



Martin News

The newsletter for the Martin School community

Issue no: 33

Date: Friday

5th June

2026

Eid Mubarak to all our families who celebrated last week

See page 2 for information about this year's Eid celebration party!



Thought for the month

What makes a good friend?

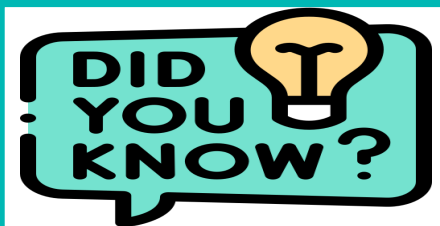


Welcome back to the last half term of the year—we hope you had a lovely break and managed to cope with the heat! We have returned to some very changeable weather so please check the weather forecast every morning and make sure that your child is suitably dressed when they come to school.

Thank you to the parents and carers in Years 1 and 2 who attended our parent/carer forum this morning. We discussed a range of issues including school lunches, homework and the curriculum. The final forum for the year will be for the parents and carers in the Nursery and Reception classes and this will take place at **9am on Friday 19th June**.

Finally, as I am sure you are aware the FIFA World Cup is starting next week and we are running a sweepstake in school. Each class will have two teams drawn from a hat which we will announce next week—good luck everyone!

Have a lovely weekend. **Ziz Chater**



We have 27 volunteers from the local community who visit the school on a regular basis to read with some of our children. The children benefit hugely from this additional support and we are so grateful to the volunteers for giving up their time.

Sports Day— Tuesday 16th June

All parents and carers are welcome to support the children at our annual School Sports Day on **Tuesday 16th June**; please find timings for the day below. Children in Years 1 to 6 should wear their house colours; children in Reception should wear their PE kits; and Nursery children can wear any sporty outfit. All children should have a water bottle and a sunhat in school.

Sports Day Timings

Nursery children am:	9.15am to 10am
Years 1 & 2:	9.10am to 10.15am
Years 3 & 4:	10.20am to 11.15am
Years 5 & 6:	11.20am to 12.15pm
Nursery children pm:	1.15pm to 2pm
Reception:	1.30pm to 2.15pm



Language of the Month

June's language of the month is

Albanian



Eid Party

This year's Eid Party led by our fabulous parent group will take place on **Friday 12th June at 3.30pm**. We look forward to seeing you there!



Secondary Transition Workshop for Year 6 Parents/Carers

On **Monday 8th June at 9am**, a practitioner from Barnet Integrated Children's Services (BICS) will be visiting the school to deliver a workshop for Year 6 parents and carers based around children's transition to secondary school. The session aims to cover:

Emotional Impact of Transitions

School transitions can involve emotional challenges including loss, uncertainty, and adjustment for children and families.

Psychoeducation for Parents

Understanding children's psychological experiences helps parents respond with empathy rather than just reassurance.

Practical Strategies for Support

Concrete actions and routines build predictability, emotional safety, and confidence during school transitions.

Empowering Parents

Equipping parents with tools and realistic expectations fosters security and confidence in children

The workshop will take place from **9am to 10am** in the dining hall (please come to the main office). Following on from the parent workshop, the children will also be having a session in their classes focussing on their transition to secondary school.

Miss Glackin



Science News: STEM Dorado Science Magazine

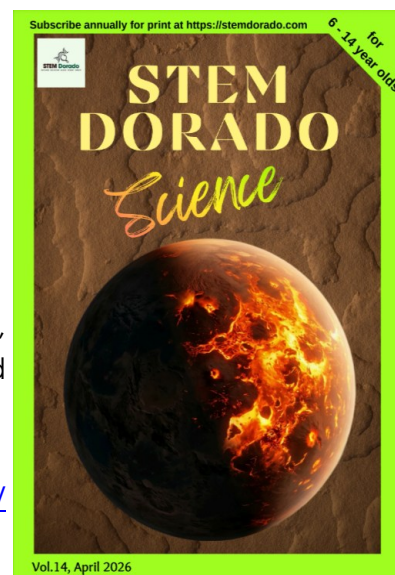
The Science Team are delighted to share volume 14 of STEM Dorado Science Magazine.

In this Earth science-themed edition, children will explore:

- How the Moon was formed
- Amazing landscapes like the North Pennines Geopark
- How forests and technology help us understand climate change
- The hidden science behind tiny organisms and our planet

Alongside these, there are creative activities, student contributions, and exciting challenges designed to spark curiosity and imagination.

