St Martin of Porres Catholic Primary School

Dove News
9th October 2026
Issue 6

Growing in Knowledge and the love of Jesus

Dear Parents, Carers, and Children,



All donations to our Harvest Festival will be greatly appreciated!

What a wonderful week we have had in our school community!

We celebrated a very special occasion this week as Father Perry was installed as a Canon at Westminster Cathedral. This is a wonderful milestone, and we congratulate Father Perry on this special honour. We wish Father Perry every blessing as he takes on this new role and celebrate this special moment with him. Today we celebrated World Mental Health Day by wearing yellow and feeling mellow! The children explored the importance of our school value of Positivity, reflecting on their own achievements, recognising their individual strengths and understanding the importance of looking after their mental health through self-care and self-love.

We encouraged the children to value their own contributions and celebrate their achievements, no matter how big or small. They also learnt that it is okay not to feel okay 100% of the time. Together, we discussed a range of positive strategies they can use to help themselves feel better, manage their emotions and support their wellbeing. It was a wonderful opportunity to remind everyone that looking after our mental health is just as important as looking after our physical health.

We are very much looking forward to reading the entries for our upcoming writing competition! Children will have the opportunity to choose one person, story, tradition, achievement or community experience and write about it. Inspired by Black History Month, this competition encourages children to explore the people, experiences and stories that shape their lives and the communities around them. We cannot wait to celebrate the children's creativity, individuality and thoughtful reflections, and there will be a prize for the best entry in each class! Winners will be announced in our Black History Celebration Assembly on the 23rd October.

Next week, we look forward to welcoming parents and carers to our Parents' Evenings.

St Martin's: Monday and Tuesday
St Paul's: Wednesday and Thursday

We are very much looking forward to seeing everyone and sharing the children's progress, achievements and next steps in their learning. Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership.

Wishing all our families a wonderful weekend!

Andrea Smith
Head of Schools



The invitation to King George III's Coronation, Depicting the coronation of King George III and Queen Charlotte on 22 September 1761

Matthew 22:1-10
There is an important difference between a command and an invitation. In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus describes God's invitation to His heavenly banquet, reminding us that God never stops calling us, even when we turn away. The parable reveals His persistent love and desire for everyone to share in His kingdom. Unlike an earthly royal invitation, God's invitation is extraordinary: an opportunity to experience His love, accept His call and grow closer to Him.

Dates for your diary

Mon 12th Oct	**Harvest Festival Celebration 9.00am in the school hall – parents welcome** **Parents Evening 3.30 – 6.00pm Bookings still open on Arbor**
Tue 13th Oct	**Parents Evening 3.30 – 6.00pm Bookings still open on Arbor** Multi Sports Club/Football (Years 1 – 4) 3.30 – 4.30pm Drama Club: (Years 2 - 6) 3.30 - 4.30pm
Wed 14th Oct	Karate Club: 3.30 - 4.30pm (Years 1 – 6)
Thu 15th Oct	**Beech Class Trip to Alexandra Park Library** Irish Dancing: 3.30 - 4.30pm (Years 1 - 6)
Fri 16th Oct	**Stay and Play – all pre Reception children aged 2 – 4 welcome** Celebration Assembly 2.45pm

Harvest Festival Celebration



We will be holding our Harvest Festival celebration on Monday 12th October 2026 in the school hall at 9.00am to which you are warmly invited. Our Harvest Assembly is a special time when we come together as a school community to give thanks for the food and blessings we have, while remembering those in our local community who may not have enough.

As part of our Harvest celebration, we are asking each child to bring in one item from the list provided to donate to our local homeless shelter and food bank. It could be something as simple as taking a tin or packet from your kitchen cupboard that you already have at home, there is no need to buy anything specially. What may feel like a small gesture from one child becomes something much bigger when we all work together. This is a lovely opportunity for our children to put our Catholic values of kindness, compassion, generosity and caring for others into action.

The best items are those that are non-perishable such as · Tea and coffee · Tinned meats and fish · Rice and Pasta · Long life Milk, coconut milk · Instant Noodles · Pulses, lentils and beans · Tinned soups and tinned vegetables · Toiletries: shower gel, shampoo, soap, toothpaste · Toilet paper · Cleaning supplies · Cooking Oil · Jams, honey, peanut butter · Cereals · Fruit juice / squash · Treats: Biscuits, chocolates, cakes etc

Thank you, for helping us to put our Catholic values into action and to remind our children of the importance of loving and caring for our neighbours. Every contribution, however small, is greatly appreciated.

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Please remember to book your slot (on Arbor) for the parent/carer consultations on Monday 12th and Tuesday 13th October from 3.30pm – 6.00pm

The parent/carer questionnaire is also live on the website for parents to complete.

