



Martin News

The newsletter for the Martin School community

Issue no: 30

Date: Friday

8th May

2026

Attendance Awards

Winners of this week's class awards:

Year 1 & Year 2:	1BT with 98.2%
Year 3 & Year 4:	3JL with 99.0%
Year 5 & Year 6:	5AE & 5GB with 97.3%

Thought for the month

Can a computer think and feel?

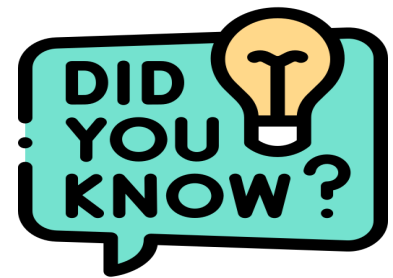


Thank you so much to the parents and carers who attended our Year 3 & 4 Parent/Carer Forum last Friday. We had some very interesting and useful discussions about a range of topics including homework, playtime activities, inclusion and behaviour. One of the points raised was that parents and carers are keen to know more about the fantastic things going on at the school and we are therefore introducing a 'Did You Know?' column (see the box on the right) - we hope you find it useful! The Parent/Carer Forum for Year 1 and 2 will take place at 9am on Friday 5th June and for Nursery and Reception at 9am on Friday 19th June.

We have lots of exciting plans for this term so please remember to check the calendar on the last page of this newsletter and add the relevant dates to your diary.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Ziz Chater



All school meals are freshly cooked at the school every day and there is always a salad bar with at least five choices



More About Martin Meetings

Join us from 9am in the portacabin

Friday 17th April 2026- Test Anxiety

Find out about strategies to support your child at home if they are feeling anxious about exams or school work. Particularly pertinent for Year 6, but all welcome.



Friday 22nd May- Eco- Council

Come and meet our Eco-Council and hear about the efforts they have made so far to make our school more sustainable and to promote sustainability around the school.



Friday 26th June - A year round up!

Find out all the fun and exciting things that have happened in Martin Primary School this academic year.



Language of the Month

May's language of the month is **Hindi**



Year 6—"The Spider and the Fly"

This term, the children in Year 6 have used the poem "The Spider and the Fly" as their stimulus for writing. They have taken the role of prosecution lawyers and were tasked with writing a persuasive speech to explain why the spider is guilty and should go to prison, using legal and persuasive language as well as grammatical features like passive voice or modal verbs. Additionally, some children wanted to challenge themselves by trying to defend the spider and wrote a speech as the opposition.



We invited a real-life judge to role play this case and set up our dining hall to be a courtroom. A selection of children took on the roles of prosecution, defence and jury and presented evidence for both sides. The prosecution had some strong arguments but the defence convinced the jury who voted unanimously that the spider was not guilty! At the end, the children were also able to ask the judge questions related to her work and court proceedings.

Below you can read both sides presented before the judge and the jury and decide for yourself!

PROSECUTION

Ladies and gentlebugs of the crown court, we are assembled here today to decide if the actions of a scheming predator named Seamore Spider set himself of to disgrace in jail. This sombre and sinister beast stands here today as a criminal to be sentenced, prosecuted. **(Abdelrahman)**

At 18:25 on Friday 1st May, Fiona Fly was brutally murdered. She was lured inside Seymour Spider's parlour after trying to resist his temptation and offerings but she was not strong enough. Without a doubt, Seymour was in the wrong and Fiona deserved to live longer. **(Sophie)**

To start, my first piece of evidence is the taxidermy (dead stuffed) bug stool. This shows that he is a ruthless killer because he murdered a bug in cold blood to be a footstool. Is he a psychopath and mentally ill? Or is he completely aware of his actions? Innocent insects of the jury, please let me direct your attention to this poor animal, how can we sit here and let insects out there be coerced into a trap, where they will never come out again! This merciless murderer enjoys taking a bug's life. This brings me to say, imagine if the fly was your daughter. Imagine having to grieve your poor innocent daughter when all she did was enter a spider's home. **(Selina)**

I have an additional piece of evidence and it is not by myself because I have Karen the Caterpillar as my witness just to tell you how evil Seymour the Spider is: "I have been fooled by this spider and nearly went up his winding staircase but the next day I saw a silly fly called Fiona go up the stairs and I haven't seen her for the past week." This evidence suggests the spider is indeed guilty and has trapped many more flies. **(Massi)**

The next piece of evidence that I would like to present to you today is something that the FBFly found next to a perfectly set table with the remains of a fly. You seen, next to the plate was a cooking book labelled "The Joy of Cooking Bugs". Not only this but the book had multiple pages marked, all with the main ingredient being gutted fly. Some of the recipes were "Fly soup", "Fly and rice" and "Fly 'n' chips". **(Gemma)**

Next, I would like to show the court the following evidence which is what the FBFly found on their investigation. In Sir Seymour Spider's parlour they found bug wallpaper - you may be wondering how this could prove anything but our investigators thought this could mean he has an obsession with flies which means his motive for killing Miss Fiona Fly was to add to his collection. **(Lara)**

Continued overleaf...

