

St Martin's School

Weekly News

ISSUE 5

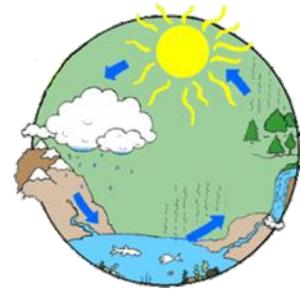
6TH OCTOBER 2017

THIS WEEK'S NEWS

Harvest Festival

It was fantastic to have so many friends and families join us at St Martin's Church for our Harvest Service yesterday. We hope that those of you who were able to join us enjoyed the service. It was good to see the Cherries taking part in their first "big" school event too.

Congratulations to all the classes for their various contributions; a wide range of different activities all linked to this year's theme of 'Water'. The children concentrated well and did not seem fazed by performing in a different and much bigger venue to where they had practised.



Thank you again for your generous harvest gifts and monetary donations; we raised the impressive sum of £204.87. This will be donated to Loose Ends, a local charity for the homeless in Newbury.

Ambassadors

Mrs Bartlett and Mrs Bishop spent last Friday interviewing applicants for school and sport ambassadors. A huge thank-you to everyone who applied. The strength of children's pride in their school and their commitment to wanting to support the school meant that it was a very difficult decision! Congratulations to the successful applicants and we look forward to benefiting from everything that you do throughout the year to support the school.

School Ambassadors:
Poppy Lovell and Jack Robbins

Sports Ambassadors:
Nina Matthews, Milla Brereton and Spencer Codling



HOUSE OF THE WEEK:	East	Total Merits
		134
HOUSE CAPTAINS:		
House Scores this week:	North	104
	South	108
	West	89



Writer's Award

Maple Class:

Congratulations to: Jack Seward for impressive use of adjectives and adverbs.

Congratulations to: Joe Hill for fabulous descriptive writing.

Mathematics Award

Maple Class:

Congratulations to: Isaac Rutter for creative, logical reasoning in maths.



Thank You

A huge thank you to those people who turned up at school last Saturday to help tidy the school grounds. It was amazing just how much was achieved by a small number of people in a couple of hours. Mrs Bartlett was delighted to see the wooden cross on the end of the new building – due to the overgrown planting, she had not been aware that it existed!

Mrs Bartlett would like to apologise for getting the date wrong in the newsletter last week, advertising the event as 30th October instead of 30th September! There is still a lot to be done, so please all watch this space for details of the next School Grounds Day.

Roger Moon

Thank you to all those who signed the card and gave a donation for Roger Moon, Nigel Smith delivered the card and a bunch of flowers to Penny with our condolences and best wishes.

Uganda

We are still hoping to send some ties, floaty scarves and nail varnish to Bukuya with Mr Shelton. So far we have received... NONE!! Please have a rummage!

French Club

Dominique Colthurst is running French Club on Mondays at lunchtime at a cost of £4 per session. The club is aimed at children in Year R and Year 1 but Dominique is happy to take some Year 2 children if parents are interested. If you would like your child to join French Club please speak to Mrs. Carter in the school office.

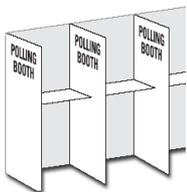


Important Funding News

We have applied for a grant from Tesco's called 'Bags of Help'. It sounds similar to the Waitrose scheme where you vote in store for your chosen charity. **Please make sure you vote for St Martin's CE (Aided) Primary School** when you are shopping in Tesco and remind your family and friends to do the same (please be aware that you often need to ask at the till for counters to vote with). The more votes we get, the more likely we are to receive a larger grant. With the proceeds we are hoping to extend the bouncy bark area by adding more fixed play equipment. Every little helps!

NEXT WEEK'S NEWS

School Council



Elections for the school council this year will take place on Wednesday 11th October. In each class, up to 4 candidates have made it through the initial selection and they are now planning their posters and presenting their manifestos to encourage voters, in preparation for the final elections.

Please remember that, manifestos and posters should be mainly the children's own ideas and work (3 posters only per child please).

Fireworks Night

This year our **Fireworks night** will be taking place on Saturday 4th November at 5.30pm. Last year we made almost £3,500 profit for the school and would like to try and exceed this for 2017.



