MARTINS WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY
23/10/2026



SAPLINGS

The children in Saplings have been looking at the changes Autumn brings. We have spent time looking, touching and exploring items such as pine cones, conkers and different colours of leaves. We have painted using leaves, made various displays, collected leaves on family walks, read books and watched a programme about the changes.

For our smallest children we have spoken about it getting colder and darker, needing to wear warmer coats and maybe even hats and gloves. Preparing for this the children have had a group activity trying on hats and gloves, a first step in being more independent.









NURSERY

This week in Nursery, the children have been enjoying the changing seasons as we explore all things Autumn. We've been talking about the signs of autumn around us, noticing how the leaves are changing colours and falling from the trees, and talking about how the weather is getting a bit windier and the days a little darker.

We've also had a fantastic time exploring pumpkins! The children had a hands-on activity using small hammers to tap golf tees into real pumpkins. This was a wonderful way to build both their gross motor strength and fine motor. Their curiosity really shone through as they asked questions and explored what was hidden inside the pumpkins, scoping out the seeds and squishy textures!







RECEPETION

As part of Exploring Autumn theme we opened, sliced and scooped pumpkin. We were thought it was stringy and had lots of seeds. Then we used some pumpkins to practice our fine motor skills hammering in the golf tees, strengthening our finger muscles.

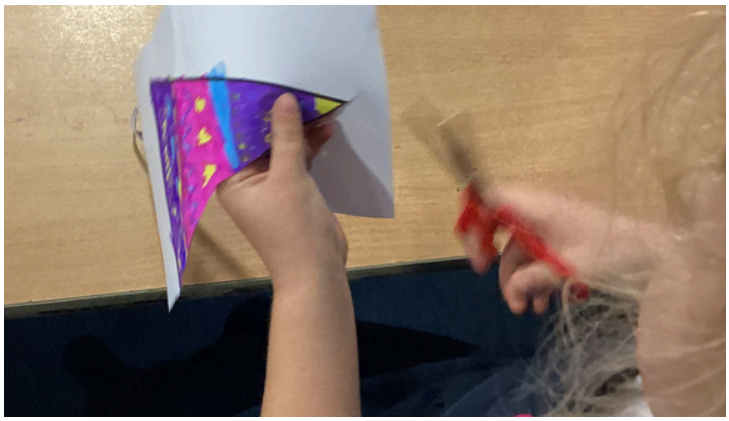




YEAR 1

Year 1 children did a science investigation this week. They had to test a range of materials to find out which material would be best to make some bunting for our playground. The bunting needed to be bendy and waterproof. You can see their finished bunting hanging in the Year 1 playground.







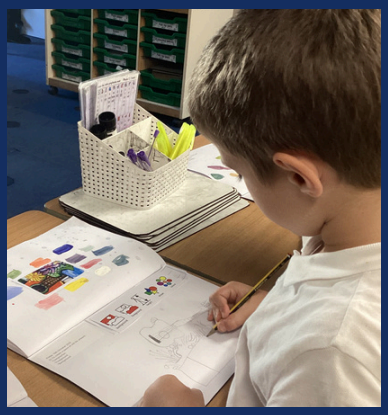
YEAR 2

To finish off our 'Still Life' learning in Art, we created and sketched our own, unique still life scene. We used many items that we had studied that famous artists have used throughout history in iconic still life paintings such as flowers, fruit, instruments and even skulls to represent different themes! We had to make sure that we observed carefully whilst sketching, attempting to add in blending and shading to show shadows and to change the size, shape and composition of the objects.







