



MARTINS WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

1st March 2024

HIGHLIGHTS

- **STEM Workshops**
- **Learning around the school**
- **Competition winners**
- **Future events**

The children have many new experiences to look forward to over the coming weeks which began with a STEM experience day for our Year 6's. We may only have a short half term but it is jam packed with Book Fairs, World book Day and a STEM week. There is even some competition news!

Year 6 STEM Workshop

This week, the Year 6 pupils have been enjoying a STEM workshop. They have been using their knowledge of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths to configure an alarm system to protect a precious jewel. This contraption involved them using coding to control a 'microbit', enabling them to solve different challenges. They also had to use their previous electrical circuit knowledge to build the machine. They were then able to test this alarm system using a 'prototype' diamond.

Saplings - Space

In our early years, the children have been looking at Space; for the children in Saplings this has involved making rockets out of different shapes and moving a parachute whilst singing 'Zoom zoom zoom going to the moon'. They did this while counting backwards from 5 to 1 before blasting Teddy into space. They have also been flexing their creativity, collaborating and using their fine motor skills to make 'aliens'.

Phonics Screening Check

In June, all children in Year 1 and some children in Year 2 will undertake a Phonics Screening Check. This is a national test of the children's ability to read and decode a series of words. If you would like to find out more and how you can best support your child then please attend an informative face to face session with Mrs Clark on Wed. 13th March at 9.00am. Alternatively, please join Mrs Clark online on Wednesday 13th March at 5pm. More information and a link will be sent nearer the time.

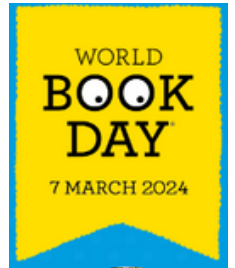
World Book Day – Thursday 7th March

On this day, children are invited to dress up as a character from their favourite book. We are very excited to be welcoming the Mayor, who will present an assembly to the children. We would also like to invite parents and carers into school on this day to share a story and read with their child.

2.40 – 2.50 Year 5 & 6, 2.55 – 3.05 Year 3 & 4, 3.10 – 3.20 Reception/KS1

We are also holding a competition for children reading in unusual places. All you have to do is send a picture of your child reading in an unusual place to the Office (admin@martinswood.herts.sch.uk). There will be a winner for the most weird and wonderful reading spot from each Key Stage, who will be given the choice of a free book from the Book Fair!

Don't forget the book fair that is on, after school, until next Wednesday.



Paddington with our 'Stars of the Week'

This week the 'stars of the week' celebrated their achievements by having their photo taken with Paddington. He later told me that he was so proud to see all the winners and their P.R.I.D.E. achievements.

One School Many Hearts –Picture competition

Following the launch of our art competition 'one school many hearts' we received lots of great entries from across the school showing how imaginative and creative Martins Wood is. As a result of this, the School Ambassadors worked with Mrs Ford to find some stand out inspiration pieces. These were awarded with certificates in assembly. Our next challenge will be to work together to create a welcoming 'one school many hearts' display to showcase our school community. A big thank you to everyone who participated – it was much appreciated.



Afra	(Yr 2)
Isla	(Yr 5)
Molly	(yr 2)
Grace	(Yr 4)
Emily	(Yr 1)
Oscar	(Yr 5)

Footwear

Please ensure that our children are wearing black shoes when in school as per our uniform statement, which can be found on our website

Punctuality Matters!

It is important to be on time at the start of each day. If your child is late: they can miss learning time, it can cause disruption to the lesson for others, and it can be upsetting for them leading to possible further absences. School starts promptly see below times:

Classroom doors open at **8.50am** and close at **9.00am**

Late arrivals need to report to school office.

Arrival after 9.30am is recorded as unauthorised absence.

Diary Dates

Book Fair Begins Fri 1st March until Wed 6th March

World book day - Character costumes, Mayoral assembly, read along. Thurs. 7th March

School ambassadors (Houses of Parliament) Commonwealth day - Monday 11th March

STEM week - 11th - 15th March

Year 3 sleepover - Friday 22nd March

End of Term - Thursday 28th March - 2:00pm

Inset day - 15th April

In school Swimming - begins 16th April