It's available at - https://www.stmartinofporres.co.uk/Parents/Parent-Questionnaire/ or please scan the QR code for easy access on your phone.









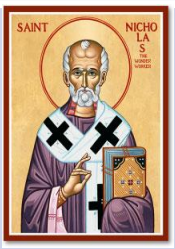
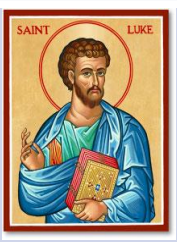


School Life – and enjoying the last few days of sunshine at playtime as the weather begins to change



Celebration

House Points

Feast Days 5th September 6th December 29th April 18th October				
Name of Saint	St Teresa of Calcutta	St Nicholas	St Catherine of Siena	St Luke
This Week	31	32	25	31
Total	279	271	321	234

Congratulations to all our House Point Winners and everyone in St Nicholas this week!

Top Table Award

Rec – Yr3	Sofia – Beech Class
Yr 4 – Yr 6	Jakub – Sycamore Class

Gold Star of the Week

Ash	Alice	For her amazing work in Maths this week. You have really understood how to be an independent learner and are working hard at tackling mathematical questions on your own! Well done Alice, you are a superstar!
Beech	Sean	For doing so brilliantly in your spellings every week! Your hard work, excellent effort and determination are really paying off. Keep practising, keep believing in yourself and keep shining! I am so proud of you!
Sycamore	Margo	For your exceptional confidence, maturity and thoughtfulness. You consistently produce excellent work, make sensible choices and are always willing to help others. Your positive attitude, independence and enthusiasm make you a fantastic role model for us all!
Horse Chestnut	Olivia	For being an outstanding reading detective who can spot clues, read between lines and work out what an author is really trying to say! Sherlock Holmes has nothing on you!

Good Shepherd Award

Ash	Anna	for being an all-round amazing person. You are kind, gentle, a great listener and an amazing friend to all. You share even when you wanted something for yourself and you always make sure your friends are okay. You really are a special member of our class, thank you for being you!
Beech	Terissa	For always being so caring, kind and thoughtful towards others. Your exceptional behavior and lovely attitude make you a wonderful role model for everyone. You show kindness and compassion every day, just like the Good Shepherd. Keep shining!
Sycamore	Jaxon	For showing such a loving and caring heart this week. He always looks out for others and makes sure everyone is happy and included. His kindness and helpfulness, especially in PE, have been a beautiful example of Jesus' love.
Horse Chestnut	Hailey	For showing kindness, compassion and respect towards others, following the example of Jesus. You are a wonderful role model who puts Christian values into action through your words and deeds.





Wednesday Word

(Based on the forthcoming Gospels at Mass)

INVITATION

"Jesus invites us to build the civilization of love together."– Pope Francis (2013 – 2025)

Ask your child what the word 'invitation' means to them. Then each of you tell one another about the best invitation that you've ever had. What was good about it? Have you ever refused an invitation? How does it feel when you invite someone to a party? How does it feel when someone invites you for tea, to play or to a wedding? It may help your child if you tell them about an invitation which you would most like to receive, and say why.

Each moment God is inviting us into a loving relationship. We accept God's invitation through loving him and all those around us. As a family, think about someone you could invite to your home for a meal or to play (when the time is right) – to make them feel especially valued and loved. This week, why not accept Pope Francis' invitation (above) to learn to pray every day – inviting God to guide you in all you do and in all you say?

Dear Lord Jesus, please help us to remember that every moment of the day you are ***inviting*** *us into your love, to share in your happiness and peace. Amen*

Wednesday word is available via the link below.
Please see https://www.stmartinofporres.co.uk/Let-s-pray-at-home/ for more information on the Wednesday Word.

Weekly Attendance

If your child cannot attend school, please report the absence by 9.30am by either calling 0208 361 1445 or using the school app.

Attendance for week beginning

Whole School
98.9%

1st place 100% Ash Class

2nd place 99% - Beech Class

Contact us:

Email:
adminstmartins@stpm.org.uk
Phone: 020 8361 1445
Website:
www.stmartinporres.co.uk

School app: To download follow the instructions at –

https://www.stmartinofporres.co.uk/St-Martin-of-Porres-Catholic-Primary-School-Mobile/

Our Parish

We are delighted to continue our outstanding links with St Paul the Apostle Church and are grateful to Father Perry for his continued support and positive contribution to the Catholic life of the school.

Please find a link to the Parish Newsletter below:

https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/woodgreen/news/

Friends of St Martin's

Annual General Meeting

Thank you to the parents who were able to join us at our PTA meeting on Wednesday. It is not too late if you would like to get involved with the PTS this year; just speak to your class rep.

