



Martin Primary School

Inclusion Newsletter

Summer 2026



Welcome from the SENCO

As we come to the end of another busy year, I wanted to take the opportunity to celebrate everything our children, families and staff have achieved together. This newsletter is the first of what will become a regular half-termly update, keeping you informed about SEND developments, sharing practical advice and letting you know about opportunities to get involved. We hope you enjoy reading it.

Hannah Taylor



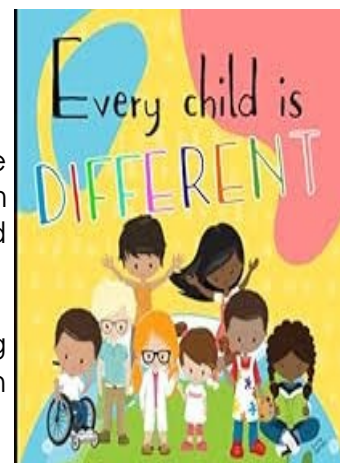
Learning Together

Theme: Every Child is Different

Every child develops at their own pace. Some children need a little extra support for a short time, while others may need longer-term support. At Martin Primary, we celebrate these differences and believe every child deserves to feel safe, understood and successful.

SEND is not about what children cannot do. It is about understanding how they learn best and putting the right support in a place they can thrive.

Parents do not need to wait for a diagnosis before speaking to us. If you have concerns about your child's learning, communication, behaviour or emotional wellbeing, please contact your child's class teacher or the SENCO



Did you know?

- Support can begin before any diagnosis.
- Parents are an important part of every decision.
- Many children receive additional support at some point during their education

SEND Highlights 2025-26

This year has been another exciting year for SEND at Martin Primary. Thank you to our children, families and staff for helping us build an inclusive school where every child can flourish.

This year we have strengthened our SEND provision to ensure children continue to receive the support they need to feel safe, confident and successful. We were proud to take part in the **Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS)** project, helping us further develop inclusive practice across the school.



We have also developed our **SEND Space**, creating learning environments and a bespoke curriculum that reflect each child's strengths, needs and stage of development. By personalising learning in this way, we are able to recognise and celebrate progress in many different ways, while supporting every child to achieve their individual goals.

Working with Families

This year we introduced a new programme of parent workshops, with one key topic explored each term across a series of three sessions. This gave families the opportunity to develop their understanding over time, ask questions and build practical strategies they could use at home.

Workshops

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|--------|---|---|
| Autumn | - | Understanding Autism |
| Spring | - | Supporting Behaviour Through Connection |
| Summer | - | Understanding Trauma |



Our aim was not only to share knowledge, but also to begin building a supportive community where parents feel comfortable sharing experiences, learning from one another and knowing they are not alone when challenges arise.

The response has been incredibly positive. It has been wonderful to see parents returning each week, growing in confidence, asking thoughtful questions and supporting one another by sharing their own experiences and ideas.

This is just the beginning. Next year we will be offering a new series of workshops and hope to welcome even more families. Whether your child has identified SEND or you simply want to learn more about supporting children, everyone is welcome to join us as we continue to learn and grow together.

Looking Ahead: 2026-2027 Workshops

Everyone is welcome.

While our workshops often focus on topics linked to SEND, the strategies we discuss are practical approaches that support all children. Understanding how children learn, communicate and regulate their emotions helps every family, not just those with an identified SEND. We hope you'll join us, learn alongside other parents and become part of our supportive school community.



Autumn: Sensory Processing – Understanding your child's sensory needs and practical strategies to support at home.

REPEAT: Supporting your neurodiverse child at home

Spring: Supporting Young Carers – Understanding what it means to be a young carer, how caring responsibilities can affect children and the support available for families.

REPEAT: How to support your child to become a self-regulation expert

Summer: Supporting Children with ADHD – Understanding ADHD and practical strategies to support children both at home and at school.

REPEAT: Trauma Informed approach: Strategies for the home

Parent Voice

We hope this section will become the most exciting part of our newsletter.

Every family has questions, ideas and experiences that could help another parent. Our **Parent Voice** section is your space to shape future editions of the newsletter.



Have you got a question you've always wanted to ask the SENCO? Is there a SEND topic you'd like to know more about? Have you discovered a strategy at home that has made a real difference for your child?