Access Issue 14 of the magazine here: https://online.fliphtml5.com/dawze/SD_Science-14/



Martin Nursery

We are now inviting applications for children who will be three years old by January 2027 to join our school nursery. Rated '**Outstanding**' by Ofsted, our nursery offers a fun and engaging curriculum, including weekly sessions in our wonderful Forest School. We focus on ensuring that every child enjoys a smooth and happy transition into Reception with the skills and confidence they need to thrive throughout their primary school journey.

We offer morning, afternoon and full-day places with additional wraparound care from **7.30am to 6pm** through LBL, our excellent on-site childcare provider. LBL also runs an on-site holiday club, providing families with access to up to **49 weeks of childcare each year**.

We will be running school tours throughout the term for parents and carers who would like to learn more about the nursery and the rest of the school. If you have friends or family who may be interested, please encourage them to book a visit by **calling 0208 883 1455**.



Year 6 Cake Sale

On the Friday before half term, after school, a group of three Year 6 boys held a charity sale. They offered cakes, cupcakes, cookies, as well as refreshing lemonade and juices on a very hot Friday afternoon!

The sale raised a total of **£127.50**, which will be donated to the RSPCA. Thank you to all the parents, pupils, teachers, and staff who helped make this charitable donation possible.

Well done to Victor, Inigo and Stelios.



Year 5 Book Club in the News!

A huge well done to Amelie and Aliza in 5SR, who set up our fantastic Year 5 Book Club! The club has become a much-loved lunchtime activity, bringing together children who enjoy sharing and discussing great books. Recently, members were thrilled to interview author Gary Northfield for First News – an exciting opportunity and a wonderful achievement, as you can see in the article below! **Miss Rahman**

24 with Charlie Baker



Your News

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1 – 7 May 2026



HELLO!

I'm Charlie, the leader of the First News Your News pages. From an author interview to a trip to the circus, there's so much to get your teeth into on this week's Your News pages. Also, be sure to send in your acts of hope (see bottom of the right-hand page) for a chance to feature in an upcoming issue! Get in touch by asking a trusted adult to email us at yournews@firstnews.co.uk

MEGA PETS!

BOOKLANDIA book club from Martin Primary School got the chance to interview author-illustrator Gary Northfield (inset) about his new book, *Mighty Mega Pets: Freaky Food Fiasco!* Gary has created comic strips for magazines and written a number of his own books, including his famous *Julius Zebra* series. So, Booklandia had a lot of questions to ask him!

by Booklandia book club

- **What was the inspiration behind *Mighty Mega Pets*?**
When I was about your age, I had pet dogs and I was really into superheroes. So one of the earliest drawings I ever made was of superhero dogs. For the last 50 years I've been wanting to put those ideas into a proper book... and I've finally got around to doing it!
- **All the pets in the book have different superpowers. Which superpower do you think would be the most useful for you or your pets?**
One of my dogs, Sammy, is very lovely, but she can't stop barking. I would love it if she could be very quiet. That's more of a superpower for me, though! I think she'd love to have the power to battle villainous foxes! We'd both like to fly like Superman. Sammy's always trying to see what's going on over the fence and I think it would be really exciting to fly to the top of famous buildings, like the Eiffel Tower or somewhere like that.

SCARLETT TALKS POLITICS



HELLO! I am a junior journalist and A level student, studying politics, English and psychology. I write a fortnightly column for Your News about major politics issues in the UK, with a focus on stories that affect young people.

- **From all of the characters in the book, do you have a favourite?**
I really like Arthur the tortoise because he's desperate to get superpowers and he's very grumpy! Every time he turns up on a page, I think he really lights up the story. He's very funny and silly... without giving too much away, he gets what he wants and hates it! I've got big plans for Arthur for book three, so I'm excited about that.
- **I'm a fan of Julius Zebra. Why did you make Julius a zebra gladiator?**
That came from a comic strip I used to work on, where I had to research different periods of history. One month, I was researching the Colosseum in Rome. I found out that the Romans used to put animals in the Colosseum so they could pretend it was a hunt and kill the animals. I really didn't like that, so I made a comic strip that had all the animals fighting back! I thought that would be a good idea for a book. I thought a lion or tiger was too obvious. I wanted a character you could really stick up for when he fights back, so I came up with the most unlikely animal... a zebra!
- **Do you have any tips for young people who would like to create comic books in the future?**
My biggest tip would be to keep writing and keep drawing. If you have an idea for a story, whether it's long or short, try to see it through to the end. Then you go through the process of creating a beginning, middle and end and you've got a story that you can then improve on. Also, keep reading stuff! I've got walls full of books. I'm always reading and always looking at things. When I was your age, I was always in the library, reading books on everything, whether it was dinosaurs, ghost hunting or arts!



