

St Martin's Newsletter



Autumn TERM 2025/2026

Friday 17th October

Attendance

Whole school attendance this week was **93.2 %**. Well done to YR who has the best attendance this half term with 97% they will receive a reward next week.

			
	Attendance	Lateness	Class Dojo
Nursery	91.01%	1	
Reception	96.02%	4	10.4
Year 1	93.77%	2	14.0
Year 2	91.37%	1	8.6
Year 3	92.22%	2	5.5
Year 4	90.91%	5	4.0
Year 5	95%	0	10.8
Year 6	95.26%	6	5.9

Year 1 win the bonus break for most average dojos this week.

St Martin's Stars

Well done to all our certificate winners this week!

			
	Shining Star	Purple Tie	Our Values
Nursery	Max C		Sienna-Mai
Reception	Michael M	Aerick B	Harry S
Year 1	Alexander FS	Reuben P	Harry S
Year 2	Elexis S	Ava-Grace C	Frankie K
Year 3	Gabby C	Kingsley N	William B
Year 4	Parker M	Maisie F	Demi-Rose W
Year 5	Cathryn J	Imogen T	Sapphire R
Year 6	Athena B	Joaquin V	Noah MC

Safety Advice

Memes may seem like harmless fun, but they can carry hidden risks. [This guide](#) explores how meme culture affects young people - from misinformation to inappropriate content and digital footprints.

Message from Mrs Ming

It was great to see everyone dressed in red for our support of 'Show Racism the Red Card' and all children have been enjoying their reading racetrack rewards. Thank you to everyone who has bought tickets for the Autumn disco, we raised £232 for school fund ☺. Next week year 3 are very excited to be going on their first residential trip to Burwardsley. Thank you to the staff that give up their own free time to make these experiences happen for the children. We break up on Tuesday at normal time for half term. Wednesday is an INSET day for staff. We return on Monday 3rd November.

Parent Notice Board

Y3 Residential to Burwardsley Monday 20th - 21st October

INSET DAY Wednesday 22nd October

Return Monday 3rd November – Jubilee Pledge Day

RockKidz

On **Friday 7th November** we are so lucky to have RockKidz visiting us again. They will be running workshops with the children about bullying in preparation for anti-bullying week beginning on Monday 10th November.

Children should come into school dressed as Rockstars and be ready to rock out! There will be an opportunity to meet n greet the rockkidz after school and merchandise will be available to buy.

Jubilee Pledge day

On **Monday 3rd November** (the day we return) we will be participating in a whole school pledge day for the Jubilee year. To make this a special occasion children should come into school wearing the following colours and should bring an item of food to donate to the food bank.

Red - Tinsteps - Tinned vegetables
 Red - Reception - Tinned spaghetti or tomatoes
 Yellow - Year 1 - Jam
 Yellow - Year 2 - Packet rice
 Green - Year 3 - Mashed potatoes/tinned potatoes
 Green - Year 4 - Sweets and chocolate
 Blue - Year 5 - Long life milk
 Blue - Year 6 - Toiletries (shower gel, shampoo, deodorants)

Catholic Life and Reflection

The Wednesday Word is a resource for parents to use when discussing the [weekly Gospel](#) with their families.

All parents and families are welcome to join **us for a whole school Mass on Wednesday 5th November at 10am.**

Y2 parents are invited to come and Stay and Pray on Tuesday 4th November at 8.50am.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MEMES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Memes may look like simple jokes, but, for many teenagers, they form a shared cultural language. Quickly created and reworked, they spread across social media platforms as images with text or short videos. Nearly eight in ten teenagers share memes (79%, YPulse), making them part of daily life. While memes encourage creativity and participation, they can also spread misinformation or reinforce harmful stereotypes.

SPREADING MISINFORMATION

While memes help to communicate complex topics, they can also spread misinformation. Memes may sometimes include content presenting false facts or biased viewpoints, especially around health, politics, or current events and, as they're designed to be shared quickly, young people may not question their accuracy.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Memes are widely circulated, and not always age-appropriate, meaning young people may encounter explicit language, sexual content, or graphic imagery, even without searching for it. As memes spread fast on platforms like Instagram, TikTok, or WhatsApp, it's nearly impossible to filter them completely.

MASKED MESSAGES

Some memes are designed to be confusing or layered with hidden meanings, making them hard for parents, and, sometimes, other young people to understand. Online groups often create these memes to look like inside jokes, but they can sometimes conceal offensive, harmful, or misleading content.

HIDDEN HARMS & LOSING SENSITIVITY

When serious topics like violence, racism, or mental health are turned into jokes, children and young people may become less sensitive to these issues over time. While a funny meme may seem light-hearted, it can carry messages that belittle certain groups, encourage risky behaviour, or mock personal struggles. Repeated exposure through memes can make harmful behaviour seem normal or less important. Over time, this can blur their understanding of what is funny versus what is discriminatory, harmful, or damaging to themselves and others.

PERMANENT DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Unlike spoken jokes, memes leave a trail. Created or shared memes can resurface later and be misunderstood, even if intended as harmless. Once online, memes may be copied, saved, or spread beyond a young person's control - digital actions can follow them into their future, shaping how they are perceived by peers, teachers, or even employers long after the original meme has been shared.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Talk regularly with young people and try to understand their online world - discuss what they find funny about the memes, and why. By listening without judgement, you build trust, making it easier for them to come to you if they see something harmful. Open conversations also help children and teens think critically about the messages behind memes rather than simply accepting them at face value.

MODEL HEALTHY BOUNDARIES

Show children and teens positive online behaviours, such as taking breaks from screens, avoiding late-night scrolling, and engaging in offline activities. Setting clear routines around screen time at home can help to reinforce healthy boundaries and reduce the risks of overuse. By modelling balanced technology use, adults can help children and young people see that digital entertainment, including memes, should be just one part of life.

TEACH DIGITAL LITERACY

Help children and young people learn to question where information comes from and whether it's reliable - developing media literacy skills prepares young people to understand and navigate through their future online lives. Show them how memes can sometimes exaggerate or misrepresent facts for laughs, and encourage them to check credible sources when memes claim to present truth.

FOSTER EMPATHY ONLINE

Remind children and young people that memes should never come at someone else's expense. Encourage them to think about how a meme might make another person feel before sharing or creating it. Highlight examples of positive memes that celebrate creativity without hurting others. Fostering empathy, respect, and kindness in digital spaces will help them become more aware of promoting a safer, more supportive online culture.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Cristina Moreno-Almeida is a Senior Lecturer in Digital Culture at Queen Mary University of London. She specialises in memes, online networks, and youth culture, examining how digital spaces shape identity and everyday life.



See full reference list on our website



The National College

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 15.10.2025