



St Martin's C of E Primary and Nursery School

Younghayes Road, Cranbrook, EX5 7DT

Tel: 01404 515409 Email: admin@stmartinscranbrook.devon.sch.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, we would like to welcome you to Ash and Oak classes. This year the teaching team in Ash is Nat Padley, Steph Mabbutt, James Cook and Kim Bragg and in Oak is Jen Cordwell, Trudi Wiles and Sally Pope.

The school day

The main school gates open at 8:20am and children need to be in school, ready to learn by 8:30 am. Children arriving late will need to register at the school office.

School finishes at 3:00 pm. If you are booking holidays, you will find the term dates for the next academic year on our school website.

Attendance

High attendance at school is not just valuable, it's essential. It gives children the best possible chance of developing secure friendships, feeling safe, building on prior learning and succeeding academically. There is a proven link between high attendance and doing well at school.

At St Martins we promote the importance of high attendance in our weekly celebration assembly, awarding 'Attendance Bear' to the class with the highest attendance for that week.

As a school we strive for a goal of 100% attendance however we do recognise that there will be times when children are not well enough to be in school. If your child is unwell please contact the school office. If you have any concerns regarding the attendance of your child please contact Melanie Turl - Deputy Teacher via School Spider.

Learning Narrative

This term, we will be learning all about Roman Britain in history and after half term, in geography we will be learning all about mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes. In science we are focusing on living things and their habitats. In R.E, we will be looking at Hinduism and Christianity, in computing we will be learning about how the internet works and how technology can help us to present our work in interesting and engaging ways.. In Art we will explore the work of Vincent Van Gogh and in DT the children will be designing and making their own pencil case using a variety of sewing techniques.

Home Learning

Your child will be set home learning each week. Home learning will consist of a spelling task on spelling shed as well as a mental maths piece of work. This will be set on a **Wednesday** and is due in on the following **Wednesday**. In addition to this, they will be need to engage with TT Rockstars regularly.

In addition to this, children will continue daily reading (30 minutes) and we recommend still listening to your child read aloud a few times a week. It is important that the children are heard to read as much as possible to improve their fluency and comprehension, as well as this having a positive impact on their writing.



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Children will bring home their Accelerated Reader (AR) book each day. These books must come back into school every day as they are also the children's class reading books. Once a child has finished their book will take a short quiz to assess how successfully they have comprehended the text.

P.E

The children will have P.E on a Wednesday and a Friday. On PE days, your child needs to **come to school dressed in their PE kit**.

PE kit should include:

- Black shorts
- T-shirt based on the children's family learning group or plain white t-shirt
- Black tracksuit bottoms
- Trainers
- School jumper to be worn over the top for warmth

Please speak to the office if you are unsure of your child's family learning group.

Forest school

Forest school will take place on a Thursday afternoon which the children attend every other week. They will need to wear their forest kit into school on these days and must bring in wellies and waterproofs. Ash class will have their first session this Thursday (10th September) and Oak will have their first session the following Thursday (17th September).

Uniform and Belongings

Please ensure that all personal items are labelled clearly. Even with the best intentions, children do lose things - having them named means that items can find their way back to the correct owner.

Questions/Queries

At St. Martins we have an open-door policy so staff will be at their doors at the beginning and end of each day to answer any quick questions. If you have any queries that need to be discussed in more depth please contact the school admin team via School Spider and address your message 'for the attention of Year 4 teachers.'

We look forward to a successful and happy year.

Nat Padley, Jen Cordwell, Kim Bragg, Steph Mabbutt, Trudi Wiles, James Cook and Sally Pope