Amelie and Aliza set up Booklandia this year!



- **Can you give us a hint about what will happen in the second book, *Dino Duck Disaster*?**
Well, I've always wanted to write a book about time travelling. So, the duck you see at the end of the first *Mighty Mega Pets* book is actually a time-travelling duck! The book has lots of dinosaurs and mammoths... with the Elizabethan times thrown in! In time-travelling stories, if you change little things in the past, it really affects the future, so there's a lot of that going on. The *Mega Pets* meet different versions of themselves in the future. It's a crazy book. I hope you enjoy it!



The Booklandia book club are: Olivia, Zaida, Sherry, Areej, Imata, Manel, Hargun, Hannah, Harvey, Laila, Louis, Sai, Amelie, Aliza, Ankush, Elise and Yasmin

Mighty Mega Pets: Freaky Food Fiasco! is out now. Check out the full interview with Gary on the First News app!

THIS week, I'm asking: will mobile phones be banned in schools?
Mobile phones are restricted in many schools, but now the government wants to go further. A new plan could make mobile phones banned in all schools in England.
At the moment, there is no law that bans phones in schools. Instead, the government has given strong advice saying phones should not be used during the school day, including lessons, break times and lunchtime. Schools have a choice how to enforce this, which is why rules are slightly different depending on where you go.
This could soon change. The government is working on a new bill to make phone bans compulsory.

- **What is a bill?**
A bill is a proposal for a new law. It starts as an idea, which is then discussed and debated by members of Parliament (MPs). They look at the details, suggest changes, and vote on it. If both the House of Commons and the House of Lords agree, the bill is approved and officially becomes a law.
The mobile phone ban is currently at this stage. This means it is still being discussed and has not yet been fully passed. If the bill is approved, all schools in England will have to follow stricter rules on mobile phones.
While schools can still decide exactly how to manage them, phones will likely have to be kept switched off and out of use throughout the school day. There is no exact date yet, but the change could happen later this year. In short, phones are not fully banned by law yet, but they could be very soon.
- **Why just England?**
The ban would only be in England because education is controlled separately in each part of the UK. The government in England can only make rules for its own schools and not for Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland.
Each nation has its own government in charge of education and other things – this is known as devolution.

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)

Music News

Yr 3/4 Choir: East Finchley Festival - **Sunday 21st June**

Please note that the meeting time for the choir will be **1.50pm** by the community stage for our **2.15pm** slot. Please make sure your child looks on Google Music Room and learns their songs. **Mrs Brais**



Dates for your diary



Monday 8th June
Wednesday 10th June
Thursday 11th June
Friday 12th June

Monday 15th June
Tuesday 16th June
Wednesday 17th June
Friday 19th June
Monday 22nd June
Thursday 25th June

Friday 26th June
Tuesday 30th June
Wednesday 1st July
Thursday 2nd July

Friday 3rd July

Tuesday 7th July
Wednesday 8th July

Thursday 9th July

Friday 10th July
Tuesday 14th July
Wednesday 15th July

5SR Trip to Kenwood
Forest school starts for **5GB**
Barnet Music Festival **Y5/6 Choir** @ 6pm
5AE Trip to Kenwood
Eid Party
5GB trip to Kenwood
Sports Day
Year 3 trip to Gunnersbury Park
Nursery & Reception Parent/Carer Forum
Year 4 Synagogue Trip
Year 5 trip to the Barbican
New Reception (September 2026) parent/carers meeting @ 6pm
More About Martin meeting—Year review
Year 2 trip to Canvey Island
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
MHSA SUMMER FAIR 3.30pm to 6pm
Annual Reports sent to parents/carers (after school)
Year 6 Leavers' show @ 9.15am to parents & carers
Year 6 Leavers' show @ 6pm to parents & carers
Year 2 celebrations at 9.10am
Year 3 celebrations at 9.10am
Year 2 Jamboree @ 5-7pm
Year 1 celebrations @ 9.10am
Year 4 celebrations @ 9.10am
Year 5 celebrations @ 9.10am

Friday 17th July - Last day of Summer Term @ 2pm

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