

St Martin's School

Weekly News

ISSUE 14

15th DECEMBER 2017

Many apologies for the confusion caused by last week's newsletter and the Christmas events happening this year. Just to confirm:

**Christmas Carol Service at school – Friday 15th December (today) at 2:15pm,
Christmas Service at St Martin's church – Sunday 17th December at 11:00am,
Carols Around the Tree at school – Thursday 21st December at 2:30pm.
Everyone is very welcome at all three events.**

Letters by email

You may remember that at the start of the term we wrote to parents about receiving letters by email rather than paper copies. We have eventually managed to get the system set up so that this is now possible. All parents should have received their first letter by email (a letter we were asked to distribute by Hampshire Constabulary) earlier this week. If you did not receive this email, please check your spam or junk folder. If you still cannot find it, please come and talk to the School Office and check that we have the correct email address on file for you.

THIS WEEK'S NEWS:

WOW! It's a Baby



We were so pleased with our performance of 'It's a baby!' The children were amazing and spoke, sang, acted, danced and narrated so well! Well done to all the children!

Also, many thanks to the staff who make our school plays happen – the teachers for organising the rehearsals and making sure everyone knew their parts well, Mrs Lovell for helping make sure all the beautiful costumes looked fantastic, Mrs Hill for sorting the music so efficiently. Thanks also to Laura Hill and Nicky Bonner and Vic Gethin for preparing the refreshments afterwards.

A huge thank you for your generous donations after the performance, we raised an amazing amount of £236.99 which will be used to support the children at school and enrich their learning opportunities.

Watch out for our photo in the Newbury Weekly News' 'Christmas in our schools' supplement coming out shortly.

Elise the Elephant and the Cool Cat

Lower school children were treated to a fabulous concert on Wednesday morning, led by two talented ladies from the Hampshire Music Service. They taught the children about the 4 different instruments in the violin family and led the children in songs and actions following a themed story. We asked them when they could come back; they were brilliant!



Listen to Me Concert

The children in Years 4, 5 and 6 have had the opportunity in music this term to learn a brass instrument in lessons led by the Hampshire Music Service. On Thursday we were treated to a performance of the music they have learned. It was lovely to see so many parents at the event and we know the children enjoyed sharing their musical achievements with you. A special well done to Zak Rota, Jack Robbins and Spencer Codling who had played before and performed several 'solos'.

Handbell Ringers

We were delighted to welcome St Thomas' Handbell ringers back into school this morning. The children listened well and joined in with many, beautifully played, Christmas carols and tunes. The bells bring a really festive atmosphere into school and were enjoyed by all.



Junior Road Safety Officers



Katya Burgess and Louis Codling gave a mature and well organised presentation to the school on Wednesday. They spoke well, holding the attention of a tired audience, explaining their new role and teaching them about The Green Cross Code. They emphasised the importance of being seen easily when out and about in these darker months. Next term they will be running a keep safe poster competition and also one for a 'safety song or rap'. We will look forward to that!

Birthdays in Cherry Class

Thanks to Louise and Philippa Renouf for coming to talk to Cherry Class about what 'birthday' means and how our first birthday is actually the day we were born. This links to Cherry Class's learning on birthdays, celebrations and of course Jesus's birthday at Christmas.



NEXT WEEKS' NEWS:

Christmas Lunch

The school Christmas Lunch will be held on **Tuesday 19th December** and we look forward to welcoming our invited guests at 11:50am. Do remember if you have ordered a Christmas meal for your child and don't send their normal packed lunch as well!

Christmas Jumper Day

This year St Martin's will be supporting the Save the Children national Christmas Jumper Day. We have decided to move the date slightly to **Tuesday 19th December** (the national day is Friday 15th December) so that the children can wear their Christmas jumper to the Christmas lunch, helping to add to the festive spirit. All children and adults are welcome to wear a Christmas jumper (or T-shirt or shirt) on this day and any donations that you wish to send in will be given to Save the Children.

Carols Around the Tree

We will be finishing our school term on **Thursday 21st December** by meeting together in the school hall 2:30pm to sing some traditional Christmas songs. Everyone is more than welcome to join us to mark the start of our school Christmas holidays. Please note there will be no celebration worship on this afternoon and school finishes at the normal time.

Celebration Worship

Please note the change of time for our weekly celebration worship due to Carols Around the Tree - our final celebration worship of 2017 will be on **Thursday 21st December at 9:10am**. As always, everyone is more than welcome to join us to celebrate the children's achievements in school throughout the week.

St Martin's Church Carol Service



Everyone is warmly invited to St Martin's Church Carol Service at 11.00am on **Sunday 17th December**. This is always a special event which involves the school and church community together. Our children will be singing one of the songs from the Lower School Nativity, and the school choir will be performing too. Prayers will be read by some of the children. It would be great to fill the church with beautiful singing, so please join us for this special service before we all go our separate ways for the Christmas break.