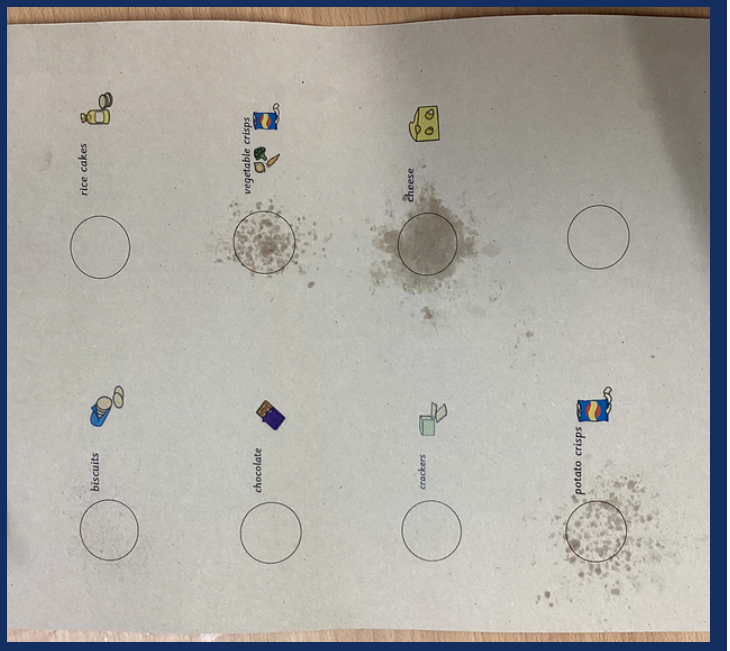






YEAR 3

Year 3, as part of our Animal Nutrition and the Skeletal System Science unit, have been investigating the quantity of fats in different foods.





YEAR 4

Year 4 have been using handmade cardboard looms to explore the ancient art of cloth production. The children began by cutting precise notches to wind and secure their vertical "warp" threads securely in place. They are now busy using colourful yarns to guide their horizontal "weft" threads back and forth, mastering the traditional over-and-under technique. Working with these cardboard looms is a fantastic way for the pupils to experiment safely with tension, pattern, and texture; all while giving their concentration, dexterity, and fine motor skills a wonderful workout! We cannot wait for these beautiful woven creations to come home soon.







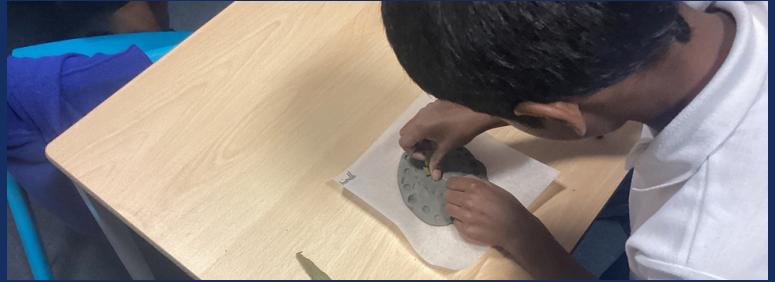
YEAR 5

This week, our Year 5 students headed outdoors to gather natural materials like leaves, acorns, and sticks from around the grounds. Back in the classroom, they pressed their found materials into clay to design intricate relief sculptures. It was fantastic to see their creativity come alive.









YEAR 6

In science, Year 6 are learning about the circulatory system. They made 'blood' to show the different components: plasma, platelets, red blood cells and white blood cells. Have you heard about the Golden blood group? Only 50 people in the world have it.



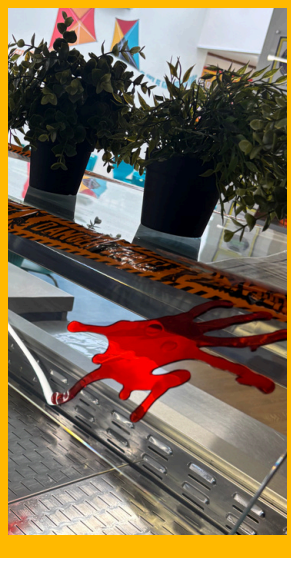



Halloween-Themed Dinner and Menu Update 🎃

Our kitchen team has been busy organising a Halloween-themed dinner, bringing a little spooky fun to our mealtimes!

A quick reminder to please check out our new menu, which will be introduced after we return from half term. Please note that on Wednesday 4th November, we will be serving roast chicken and gravy instead of roast gammon and gravy.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

26th October - 30th October - Half Term
02nd November - Inset Day
4th November - SATs Spotlight
25th November - Y2 Chestnut - Christmas Journey at St. Hugh and St. John
26th November - Y2 Cedar - Christmas Journey at St. Hugh and St. John
4th December - Y4 Viking Workshop
11th December - Christmas Jumper Day
16th December - KS1 + KS2 Christmas Performance
17th/18th December - Whole School Inspire event Details TBC
18th December - Last day of Term - 2pm finish

This week's average attendance is 92.8%. Our average whole school attendance is currently at 95.9%
Remember - to achieve 100% attendance your child needs to be in school, every day, on time.

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