We'd love to hear from you.

You can email us:

- a question you'd like us to answer
- a strategy that has worked well for your family
- a book, app or resource you've found helpful
- a topic you'd like us to cover in a future newsletter.

We'll choose a selection to feature in each edition (anonymously, if you prefer), so that we can learn from one another and continue building our supportive Martin Primary community.

Email: office@martinprimary.barnetmail.net

Try this at home

EVERY CHILD CAN LEARN



JUST NOT IN THE SAME WAY

"Something happened today..."

Has your child ever said:

"Something upset me today..."

...but then refused to tell you what happened?

It can be tempting to keep asking questions, but children often need time before they feel ready to talk.

Instead, try this...

Stay calm

Let your child know you're there to listen whenever they're ready.

Acknowledge the feeling

"I can see something has upset you."

Avoid lots of questions

Instead of asking, "*What happened?*" over and over, try saying:

"You don't have to tell me right now. I'm here whenever you're ready."

Connect first

Go for a walk, have a snack together, draw, play a game or sit quietly. Many children open up when they're not under pressure.

Check back later

Children often feel more able to talk after they've had time to regulate their emotions.

Remember...

Your child doesn't have to tell you everything immediately. Knowing they have a trusted adult who will listen without pressure helps them feel safe enough to talk when they are ready.

SENCO Tip

If your child continues to seem worried, anxious or upset over several days, please let us know. Even if they haven't shared exactly what happened, working together means we can gently support them both at home and in school.



Resource of the Half Term

This half term we'd like to recommend the **Savanna Therapeutic Stories** collection by Talya Bruck.

Talya is a dramatherapist who also works at Martin Primary. Our Learning Mentors regularly use these beautifully illustrated stories to help children understand and talk about big feelings, friendships, worries and other experiences that can sometimes be difficult to put into words.

Using animal characters and gentle storytelling, each book opens the door to important conversations and provides opportunities for children and adults to explore emotions together. They are a wonderful resource for families, as well as for schools and professionals.

The Savanna Therapeutic Stories collection.

Tiana's Tale – understanding racism, difference and belonging

Silo's Sadness – grief, loss and bereavement

Hugo's Hops – physical disability, inclusion and friendship

Silo's Roar – worry, anxiety and disappointment

Talulah's Rules – understanding autism

Is It Me? – living with a parent experiencing mental health difficulties

Here We Go Again! – bullying

Lottie's Busy Brain – understanding ADHD

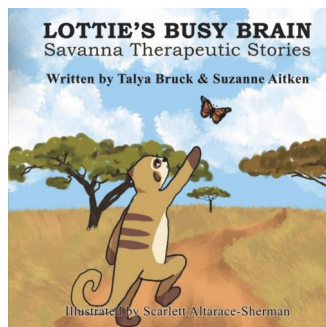
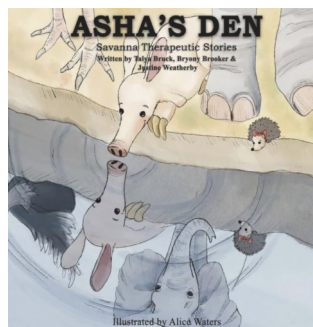
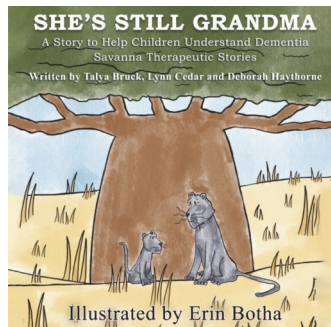
Asha's Den – selective mutism

She's Still Grandma – dementia

Leena and Her Two Dads – celebrating diverse families

Georgie the Elf's Big Game – performance anxiety and resilience

If you're looking for stories that help children make sense of their feelings or navigate life's challenges, this collection is a fantastic place to start.



Georgie the Elf's Big Game

Savanna Therapeutic Stories

Written by Talya Bruck
Illustrated by Erin Botha



Please see the official website for the Savannah Therapeutic Stories collection: <https://www.savanna-therapeutic.org.uk/> and to purchase books: <https://www.psychologicaltherapybooks.co.uk/product-category/savanna-therapeutic-stories/> or https://www.amazon.co.uk/s?i=stripbooks&rh=p_27%3ATalya%2BBruck