Macmillan Coffee Morning



We are delighted to share that we raised £147.51 for this wonderful charity at our coffee morning.

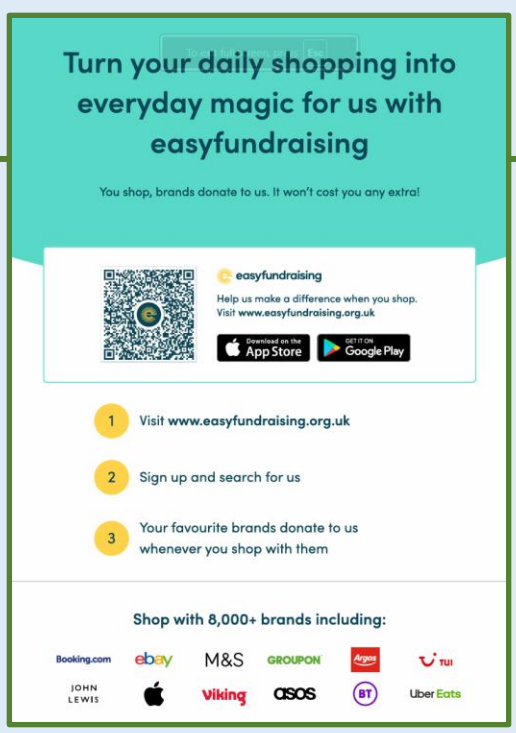
Thank you to everyone who joined and donated!

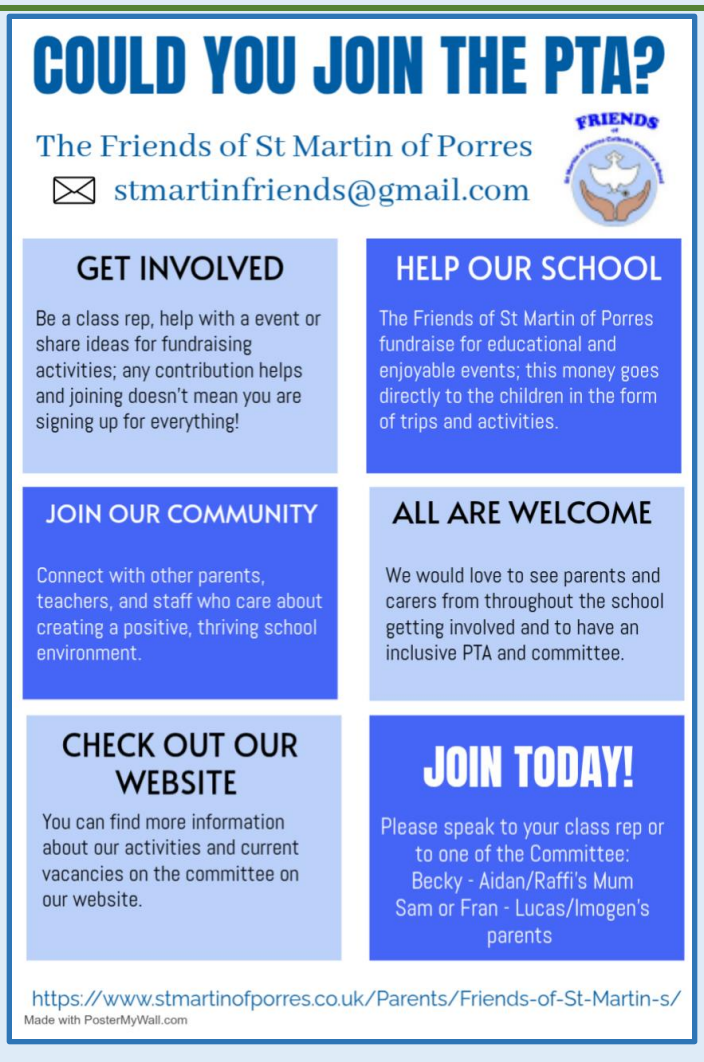
easyfundraising

The PTA raises funds while you shop online via easyfunding.

We encourage all parents and carers to sign up for easyfunding. Once you set up an account and link to our cause (St Martin of Porres Primary School), you will be fundraising for the PTA each time you shop at one of the associated brands.

Please follow the steps set out in the attached flyer →→→ to set up the app.







Stay and Play Programme 2026 – 2027

All pre-Reception children aged 2 – 4 years old are welcome to attend the school on the following dates to for a Stay and Play themed-event session. All events are free and tea and coffee are provided for the parent/carers.