PLEASE HELP! We are looking for helpers across the following areas:

- Marshalling on the night (5 helpers needed)
- Selling tickets on the night (3 helpers needed)
- Serving food on the night (4 helpers needed)
- 2 helpers for putting up posters and signage
- Selling sweets and toys on the night (3 helpers needed - if you have children who have left the school in previous years, they may like to do this)
- Matched Funding – does your employers operate this scheme to help us earn some easy money?

Please contact Juliette Howard, Vic Gethin, Mia Hancock or Caroline Bridge if you can help in any way. Alternatively there is a sheet at the main office for you to add your name.

Thank you very much from The Fireworks Committee.

Open Morning and Evening

We will be holding an open morning at 9:15am and an open evening at 6:00pm on Wednesday 18th October. There will be a brief talk by Mrs Bartlett and then the opportunity to see round the school (guided by one of our older pupils).

Please spread the word to neighbours or friends who might be interested in joining our school. Although mainly aimed at children due to start Year R in September 2018, anyone interested in joining our school is more than welcome. If anyone is not able to make these times, please talk to the School Office who will be pleased to arrange a mutually convenient appointment.

Local Traffic

Thank you to the majority of parents who drive carefully, park courteously and manage the local traffic with due care and attention. This is really appreciated.

As you are aware the school is on a narrow lane, which can become very busy at drop off and collection times. Kirstie Green from the Hampshire School Travel Team will be visiting our school next week to look at the start and end of the day, including our WOW scheme, to see if she can offer any advice as to what we can do to ensure our children are safe as they arrive and leave school. Please watch the newsletter next week for any advice she is able to give us.

GOVERNOR NEWS

There was a meeting of the Full Governing Body at the school on Tuesday night. We welcomed our new clerk, Jill Hills; a new Foundation governor, Mrs Suki Coe, and of course our new headteacher!

Amongst other things, governors discussed:

- Many important policies
- Safeguarding
- Health and safety
- Changes to assessment practices
- Staffing for next year

Please note that all Governing Body minutes are always available to view and are kept in a file in the front entrance.

MESSAGE BOARD

Operation Christmas Child

This is a well known scheme run by 'Samaritans Purse' which delivers shoeboxes to children all over the world at Christmas time. We have attached an information sheet but if you would like more information, please visit their website:

<https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

If you would like to put together a shoe box, please bring it into the school office (along with the £5 donation) and will we arrange to take all shoe boxes collected to a local drop off point. We will also be putting together a few shoe boxes as a school so if you would like to donate an item or two to go in a shoe box (or some money to go towards the £5 donation), please bring it into the School Office. All shoe boxes must be in school by **Friday 3rd November**.

Head Lice

Unfortunately we seem to be having reports, on a weekly basis, that head lice are **STILL WITH US**. Please can we ask that you check (and treat if necessary) your child's hair as a matter of routine and do let your child's teacher know if you have found either the nits (eggs) or the head lice in your child's hair so that they can be on their guard. May we remind you that the school policy/rule is that all shoulder length hair is tied back securely at all times.



We have some nit combs in the School Office (new), which are very effective. If you would like one, please come and ask.

Vacancies

Our caterers HC3S are looking for a Mobile Cook/Supervisor 27.5 hours a week. If you are interested please contact Debbie Razza on: 07718 974744 (HC3S)

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

ACTIVITIES: 7th – 13th October 2017

School

Monday 9 th	Year R and 1 French Club 12:25pm Monday Funday 2:00pm – 3:00pm Brass/Woodwind lessons with Mr. Crouter 3.00-3.30pm Year 3 – 6 Football Club (if we get enough people sign up) 3:30pm – 4:30pm
Tuesday 10 th	Judo Club 8:00am – 8:45am Year 1, 2 and 3 Multi Skills Club 3:25pm – 4:20pm
Wednesday 11 th	Maple Gymnastics Club 3:25pm – 4:25pm
Thursday 12 th	Brass/Woodwind lessons with Mr. Crouter 1:00pm Piano lessons with Xenia Kasper 9.55am Years 1 and 2 Multi Skills at Park House School 3.45 – 5.30pm

Church

Sunday 8 th Oct	Holy Communion – Highclere 8:00am Parish Communion (Sunday Club) – Woolton Hill 9:30am Matins – Highclere 11:00am Family Communion and Baptism – East Woodhay 11:00 am Evensong – Ashmansworth 6:00pm
----------------------------	---

Advanced Notices

Bonfire Night Saturday 4th November
Christmas Fayre Saturday 2nd December



How to Pack Your SHOEBOX GIFT

Join in the world's largest children's Christmas project. Through Operation Christmas Child, show God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world, and partner with local churches worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Each child receives a shoebox as an unconditional gift of love, based on need, regardless of their background or religion. Children may also be invited to take part in The Greatest Journey, 12 fun, interactive lessons based on the Bible, where they get to discover who Jesus is and how to begin their own journey of faith. Parents or Guardians are always asked to give consent for their children to participate.

