



MARTINS WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

12th January 2024



HIGHLIGHTS

- Festive Charity
- Learning - In the classroom
- Dates for your diaries

Welcome back after the Christmas break! It has been great to see the children return with a great enthusiasm for their learning, with our P.R.I.D.E. values regularly being shown. This week, we have sent you your child's termly overview which will give you an idea of the learning that will take place this term.

Nursery - PE in the 'Big' School Hall

The Nursery children have experienced their first trip to the big school hall to do some PE. While they were there they were able to focus on improving their physical development and their ABC's (agility, balance and coordination). They did really well listening and following the instructions and patiently waited their turns to use the equipment.



Garden House Hospice Visit

This Wednesday, the children were joined in their assembly by the Garden House Hospice and were informed about the charitable work that the hospice does in the local area. They also proudly handed over a cheque for £286.57 that was collected during our festive events. Thank you to our families for your generous contributions.



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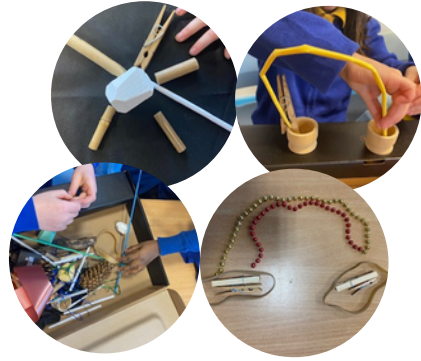
Year 5 – Maths

In their Maths lessons, Year Five have been learning about fractions. They have been using the Cuisenaire rods to explore, reason and deepen their understanding of what fractions are. They have also been using these tools to find equivalent fractions.



Year 1 – Art

This week, Year 1 have been exploring symbols associated with weather. Children first explored what symbols mean and how we use them to tell the weather. Children made different symbols using a range of materials to create 3D representations. The process of using materials, including natural materials, is called transient art.



Thank you...

During the festive period we also kindly donated to some other causes. Oscar (year 5) has been collecting for Home Start Herts for many years now and did so again for their Christmas appeal. He can be seen here proudly with the items brought to help others. We also collected for the Food Shed who were impressed with the 6 huge boxes of food that were used to support families in Stevenage. Thank you to those who were able to support last year.



Diary Dates

Year 4 Healthy Eating Workshop

Monday 15th January

Year 5 CPR - Workshop

Friday 2nd February

Parents Consultation Evenings

Tuesday 13th and Thursday 15th February

February Half Term

Mon 19th February - Fri 23rd February 2024

Year 6 STEM Center Visit

Friday 2nd February

Book Fair

Begins Thursday 29th February

World Book Day

Thursday 7th March

End of Term

Thursday 28th March - 2:00pm



11th –15th March

We will be celebrating all things STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) over the week of the 11th to 15th of March and are looking for people to inspire our children during this time. If you work within these fields and would be available for an afternoon that week to talk to children about what you do, please contact the school office. We would love for you to come in and share with a class/year group some elements of your job and encourage our children to develop a further interest in STEM! We would ask for no more than an hour of your time. Depending on interest, we will come back to those who are able to offer their time with further details

Attendance – Fixed Penalty Notices

As you know, your child's school attendance is very important as it promotes good outcomes. As a school, we track attendance robustly with the support of the Local Authority. We will always phone, meet and put supportive strategies in place when a child's attendance falls below our expectation of 93%. However, sometimes if these strategies are not having an impact or there have been 15 or more sessions (a session is a half day) of unauthorised absences in the current and/or previous school term, penalty notices may now be issued. Absences are recorded as authorised/unauthorised based on the information provided by you as a parent/carer, with your child's whole attendance picture in mind; please refer back to our Attendance Procedure for more information. Holidays will always be unauthorised. If school decide to apply for a penalty notice, we make this application to the Local Authority, and it must comply with Hertfordshire's Code of Conduct. If you have any further questions about FPNs or are worried about your child's attendance, please email: lcclark@martinswood.herts.sch.uk.