FREE

Stay & Play

FRIDAYS
9:15 - 10:15 AM

- Nature and Me - 16th October
- Fireworks! - 13th November
- Have a Jolly Christmas - 4th December
- Story Time - 8th January
  Share a story with me
- I can see a Rainbow - 12th March
- Finger Gym Fun - 11th June
- Getting To Know Me - 9th July
  Share a story with me

Tea & coffee provided.
Welcoming all pre-Reception aged children.

Arbor Parent Portal and App

The school uses Arbor Parent Portal (and app) for parents to access various services provided by the school.

We have set up an account for you. Please use a desktop browser or a mobile browser to set up your account. You won't be able to do this in the app.

Your username is the email address we've sent this email to. To finish creating your account you just need to set a password.

Go to https://login.arbor.sc and **click Forgot your password?** to finish setting up your account.

When you login for the first time only, it will ask you for your child's date of birth and to tick the box stating that you accept Arbor's standard terms and conditions.

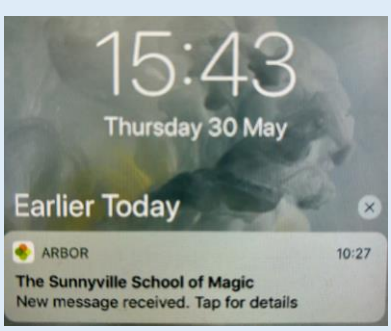
There is lots of help for parents/guardians at the **Arbor Help Centre**. We recommend having a quick look at the **quick introduction guide** in particular, especially if you have more than one child at the school.

The Parent App can be downloaded from either the Playstore for android phones or the Apple Store for iPhones.

Scan to download the Arbor Parent App for your phone from the QR codes below – you can use this to access Arbor on your mobile device, or use a browser on your computer.

Android Play Store

iOS App Store



Make sure that you allow Push Notifications for this app to receive notification of in-app messages.

If you have any queries please contact the office at adminstmartins@stpm.org.uk

- The school uses the in-app messaging system within Arbor. We no longer send text messages to your phone.
- We will be using the booking system within Arbor for parents/carers to book appointments with teachers for parent/teacher evenings.
- You will also be able to view your child/ren's attendance and merits (house points).
- We will be required to pay for trips and clubs and the school building fund through Arbor.

Instagram

We are excited to announce that we have launched our new Instagram page! This is a wonderful way to stay connected and share the amazing experiences happening within our school community.

We invite you to check out our page, like it, and share with your friends and family. Your support will help us grow our online presence and showcase all the wonderful things happening at our school!

@STMARTINOFPORRES

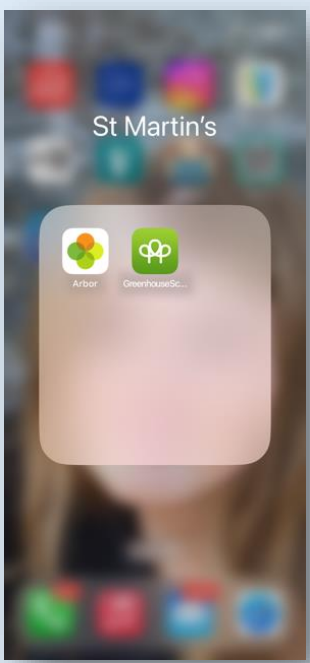
Scan the QR code to find us!

Arbor Parent Portal and App

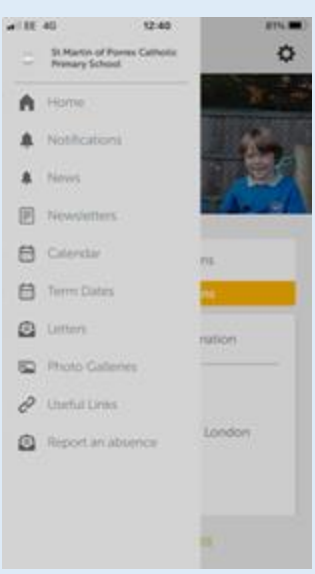
Have you logged in to the portal and then downloaded the app?

If you haven't logged in yet please go to - https://www.stmartinofporres.co.uk/Arbor-Parent-Portal-App/ for instructions.

If you have any queries/problems logging in, please contact the office at adminstmartins@stpm.org.uk or come to Reception.



After downloading both apps, it would be useful to store both apps in one 'St Martin's' container on your phone for ease of use!



School Website App

Many parents have already downloaded the School Website App available from the app store. Just in case here is a reminder on what to do.

For instructions on how to download please go to - https://www.stmartinofporres.co.uk/St-Martin-of-Porres-Catholic-Primary-School-Mobile/

Find letters home, newsletters and calendar and term dates all together in one handy place. You can also report your child's absence from the app and the website where you book your child's lunch.