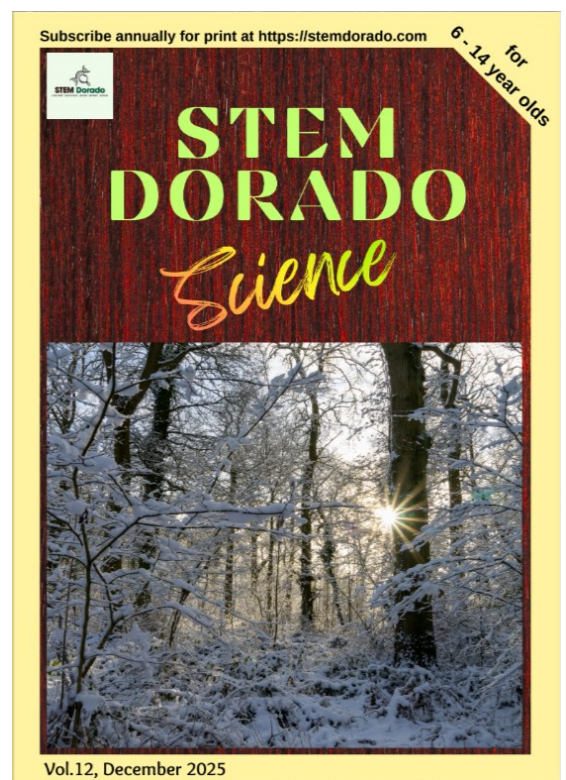
Link to Volume 12:

https://online.fliphtml5.com/dqwze/SD_Science-vol-12/

Link to previous issues:

<https://www.stemdorado.com/resources>

The Science Team



More About Martin Meetings

Join us from 9am in the portakabin

Friday 6th February -
How to access support for your
child & the role of our Learning
Mentors

Meet our amazing Learning Mentors and find out about the fantastic work they do to support children in school. We will also look at the places/ people children can go to for help and support in school.



Future meetings coming up -

Google Classroom/ Arbor - information about accessing both Google classroom and the Arbor app at home

Test anxiety - find out about strategies to support your child at home if they are feeling anxious about exams or school work.

Maths - find out about our maths curriculum at Martin Primary School

Eco-Council - hear from our wonderful Eco council about the work they do in school and the local environment

More About Martin Meetings take place every other Friday morning and cover a wide range of topics such as school information, strategies to support your children at home, children sharing their experiences and curriculum information. They take place at 9am on the given dates and are held in the portacabin on the field (unless stated otherwise). **Miss Glackin**

Winter Wear Wednesday Thank you!

Thank you so much for your generous donations of winter wear to support the Asylum Seeker drop-in.

Miss Freedman



SPRING TERM 2026

Monday 5th January 2026 to
Friday 27th March 2026

Half term

Monday 16th February to
Friday 20th February 2026
school closed Monday 5th January
(staff training)

SUMMER TERM 2026

Monday 13th April 2026 to
Monday 20th July 2026

Half term

Monday 25th May to
Friday 29th May 2026
school closed Monday 1st June, Monday 20th
July (staff training) & Monday 4th May
(bank holiday)

AUTUMN TERM 2026

Tuesday 1st September 2026 to
Friday 18th December 2026

Half term

Monday 26th October to
Friday 30th October 2026
school closed Tuesday 1st & Wednesday 2nd
September
(staff training)

Dates for your diary



w/c 26th January
Wednesday 28th January

Thursday 29th January
Friday 30th January
Monday 2nd February
Thursday 5th February

Friday 6th February

Monday 9th February
Thursday 12th February
Friday 13th February

ILP meetings for relevant parents/carers
Online Safety Session for parents/carers on TEAMS @ 9.30am
(a link will be sent via email)
4TH Class Assembly @ 9am
Reception parent/carer reading workshop @ 9am
4TH visit to the British Museum
4CP Class Assembly @ 9am
4SK visit to the British Museum
More about Martin Meeting @ 9am—how to access support for
your child & the role of the Learning Mentors
4CP visit to the British Museum
6BG visit to the Ragged School Museum
6WW visit to the Ragged School Museum
6LC visit to the Ragged School Museum
Year 1 parent/carers reading workshop @ 9am

16th February to 20th February inclusive: school closed for half term holiday

Wednesday 25th February
Friday 27th February
Tuesday 3rd March &
Thursday 5th March
Wednesday 4th March
Thursday 5th March

Tuesday 10th March
Wednesday 11th March
Friday 13th March
Tuesday 24th March
Wednesday 25th March

Friday 27th March

5SR Forest School starts
More about Martin Meeting @ 9am—Maths
Parent/teacher consultations 4pm—7pm

5AE Class Assembly @ 9am
World Book Day
Online safety talk with Nova Eden (on Teams@ 7.30pm)

Barnet Dance Festival
5SR Class Assembly @ 9am
Yr 6 SATs Meeting for parents/carers @ 9am & 1pm on Teams
Spring Concert @ 6.30pm
5GB Class Assembly @ 9am

End of Spring Term @ 2pm

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