How to Pack Your Shoebox

- 1 Get an empty medium sized shoebox, and wrap the box and lid separately in decorative paper or order pre-printed shoeboxes from our website.
- 2 Decide if your gift is for a boy or a girl and the age category and attach the appropriate label (from this leaflet) on the outside of the box lid.
- 3 Fill your shoebox with a suitable variety of new gifts that a child will love. Why not add a personal note and photo, and you may also like to pray for the child who will receive your box?
- 4 Include the £5 suggested donation for each shoebox you fill. This amount is essential to cover project costs - including shipping. If you give online we can email you a barcode to print out and place inside your shoebox on top of the contents. This will enable us to tell you which country your shoebox gets sent to.
- 5 Secure your shoebox with an elastic band and take it to your nearest drop off point between 1-18 November. All sites will be listed on the website from late September.



Gift Suggestions

Please fill your box with a selection from the following or similar items. All items should be new.

TOYS Include a toy that a child can love like a doll or a cuddly toy, toy truck, skipping rope, yo-yo, ball, small puzzle, musical instrument etc.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES Pens, colouring pencils, sharpener & eraser, crayons, felt pens, stamp & ink pad sets, writing pads or notebooks and paper, colouring & picture books, solar calculators etc.

HYGIENE ITEMS Toothbrush, toothpaste, bars of wrapped soap, flannel, comb & brush etc.

OTHER ITEMS Hat, cap, gloves, scarf, sunglasses (with UV rating), hair accessories, wind-up torch, jewellery set, sweets (with best before date of at least March the following year).

DO NOT INCLUDE used or damaged items; clothing other than that listed above; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; seeds; chocolate or food items; lotions or liquids including bubble; medicines; hand-made stuffed toys; playing cards of the 4 suit variety; anything of a political, racial or religious nature; sharp or fragile items; books with many words.



DOING IT WELL: getting your shoebox into the hands of a child in need.

A suggested donation of £5 is critical for the project. What does it cover?

These include Ministry Partner Guides for over 9000 churches in 17 countries, to help them lead safe, well organised events where children receive shoeboxes. The guide also equips partners to decide if and how to share the story of Jesus in a child-friendly way that respects local culture. Where appropriate, children are also offered The Greatest Gift, a colourful Bible booklet written in their own language.

For further information see our website samaritans-purse.org.uk/why5

Mark the correct age

- 2-4 Years Old
- 5-9 Years Old
- 10-14 Years Old



BOY



Mark the correct age

- 2-4 Years Old
- 5-9 Years Old
- 10-14 Years Old



GIRL



STOP!

CAN YOU DONATE ONLINE?

It will make your donation go further and we will be able to tell you which country your shoebox gets shipped to. Donate now at samaritans-purse.org.uk/followyourbox. If you cannot donate online, then please complete your details, enclose your cash or cheque in the envelope and place this inside your shoebox on top of the contents. Secure the shoebox with an elastic band.

I enclose cash or a cheque for £ TOTAL SHOEBOXES

A £5 SUGGESTED DONATION PER SHOEBOX COVERS PROJECT COSTS - including shipping

IF YOU CAN GIFT AID YOUR DONATION, PLEASE TICK THE GIFT AID BOX BELOW AND COMPLETE YOUR DETAILS

Gift Aid is reclaimed by Samaritan's Purse from the tax you pay. For every £1 you donate, 25p can be reclaimed as Gift Aid.

giftaid it

I would like Samaritan's Purse to treat the enclosed donation as a Gift Aid donation. I am a UK taxpayer and I understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in this tax year, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Please write in BLOCK CAPITALS using a black ballpoint pen for scanning purposes

TITLE

YOUR NAME (PRINT LAST)

ADDRESS

POSTAL TOWN

POST CODE

If you are happy for us to follow up with you by email, please tick here and provide your email address below.

By providing us with your details we assume you are over 16 years of age

EMAIL

If you are preparing multiple shoe box gifts, simply make one combined donation