Year 6—"The Spider and the Fly"

For our final piece of evidence, I will now tell you that, while the forensic team was exploring the house of the accused for evidence, they found a mauled corpse of a fly. This is a vital piece of evidence that shows that he has killed before and could surely have killed again. **(Samuel)**

So Your Honour, now that we have looked at the evidence you shall now see that Seymour Spider is definitely guilty for which the crime he has committed. I urge you to make the right decision: a decision that could save lives. **(Husam)**

DEFENCE

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlebugs, thank you for joining us. As you know, we gathered here to decide whether the spider is guilty or not. He is not guilty; the evidence clearly suggests this. I am therefore certain that if you were in his position, you would have done the same. Carefully heed my evidence, as your decision could save this poor spider. **(Ibrahim)**

Fiona may be fragile but she knew the spider was trying to eat her and she fell for it. That was idiotic to even go into Seamore's private mansion. She trespassed into his mansion and the spider took authority over that and did not take the moment for granted. Fiona was being foolish and gullible. Another point I would like to share with the court is that Seamore was starving and he needed something to eat. So, he sacrificed the fly in order to save himself. Wouldn't you sacrifice the fly if you were in his position? **(Shareefa)**

Expanding onto this, as if he did eat Miss Fiona Fly (which he did not), it would only be natural behaviour in the food chain. As if he does not eat, he will be the one who is dead. I am sure, your honour, you have seen a human before. The manner in which they display is atrocious; squashing us, flicking us and killing us. Yet, you would never think of prosecuting one of those. Have you I may ask, in your life of being omnivorous, have you never eaten other animals? **(Eli)**

My client did attempt to flatter the fly but did not succeed. Seamore the Spider did not try and entice Fiona the Fly after the attempted flattery. A witness saw the spider try to give her some food. I do not think that any spider would waste food. So my client would have eaten the food. So when this so called murder took place, he would have been in a stupor which is a sleep after spiders eat. Do you think a sleepy spider could kill a fly? **(Edward)**

In conclusion, I am convinced that the spider is not guilty as he would have been in stupor. Spiders rely on thirty grams of flies, and the fly was known to have trespassed into the spider's house. I know that you will do anything in your power to make the right decision so heed my evidence carefully as your decision could possibly save Seamore the Spider. **(Ibrahim)**



Science News!

The Science Team would like to share another issue of STEM Dorado Science - Issue 13, which explores the exciting world of Aerospace Engineering, helping children understand how planes fly, how aviation has evolved through history, and what the future of space travel might look like.

Why children will love this issue:

- Cover Feature: The Science of the Sky — a clear and engaging explanation of the four forces of flight (lift, weight, thrust and drag) by Dr Ehsaan Roohi from the University of Massachusetts.
- History of Aviation: From ancient myths to modern aircraft, children discover how human imagination turned into engineering reality.
- STEM Dorado Visits the RAF Museum: A behind-the-scenes exploration of iconic aircraft and real-world engineering.
- Next Gen Spotlight: A brilliant young contributor explores whether long-distance space travel is truly possible.
- Spitfire Maths: Practical aviation-based problem-solving that makes maths meaningful and exciting (Credit: RAF Museum London)
- Young Innovators' Posters: Creative visions of "Airplanes and the Future."

And that's not all! This issue also includes fascinating features on:

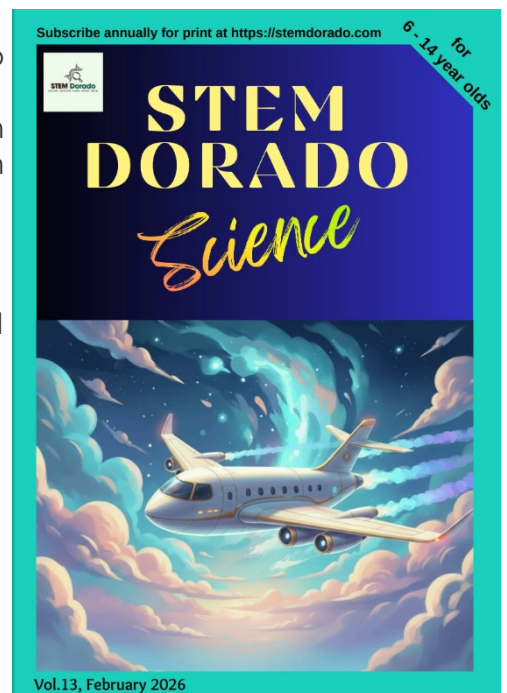
- The search for aliens with Dr Matt Bothwell
- How our immune system fights infection (a VaxHub contribution)
- Tackling plastic pollution with science (contribution from Environmental Biotechnology Innovation Centre)
- How cells turn instructions into action, and more.

Issue 13 blends physics, mathematics, biology, environmental science and space exploration — showing children how interconnected STEM truly is. It encourages curiosity, critical thinking and big-picture imagination.

You can access Issue 13 here: https://online.fliphtml5.com/dqwze/SD_Science-vol-13/

As well as all previous issues here: <https://stemdorado.com/resources>

The Science Team



Nursery Applications

September 2026 starters - Autumn Term

Please collect an application form from the school office if you wish to apply for a nursery place.

