



'Be Smart... Be the best that you can be...'



St Martin and St Mary Church of England Primary School Newsletter No.11 – Friday 25th July 2025

As we wrap up another successful school year, I want to extend our heartfelt thanks to all our families for your unwavering support. I hope you have a safe and restful summer break. As we prepare for the Autumn Term, please take this opportunity to check your [child's uniform](#) to ensure they are ready for the new school year. Our teachers and staff need a break too so they will not be accessing school emails from Friday 25th July until Monday 1st September, our first training day. If you have an urgent enquiry, please use our admin email to get in touch. Please be patient when awaiting a response as this may not be monitored daily.

Dolce There will be a price increase from 1st September. The current price per meal per child is £2.63; this will increase to £2.85. More information about Dolce is on our website.

Outstanding payments Please can I ask parents to settle any outstanding payments for swimming lessons and school trips with school as soon as possible via your Scopay account or by cash to the school office. Currently for swimming Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 there is £145 outstanding, Year 3, 4 & 5 is £344 outstanding and for Year 6 this is £522 outstanding. Totalling £1011 in outstanding payments for swimming this year. Thank you to all of the parents who have helped support our reception and Key Stage 1 swimming – we couldn't run these lessons without you.

Mini-Police If you have been a member of the mini-police this year please could you return your uniforms to Mrs Swindlehurst as soon as possible in September.

Arbor app Please make sure you have downloaded the Arbor app. All communications/reminders will be through the app; [Getting started - Log into the Parent Portal and the Parent App](#).

Staff news... As the academic year ends, we are really sad to say goodbye and good luck to a number of highly valued staff members. We say [good-bye](#) to Mrs Liz Russell who will begin her well-earned retirement. Liz has been a colleague and friend of the school for almost five decades. We wish you all the best Liz and hope to see you soon. Also two of our highly valued members of our office team leave us this summer, we say goodbye to Sian Finlay and Laura Adams. It saddens me to announce that Mrs Sue Storey will be leaving us at the end of term. We will miss Sue dearly, but we are excited for her as she embarks on this new chapter in her life. Please join us in wishing Sue all the best in their future endeavours. Thank you all, for everything you have done for our school community. You will always be a part of the St Martin and St Mary family! We welcome to our teaching team Chloe Fox who will be job sharing with Emily Lang. You may have seen a familiar face in the office recently too as we welcome Rebecca Penney to our office team.

Term Dates – 2026/2027 these have been agreed by the Governing Body and continue to include a 2 week break at May half-term. Dates are on our website.

A message from our PTA *As always, I would like to thank staff and families for your support with all our PTA events 2024-2025. We are thrilled that we have been able to donate to class trips, project materials, Easter eggs, art supplies, teaching materials, the year 6 performance, as well as much needed resources and equipment. Our main event this year was to help raise funds for the swimming pool, where we held a fantastic family fun day, bringing the whole community together! I'd like to thank all the parents and staff who help at the events especially Liz Russell and Jane Stevens who have supported the PTA for so many years, you will both be greatly missed. We are always looking for helpers who can pop along to serve a cup of coffee, count bounces, hand out sweets or sell raffle tickets so please do come along to our AGM - September 10th at 3.30pm. Thank you again to all who have come to and donated to our PTA events, see you in September! Amy Thompson, PTA Chair*

A message from our chair of governors *As we reach the end of a very busy term for everyone, we would like to extend our thanks to all of our families, staff team and the whole of our school community for another amazing year at St Martin and St Mary's. Thanks also goes to Louise Swindlehurst for stepping up and doing an amazing job as Interim Head Teacher. I am sure you will all agree that Louise's calm, knowledgeable and supportive leadership this term has been incredible. Our school continues to go through a period of change and we are very grateful for Louise and the Senior Leadership Team for leading and supporting our whole school community. Louise will continue in her role for the next few terms, which we are so pleased about. We're also on the lookout for a new Foundation Governor, so if you or anyone you know is interested in knowing more about this volunteer role, please contact me directly or through the school office. Have a wonderful summer and we look forward to September together. Jen Braithwaite, Chair of Governors.*

Important Diary Dates - All dates are in the school calendar on our website for easy reference

Date	Theme/Event
Monday 1 st September	Inset – school closed to pupils
Tuesday 2 nd September	Inset – school closed to pupils
Wednesday 3 rd September	School reopens
Thursday 11 th September	Y6 Westmorland Show Mini Police – Water Safety Year 4 Camp over at school
Friday 19 th September	Individual School photographs
Monday 29 th September	NHS Nasal Flu Vaccination
Wednesday 1 st October – Friday 3 rd October	Year 5 Patterdale
Monday 13 th October Tuesday 14 th October Wednesday 15 th October	Year 5/6 Outdoor Education Day
Thursday 23 rd October	Reception & KS1 Harvest Festival 9.15am KS2 Harvest Festival 1.30pm St Martins
Monday 27 th October – Friday 31 st October	Half –term
Tuesday 9 th December	Nativity 9.30am
Wednesday 10 th December	Nativity 9.30am
Thursday 11 th December	Nativity 9.30am
Wednesday 17 th December	Whole School Christmas Service St Mary's 9.30am
Friday 19 th December	Christmas Party
Friday 19 th December	Break up at 2pm

Friendship Love Forgiveness Trust Honesty Faith