



Martin News

Issue no: 16
Date: Friday
9th January
2026

The newsletter for the Martin School community

Language of the month

January's language
of the month is

Polish



Thought for the month

What is the difference
between right and wrong?



Happy 2026! We hope you had a lovely break and an enjoyable time with your families. It has been such a cold week — huge thanks to Tristan and Jimmy for working tirelessly over the last few days clearing ice and checking the heating to ensure that the school is a safe and warm environment for us all.

On Wednesday, the children were treated to a fantastic pantomime of Beauty and the Beast. Thank you so much to the MHSA for funding this—it was such a positive start to the term!

As I hope you know, the views of our parents and carers are very important to us and every year we send out a survey to parents and carers. We are also keen to gather qualitative data and next Friday we will be running the first of our parent/carers forums to discuss how we can make the school an even better place for our children and their families. The first meeting will be for parent/carers class representatives; I am hoping to be able to extend the invitation for future meetings to others, depending on numbers. If there is an issue that you feel it would be useful for us to discuss, please let your class representative know.

I hope you have a lovely weekend. **Ziz Chater**

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.

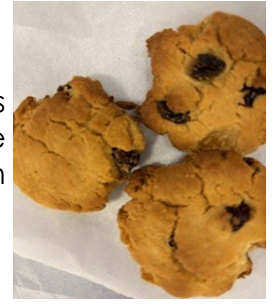
Maths - find out about our maths curriculum at Martin Primary School

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**

Year 2 History Topic

Year 2 started their history unit by making ship's biscuits; 17th century biscuits designed for sailors to take on their long voyages. These were believed to be what Thomas Farrinor was making in his bakery on Pudding Lane in 1666 when the Great Fire of London started.



Year 2 Team

Choir News

Our choirs start back next week. There is no need to sign your children up, they are all welcome to join from year 3. **Mrs Brais**

Year 5&6 Choir

Choir practices take place at 8.20am every Wednesday starting on Wednesday 14th January in the Dining Hall.

Year 3&4 Choir

Choir practices take place at 8.20am every Thursday starting on Thursday 15th January in the Music Room.



Staying Warm this Winter



**Are you worried about
keeping warm at home
during the day?
If so, we can help**

This winter, the school's portacabin will be open for our families to use from 9am to 3pm every school day. The portacabin is located on the school field and is a warm space with a kettle, fridge and toilet facilities—the keys can be collected from the school office.

**Everyone is
welcome!**



For more tips and advice on staying well this winter, visit <https://yourhealthbarnet.org/winter-well>

Date for your Diary—Winter Wear Wednesday!

In January we will be collecting good quality hats, scarves and gloves suitable to be worn by both children or adults to support the Asylum Seeker drop-in. The Christmas holidays is a good time to sort out all your outer winter wear. Thank you for your support

Winter Wear Wednesday

We will be collecting good
quality hats, scarves and
gloves for all ages for the
Asylum Seeker drop-in



Please bring items in on
Wednesday 21st January and
put in the boxes at the top and
bottom gates

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)

Starting Primary School—September 2026

Children born between **1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022** are due to start in a reception class in September 2026. Applications can now be made online via www.eadmissions.org.uk. **The closing date is 15th January 2026.**

Visit our website for full details: <https://www.martinprimary.org.uk/admissions/>.

Dates for your diary



Wednesday 14th January	4TH Swimming starts 3LR Forest School starts Parent/carer forum in the school hall @ 9am
Friday 16th January	Winter Wear Wednesday
Wednesday 21st January	4SK Class Assembly @ 9am
Thursday 22nd January	More about Martin Meeting @ 9am—how to access support for your child & the role of the Learning Mentors
Friday 23rd January	ILP meetings for relevant parents/carers
w/c 26th January	4TH Class Assembly @ 9am
Thursday 29th January	Reception parent/carer reading workshop @ 9am
Friday 30th January	4TH visit to the British Museum
Monday 2nd February	4CP Class Assembly @ 9am
Thursday 5th February	4SK visit to the British Museum
Friday 6th February	More about Martin Meeting @ 9am—how to access support for your child & the role of the Learning Mentors
Monday 9th February	4CP visit to the British Museum
Thursday 12th February	6BG visit to the Ragged School Museum
Friday 13th February	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	5SR Forest School starts
Friday 27th February	More about Martin Meeting @ 9am—Maths
Tuesday 3rd March & Thursday 5th March	Parent/teacher consultations 4pm—7pm
Wednesday 4th March	5AE Class Assembly @ 9am
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day

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