Further information about our nursery can be found at: <https://www.martinprimary.org.uk/martin-nursery/>



SEN Information

Please see the information below on the following session for supporting Autistic young people to thrive during Transition from Primary to secondary school for parents and carers of children in Year 5 and 6.

Mrs Taylor

BELS Advisory Team for Autistic Children and Young People

Building for Success: Supporting Autistic Young People to Thrive during Transition from Primary to Secondary

With Autistic speaker Dr Pooky Knightsmith

Tuesday 2 June 6pm to 7pm, online Parent/Carer Session

The move from primary to secondary school is a big one for any child, and for autistic young people it can feel especially daunting, both for them and for you.

This warm, practical session is for parents and carers of Year 6 children (Year 5s welcome too) who want to feel more confident about the months ahead.

We'll think together about what your child brings to this new chapter, what you can do to support them, and what to do when things get wobbly.
Plenty of time for questions.

For further information & to sign up please see the leaflet attached to this newsletter



Film Night

We are excited to announce that our Film Night choices have been voted for by the School Council!

- Years 4-5 will be watching Mufasa (PG)
- Years 1-3 will be watching Despicable Me 4 (U)
- Reception children will enjoy a selection of Julia Donaldson short films.

Tickets on sale now!

Please keep an eye on your WhatsApp groups for the days and times tickets will be available to purchase. We will also be hosting a parents' bar again which is a great chance to catch up with other parents whilst the kids enjoy the films.

**It's always such a lovely event that all the children look forward to
and we hope everyone can join us for a fantastic evening
of fun and entertainment.**



MHS A
Martin Home School Association

Presents

Tickets on sale
week commencing
27th April

FILM NIGHT

SCREEN 1
RECEPTION

Room on the Broom
The Snoods and Gmooos
Tabby McFat

SCREEN 2
YEAR 1 / 2 / 3

DESPICIBLE ME 4
Only in cinemas July 2

SCREEN 3
YEAR 4 / 5 / 6

MUFASA
THE LION KING
THE NOVELIZATION

DOORS OPEN 6PM
TICKETS - £5
(includes film, popcorn and drink)

THURSDAY
21ST MAY
Martin Primary School, Plane Tree Walk

PARENTS BAR
(sit back and relax with a drink
and nibbles while you wait)

News from our local Community

Looking to make new friends, learn new skills and have fun



224 North London Air Scouts, based on Sheldon Avenue (N6), are a friendly, active group looking for new members and volunteers!

Beavers: Saturday 10 am
Cubs: Tuesday 6:45 pm
Scouts: Wednesday 7 pm



224 North London Air Scouts is a friendly, active group based on Sheldon Avenue (N6).

We have spaces available for young people and are always looking for volunteers to help run sessions and activities

- No experience needed – full support and training provided
- Just a couple of hours a week can make a big difference

Scan the QR code or
email gsl@224northlondonscouts.org.uk

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)

SPRING TERM 2027

Tuesday 5th January 2027 to
Thursday 25th March 2027

Half term

Monday 15th February to
Friday 19 February 2026

school closed Monday 4th January
(staff training)

Dates for your diary



w/b Monday 11th May

Tuesday 12th May
Wednesday 13th May
Thursday 14th
Friday 15th May

w/b Monday 18th May
Tuesday 19th May
Wednesday 20th May

Thursday 21st May
Friday 22nd May

Year 6 SATs week

ILP meetings for relevant parents & carers

2EB trip to Golders Hill Park

2CF trip to Golders Hill Park

3LR class assembly @ 9am

Year 1 Trip to London Zoo

Relationship & Sex Education meetings for Year 5 parents &
carers @ **9am** in school & **1pm** over TEAMS

2OD trip to Golders Hill Park

Walk to School Week

Borough Athletics Competition

3RT class assembly @ 9am

Reception Trip to the Little Angel Theatre

MHSA Film Night

9am More about Martin Meeting—Eco Council

Monday 25th—Friday 29th May inclusive—school closed for half term holiday

Monday 1st June

w/c 1st June & 8th June

Thursday 4th June

Friday 5th June

Wednesday 10th June

Thursday 11th June

Tuesday 16th June

Wednesday 17th June

Friday 19th June

Thursday 25th June

Friday 26th June

Wednesday 1st July

Thursday 2nd July

Friday 3rd July

Inset Day—school closed for Staff Training

Year 4 multiplication checks

Class photographs

Years 1 & 2 Parent/Carer Forum

Forest school starts for **5GB**

Barnet Music Festival **Y5/6 Choir** @ 6pm

Sports Day

Year 3 trip to Gunnersbury Park

Nursery & Reception Parent/Carer Forum

Year 5 trip to the Barbican

New Reception (September 2026) parent/carers meeting @ 6pm

More About Martin meeting—Year review

Nursery Celebrations @ 9am and 1pm

Year 6 Secondary Transfer Day

Reception to Year 5 Meet their new teacher day

New Nursery (September 2026) stay and play @ 4-5pm

Reception celebrations at 9.10am

Annual Reports sent to parents/carers (after school)

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

CONTACT US

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