



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 Will Atwell and in Beech is Jonny Sluman and Steph Mabbutt.

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 South America in Geography and then focusing on light and electricity in science. In R.E, we will be looking at Judaism and Christianity, and in DT will be looking at CAMS, with our art allowing us to explore street art.

Home Learning

Your child will be set home learning each week via Google Classroom. Home learning will consist of a mental maths piece of work. This will be set on a **Thursday** and is due in on the following **Thursday**. In addition to this, they will be set a reading task where they will not only have to read a selection of pages from the class text but will also have a task linked to what they have read for them to complete and submit on Google Classroom. This will be set on a **Thursday** and is due the following **Monday**.

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.

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.



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Google Classroom

The children will have access to their school Google Account, via Chromebooks and iPads. Through this we will be using Google Classroom, which allows us to share resources and work with the children, but also for us to see their work. The Google Suite can also be accessed at home on most electronic devices. If you need any support with this, then please let us know.

P.E

In the Autumn term, the children will have PE on a Wednesday and a Thursday. 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 will be structured differently across the school this year. Children will now have their Forest sessions in half termly blocks. Beech's Forest will be every Friday during the **first half of the Summer term.** Willow's will be every Friday during the **second half of the Summer term.** Children need to **come to school wearing their forest clothes (long sleeved top and trousers).** Please make sure that they also come to school with a suitable waterproof coat and wellies in a carrier bag. The children will then need to be collected from the forest at the end of school.

Uniform and Belongings

Please ensure that all personal items are labelled clearly. Even with the best intentions, children do loose 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 6 teachers'.

We look forward to a successful and happy year.

Jo Stranks, Jonny Sluman, Steph Mabbutt and Will Atwell