

22nd December 2023

Dear Parent Carers,

Weekly Update: 22/12/23

I hope this update finds you well. The Christmas break is finally here – well done to all students, staff and families for getting through this long term with such positivity and resilience. We all certainly deserve a break!

This week has been filled with fun activities – from class trips to see Mother Goose at Derby Arena, Christmas Dinner Day, and the Christmas Market and Winter Wondershow... it has been lovely to see students enjoy this time in school and welcome families in to join us.

Thank you for your generosity at the Christmas Market – we raised £590 towards a whole school reward. Wow!

Jordan and Keira

Well done to Jordan and Keira – both have received Distinctions for their Teaching Apprenticeships and have been identified as excellent practitioners in their Teacher Training. We are very proud of them and feel lucky to have them as part of our brilliant team.

David and Maddie

Today marks the end of David Simpson and Maddie Daykin's time in school. David has been with us since April 2020, starting during lockdown! David is moving into a mainstream secondary school to teach Maths. Maddie has been with us since June 2021, and has flourished in her time at St Martins. Maddie is moving on to a mainstream secondary school, supporting students who find it difficult to access education. As a school we are sad that both are leaving, but proud of how they've grown in their time with us and how they are ready for this next step in their career development. We can safely say that they are taking some of the St Martins magic with them. Thank you, David and Maddie – we wish you well and thank you for the time you spent here.

Christmas and New Year Social Story and Widgits

Jess our DSL, and Fotini one of our talented HLTAs, have put together a social story for Christmas and New Year and some Widgit symbols to help support families at this time. These are shared towards the end of the update. I hope that you will find these useful.

Sabrina Hobbs **Principal**

St Martins School, The Derwent Campus, Bracknell Drive, Alvaston, Derby, DE24 0BT
Tel: 01332 571151 **Email:** admin@stmartins.derby.sch.uk **Online:** www.stmartinsschoolderby.co.uk

Horizons Open Day

Horizons are hosting an Open Day at Irongate on Thursday 25th January from 2pm-5pm – please see the leaflet at the end of the update for more information.

School Photographs

Tempest photography will be in school taking individual student photographs on Thursday 18th January. Post-16 students will be invited to join in if they wish to. More information will be shared in the New Year.

Christmas Door Competition

I'm delighted to let you know that the winner of our annual Christmas Door competition is class KS3AC, and the runners up are classes KS3KT and KS4PP.

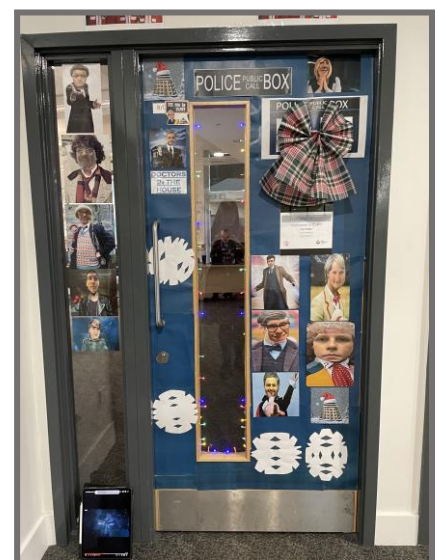
There was fierce competition this year, and the standard of the doors was impressive. It was hard for the judging party of Toni, Jeff (Chair of Academy Council), and our Head Students to decide. Well done to all who took part. The winning entry is shown on the right, and the runners up below.



KS3KT's Grinch Door



KS4PP's Dr Who Door



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From all of us here at St Martins, I would like to wish you all a wonderful and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

With best wishes,

Sabrina Hobbs
Executive Headteacher

Term Dates for Academic Year 2023/2024

Autumn Term

School Breaks up for Christmas – Friday 22nd December

Spring Term

School Starts Back – Monday 8th January 2024

School Breaks up for Half Term – Thursday 15th February

INSET Day – Friday 16th February

School Starts Back – Monday 26th February

School Breaks up for Easter – Thursday 28th March

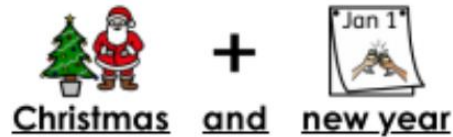
Summer Term

INSET Day – Monday 15th April

School Starts Back – Tuesday 16th April



Social Story



The Christmas period can be a fun and enjoyable time, but can be busy

and full of different activities. Sometimes, we might feel overwhelmed and

stressed and these are normal feelings.

If I feel overwhelmed or stressed, it is important I talk to my family

and do activities that make me feel happy. I might go to a different

room that is quiet, listen to relaxing music, use my ear defenders or do some

relaxing colouring.

Some Christmas visuals to cut and put up around the house to help with routine



Christmas
day



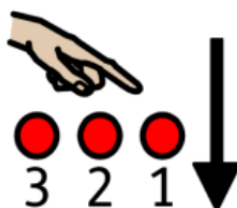
Get dressed



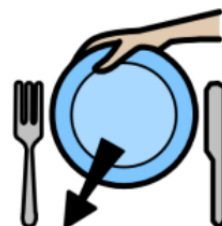
Eat Christmas
dinner



Eat breakfast



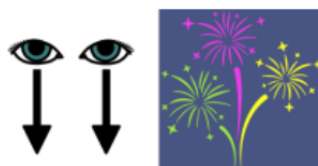
Count down



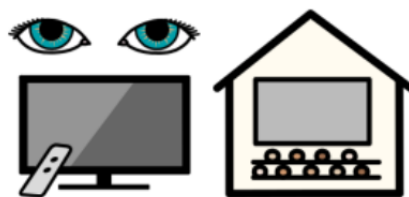
Set table



Get in the car



Watch the
fireworks



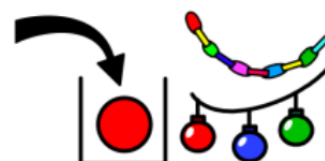
Watch a film



Open
presents



New years
day



Put away
decorations



Decorate



Open
presents



Visit family

HORIZONS



6TH FORM

gallery5
★★PRINTING★★



Shaw
Education
Trust

OPEN DAY!

COME AND SEE WHAT WE DO



**THURSDAY
25TH
JANUARY
2024
FROM
2PM-5PM**

Horizons 6th Form and Gallery 5 are pleased to invite you to our open day! Horizons 6th Form students run a social enterprise printing business called Gallery 5. This helps to develop our students' skills and confidence in *Shaping Successful Futures*.

- ✓ Explore what our students do
- ✓ Discuss opportunities
- ✓ Meet the staff and students

Iron Gate House, 10 Iron Gate, Derby, DE1 3JF

For more information please contact us at:

gallery5@stmartins.set.org

01332 571 151 Select Extension 2 for Horizons

