



Martin News

Issue no: 21
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2026

The newsletter for the Martin School community

Attendance Awards

Winners of this week's class awards:

Year 1 & Year 2:	2EB with 98.6%
Year 3 & Year 4:	3LR with 99.3%
Year 5 & Year 6:	5SR with 99.3%

Thought for the month

Would you rather have wings or fins?



Our sports teams have been busy this week, as you will see from the reports in this newsletter. Our Cross Country team competed yesterday and represented the school with great commitment and enthusiasm—despite the muddy conditions—and our Panathlon team had a fantastic time on Tuesday at Copthall and achieved first place! Well done to the teams and a huge thank you to Miss Adams and Somayah for training the children and arranging the trips.

Thank you to the Year 1 parents and carers who attended the second of our reading workshops this morning. It was great to see so many in attendance.

I hope you have a relaxing half term break and look forward to seeing the children back in school on Monday 23rd February.

Ziz Chater

Congratulations to our Panathlon Team —1st Place!

See page 2 for the report



This week's winners

★ Gold Stars ★

1BT - Naura	4CP - whole class
1CM - Leila	4SK - whole class
1LK - Olivia	4TH - Matilda
2CF - Dottie	5AE - Alina
2EB - Maryam	5GB- Idir
2OD - Lilliana	5SR - Louis
3LR - Musab	6LC - Romi
3JL - Diya	6WW - Francisco
3RT - Musa	

Rights Respecting



1BT - Kairon & Arlo	4CP - Fraser
1CM - Dean	4SK - Abdulrahman
1LK - Hadi	4TH - Rudra
2CF - Melissa	5AE - Ivan
2EB - Anaya	5GB - Thuwayba
2OD - Lyra	5SR - Harvey
3LR - Zeyneb	6LC - Romi
3JL - Arian	6WW - Archie
3RT - Aurora	

Reader of the week



1BT - Eesa	4SK - Lyanna
1LK - Nicholas	4TH - Nathan
2CF - Iris	5AE - Uma
2EB - Joel	5GB - Evan
2OD - Imogen	5SR - Hargun
3LR - Aiyah	6LC - Chloe
3JL - Hannah	6WW - Husam
3RT - Arielle	
4CP - Olivia	



Secret Superstar awards

Eliezer in 1CM, Raphael in 4TH
and Edward 6WW

Panathlon Winners!

On Tuesday our Panathlon Team took part in the annual event at Copthall Leisure Centre. We travelled by bus and had time for our picnics before the activities started.

The team had nine different activities to complete including tennis, football and basketball skills. All the events scored points.. the harder the challenge the more points the children earned for their team.

The skittles, bean bag maths and target curling were favourites in the team and the young leaders from Christ's College were really impressed with the skills and team work that the children showed.

A BIG WELL DONE to : Fatima, Rahim, Kayton, Robin and Noah for their amazing scores... **1st Place to Martin School.**

A lovely, noisy and exciting afternoon of team work, determination, accuracy and point scoring!

Miss Adams



Supporting Your Child's Emotions: a 3-Part Parent Workshop

We're offering a series of friendly, practical sessions to help you support your child with managing difficult emotions.



Session 2
9.30am on Friday 27th February



**Hannah Taylor will explain how to use Zones of regulation at home
to support children with their emotions**

Parents and carers are warmly invited to join us.
To book your place or find out more, please contact Cathy in the Office

Reading at home Tips



As part of the **National Year of Reading** this year we would like to share with you some tips to support your child's reading at home:



Find a good time to read together where you can relax, switch off distractions and share a book. Don't worry if you don't have a lot of time in your busy day – just a few minutes can make a huge difference.

As your child gets a bit older: Keep reading together. Just because your children are older, it doesn't mean you have to stop sharing books.

Talk about the book.



It's still important to do this even when your child is an independent reader. Ask open questions about what they're reading - What do you think might happen? What did/didn't you like about the book? Can you say why? What do you think of this character? How is this character feeling? Or what do you think about this fact?



Let your child choose! They'll feel more interested in the book if they've picked it out themselves. (And don't worry if they keep returning to the same book, either!)



Look at the pictures. You don't just have to read the words on the page. Maybe there's something funny in the pictures that you can giggle about together, or perhaps your child enjoys guessing what will happen next.



Reading tricks – remind your child to use their phonics and sound out and blend difficult words or split the word into smaller words. Remember that 'tricky' words which you can't sound out (e.g. you, have, were) just need to be learnt.



Read yourself! It doesn't matter what it is – pick up a newspaper or magazine, take a look at a cookery book, read a computer manual, enjoy some poetry or dive into a detective novel. And get your children to join in – if you're cooking, could they read the recipe? If you're watching TV, can they read out the listings? **Boys need to see that reading is something men do, so get dads, brothers, uncles reading**



Visit the local library together. It's always fun choosing new books to read, and keep an eye out for special author events at the library or local bookshop.

**The National Year of Reading's message is —
if you're into it, read into it
Celebrate choice: reading in all forms is valid**

**Audio books * picture books * books in home languages * * fact books *
stories * comics * graphic novels**



More about Bug Club our reading programme on the next page!



Reading Tips: Bug Club

To support our children's reading at home we subscribe to BugClub, an online reading resource. It contains a wide range of reading books for children to access, with interactive activities and reading comprehensions.

To login, please go to <https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login> All the children from Year 1 to Year 6 have their own username and password.

The school code is a9xl

Please contact your class teacher if you have any questions about Bug Club or need help accessing it.

The English Team



Community Information

Free Child Car Seat Checks

Friday 6th March 2026, 10am – 3pm

Brent Cross Hendon Way Superstore

Tilling Road NW2 1LZ

Barnet Council is offering free child car seat safety checks to ensure children are travelling safely. A trained expert from Good Egg Safety will be available to **inspect seats, fix errors and provide advice**, no booking required.



A check can be made on your child car seat even if your child isn't with you — but if they are, the team can also check they are seated correctly and safely.

In response to the high turnout at previous events, **two** advisors will now be available on the day. To avoid unnecessary travel, you can call on the day to check waiting times.

Last year, **92% of seats checked in Barnet had errors**, many serious enough to endanger children in the event of a collision. Unfortunately, errors on seats are very easily made, but the great news is that they tend to be easy to fix.

Don't miss this opportunity to get peace of mind and help make Barnet's roads safer for everyone.

Road.safety@barnet.gov.uk

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 18h 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



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

Monday 9th March
Tuesday 10th March

Wednesday 11th March
Thursday 12th March

Friday 13th March

Monday 16th March
Tuesday 24th March
Wednesday 25th March
Thursday 26th March

5SR Forest School starts
Year 5/6 Parent/Carer Forum @ 9am
Parent/teacher consultations 4pm—7pm

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

2CF Trip to Alexandra Palace
2EB Trip to Alexandra Palace
Barnet Dance Festival

5SR Class Assembly @ 9am
2OD Trip to Alexandra Palace
4SK Trip to the Golden Hinde

4CP Trip to the Golden Hinde
Yr 6 SATs Meeting for parents/carers @ 9am & 1pm on Teams

4TH Trip to the Golden Hinde
Spring Concert @ 6.30pm

5GB Class Assembly @ 9am
4CP & 4SK Clarinet & Trumpet Assembly for parents & carers
@ 9.05
Parent & Carer Maths Calculation Workshop @ 7.30pm

Friday 27th March

End of Spring Term @ 2pm

Additional dates can be found on our website at: <https://www.martinprimary.org.uk/diary/>

CONTACT US

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