



St Martin de Porres Primary School

Newsletter

20th July 2023

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Welcome to the final Newsletter of the term.

Year 6 – Joseph and his amazing technicolour dreamcoat

The pupils of Year 6 gave us a truly amazing production this year. Their singing and acting was superb. Congratulations to them and a huge thank you to the Year 6 staff for their guidance and hard work.

Year 6 Leavers

We are also very sad to be saying goodbye to our Year 6 pupils. As I said to them and their parents at the Leavers' Mass, they have achieved many successes. Their SATs results, which are below, were very good and fully deserved. Following the performance, I told the children that although SATs results are important, a love of the creative arts and sport are equally so. We believe they have received a good foundation here at St Martin's and will now go on to have many successes as they move onto High School.

KS2 SATs results July 2023 - provisional

	Expected	National *23	Greater depth	National *22
Reading	79%	73%	22%	28%
Writing	78%	71%	19%	13%
Grammar, punctuation & spelling	93%	72%	43%	28%
Mathematics	84%	73%	34%	23%
Combined scores	64%	59%	12%	7%

Sporting Success

Congratulations to the children who represented the school at the Town Sports. All four relay squads, achieved great success. Year 5 came second and Years 3, 4 and 6 all came first. Year 6 set a new Town record running the relay in 56.75 seconds. Well done to you all. On the website you will find a short film that Miss Taylor has put together.

Staff leaving us

I would like to say a big thank you to the staff who are leaving us this week – Mrs Banville, Mrs Briggs, Mrs Fielding and Mrs Maven-Hazleton (Lina). They have served the school with commitment and dedication and many of our children have benefitted from their expertise and care. Mrs Briggs has worked on the History, Geography, Art & DT long term plans for the school, work that is not seen by parents, but is important for the curriculum design. Mrs Banville has been key to the love of music in the school, spending much of her own time working with the choir and arranging the music concerts. We wish Mrs Fielding and Mrs Maven-Hazleton a long and happy retirement and Mrs Banville and Mrs Briggs, good luck in their new positions.

Staff for St Martin's in September

I would like to give a warm St Martin's welcome to the new staff who are joining us in September. As Class Teachers we have Miss Callahan and Miss O'Mahony and our new Assistant Head, Mrs O'Shea. I hope they will be very happy here and enjoy their time in our school.

School Uniform

PE kits will need to be brought into school on a Monday and to go home on a Friday. Here is a reminder of the uniform:

Key Stage 2: White shirt and tie, plain dark grey skirt (knee length, not tight three-quarter length) or trousers (straight legged school style, not the latest fashion), royal blue V-neck sweatshirt or cardigan, flat black shoes with heels less than 2cm. Tailored shorts can be worn by boys and girls, including culottes by the latter.

Key Stage 1/Foundation Stage: White polo shirt, plain dark grey skirt (knee length, not tight three-quarter length) or trousers (straight legged school style, not the latest fashion), royal blue V-neck sweatshirt or cardigan, flat black shoes with heels less than 2cm.

Socks, tights and hair ribbons should be plain and in one of the school colours of black, grey, white or royal blue.

Children should come to school in sensible flat shoes, not trainers or ankle boots and, in bad weather when Wellington boots are required, the flat shoes should be brought to wear indoors

In the summer term pupils may wear a white and blue checked dress (or a shirt and skirt combination) or continue to wear their winter uniform, or short grey trousers. Ties can be left off during the latter part of the summer term, once permission has been given by the Head Teacher.

Current fashions in shoes, clothing and hair should be avoided. Children's hair should be smart and tidy and long hair must be tied back using the school colours. Fashions involving patterns, or those similar to the mohican style, should be avoided.

PE Kit: Plimsolls, trainers from Year 1 to Year 6, white T-shirt (KS1 children round neck T Shirt / KS2 children round neck or polo shirt) and navy shorts (Bermuda/lycra/cycling shorts are not acceptable).

The PE Kit should be brought in each Monday morning, in a school PE bag which will hang on the child's peg and be left in school until Friday.

Between October half term and Easter, children may wear a plain navy blue/black tracksuit for outdoor lessons.

Health and Safety: Children are not allowed to wear jewellery, the only exception being for pupils with pierced ears who may wear one, plain, gold/silver round stud in an ear lobe, which must be removed for PE and swimming. Ringed sleepers or other earrings are not acceptable and, if they are worn to school, children will be asked to remove

them. Children will not be allowed to take part in physical activities if wearing ear studs.

School Uniform Shop: School jumpers/cardigans, ties and bags are available from Prestige Design and Workwear – Unit 12 Barton Le Clay Industrial Estate, Barton Le Clay, Bedford, MK45 4RP –01582 883222. You can also access the shop online via the link on the schools website. All other items of school uniform can be purchased from any supplier but please ensure these are in line with the attached School Uniform Policy. Please remember to name every price of uniform.

Please remember that school closes to children on Thursday 20th July and reopens for Years 1- 6 on Monday 4th September. Nursery & Reception on Monday 11th September.

I would just like to end by saying a huge thank you to all of the staff who have done such a fantastic job to make sure that your children have continued to receive a good education. I would also like to thank Mrs Harris and the office staff, our Family Worker, Miss Williams and Learning Mentor, Mrs Jones; TAs, cleaners, IT support, mid-day supervisors, Care Club staff and our Site Agent, who have been behind the scenes making sure that the school has run smoothly.

Finally, I would just like to say a personal thank you to the whole school community – children, staff, governors, parents, Fr Liam and Fr Simon, Joe Richardson and the Trust Team. I have worked at the school for 31 years and I can truthfully say that I have never wanted to work anywhere else. St Martin's is a very special place. When I became the head of the school, I said that the reason I came to work every day, was because of the children; and that has always been true, even on difficult and challenging days. I will miss the children and the rest of the school community, who really have become part of my family. Thank you for your many good wishes and generous gifts. I know that the school will be in safe hands with Mrs Barnaville and Mrs Gallagher taking over as Co-headteachers and that St Martin's will continue to be a loving, family community.

It is now time for me to spend time with my own family, who over the years, have made many sacrifices, so that I could do the job that I love. I wish you and your families every blessing and ask that you continue to support the school as the new leadership team take over.

N. J. Morgan.

N J Morgan
Head Teacher