	Total Merits
HOUSE OF THE WEEK: EAST	97
HOUSE CAPTAINS: Louis Codling and Milla Brereton	
House Scores this week: North	90
South	85
West	93



Writer's Award

Congratulations to: Zac Tyas and Albie Axten for using their knowledge of letters and sounds in their Christmas story book.

Congratulations to: Robyn Gethin and James Buchan for reading all the words in the Trick Words Book

Mathematics Award

Congratulations to: Eadie Gethin for fabulous reasoning in Maths

Congratulations to: Florence Hatton for really detailed interpretation of line graphs.



Congratulations to: Bruno Hill for receiving the Good Citizenship award for always helping his peers without ever being asked.

Congratulations to: Conrad Bridge for achieving Learn to Swim 5

Congratulations to: Freddie Frost for achieving Learn to Swim 6

Congratulations to: Herbie Bonner for achieving Learn to Swim 4

Congratulations to: Milla Brereton for achieving her Chief Scouts Silver Award

Congratulations to: Alice Rutter for achieving Rainbow Distance 50 Metres

Congratulations to: Herbie Bonner, Sebastian Bridge and Conrad Bridge for Great Effort in Training and Racing BMX.

MESSAGE BOARD:

Medication

If your child has an inhaler/ventolin or if you have given the office capol to be taken during the day can you please pop in to the School Office to check medication is in date. We would also appreciate it if you could take away any medication that no longer needs to be kept in school. Many thanks.

Brass and Woodwind – Mr. Tim Crouter

Monday's Brass and Woodwind lessons will begin again on **Monday 8th January** 3.00pm
Thursday's Brass and Woodwind lessons will begin again on **Thursday 11th January** from 1.00pm
Both classes will run for 9 weeks throughout the term.

Clubs

Judo Club: starting on **Tuesday 9th January**. If your child would like to take part in this Judo club please see Mrs Carter for a booking form.

French Club: Dominique Colthurst will be running French Club again during Spring term on Mondays at lunchtime at a cost of £4 per session. French Club will begin on **Monday 8th January** for 10 weeks. 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.

Zumba Club: will be starting again on **Monday 22nd January**, there will be more details to follow in the new year. Chantelle Tyas will be offering a taster for years 3 – 6 again more details in the new year.

Italian Club: we are delighted to announce that Sylvia Defina will be starting to run an Italian club next term. If you have already expressed an interest, you will be sent a separate letter next week. If you have not expressed an interest but would like your child to attend, please collect a letter from the School Office – they should be available by the end of school on Monday.

Lost Property

Sophia Smart has lost Black Jersey Dance Shorts with diamante pineapple logo. If you find them, please give them to the School Office.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION:

Let Christmas Begin!

A Christmas Concert presented by East Woodhay Silver Band on Saturday 16th December 7.00pm at East Woodhay Village Hall, Heath End. Tickets £5, under 12's free. Raffle and Refreshments.
www.eastwoodhaysilverband.co.uk.

The Village Christmas Walk

Wednesday 27th December meeting at 10:30am at the Highclere Red House. Walk off the turkey and Christmas pud and join in the annual village Christmas walk. The circular route will last approximately two hours, including a refreshment stop, finishing back at the Red House in time for lunch. All ages welcome. No need to book, just turn up on the day. Walk in aid of the Rosemary Appeal to provide dialysis and cancer care in Newbury and surrounding areas. Free mulled wine and hot mince pies en route. Sturdy footwear or wellies advisable. Pushchairs not recommended. Dogs welcome but must be kept on leads at all times.

ACTIVITIES: 17th – 23rd December

School

Monday 18th Monday Funday 2:00pm
Years 1 – 6 Zumba 3:30pm – 4:20pm Performance/Dance Party
Years 2 – 6 Football Club 3:30pm – 4:30pm
Tuesday 19th Christmas Jumper Day – Save the Children
Christmas Lunch 12:00pm
Wednesday 20th No Cross Country (finished for the term)
Thursday 21st No Piano lessons (lesson missed on 14th will be made up next term)
Carols around the Tree 2:30pm

Church

Sunday 17th Carol Service at St Martin's Church

Sunday 17th Holy Communion BCP – East Woodhay 8:00am
Advent 3 Christmas Carol Service – Highclere 11.00am
Christmas Carol Service – East Woodhay 11.00am
Christmas Carol Service – Woolton Hill 6.00pm

ADVANCE NOTICE:

Term for children starts on **Thursday 4th January.**

Don't forget in the event of weather / travel problems to check your mobile phone for emergency messages.