



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 Willow and Beech classes. This year the teaching team in Willow is Jo Stranks and Kathy Pyatt and, in Beech, is Jonny Sluman, Sue Bray and Bronwyn Harris.

The school day

The main school gates open at 8:20am and children need to be in the classroom, 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 South America in Geography and then focusing on light and electricity in science. In R.E, we will be looking at Hinduism and Christianity, and in DT will be looking at CAMS, with our art allowing us to explore cubism.

Home Learning

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.

In addition, your child will be set home learning each week. Home learning will consist of a maths activity and an English activity each week. This will be set on a **Friday** and is due in on the following **Thursday**.

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

In the Autumn term, the children will have PE on a Thursday and a Friday. On PE days, your child needs to **come to school dressed in their PE kit**.



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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

Long hair must be tied back for PE. Please speak to the office if you are unsure of your child's family learning group.

Forest school

Children will have their forest session in the summer term. This will alternate on a weekly basis between the two year 6 classes. More information will be provided nearer the time.

Uniform and Belongings

- Blue Polo Shirt with/without logo
- Blue Sweatshirt/ Cardigan with/without Logo
- Grey Trousers, Shorts, Grey Skirt or Pinafore
- Black, Grey or White Socks
- Black Shoes - suitable for physical activity (no hi-tops or heels)
- Blue waterproof fleece (optional)
- Blue Fleece (optional)
- Summer Yellow or Blue Checked Dress (optional)

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. Toys should not be brought into school.

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 6 teachers'.

We look forward to a successful and happy year.

Jo Stranks, Jonny Sluman, Sue Bray, Bronwyn Harris and Kathy Pyatt