

ST. MARTIN'S NEWS

8th September 2023

Website - <http://www.st-martinsoldham.co.uk/>



Welcome Back!

Welcome back to another fantastic year of learning at St Martin's School!
We hope you have enjoyed a lovely summer break and are looking forward to a successful year ahead!

We would like to introduce our new staff members - Mrs Harvey, Miss Temple-Heald.

New School Day Times

We have implemented our new school times returning from our summer break holiday and would like to thank everyone for the continued support in making these changes go as smooth as possible on our first week back.

The school day will be as follows.

Nursery **8.45am – 11.45am**

Reception to Year 6 **8.45am – 3.15pm**

In order to accommodate starting 5 minutes earlier, the gates will be open at 8.35am and **closed just before 8.45am** so that teaching can start **promptly at 8.45am**.

Breakfast club will continue to open from 8am for all our families with children of Reception age and up to access.

Please be assured of our very best interests at all times. We are very excited, as always, about our new school year and look forward to working with you and your family and continue to SHINE!

Current Year 6 pupils applying for secondary school places September 2024

A reminder to all **current Year 5 parent/carers**. All applications for secondary school need to be completed online via the Oldham council website. This system will be open from **1st August** and will close at **5pm on 31st October**. Please do not forget to apply to avoid not being allocated a school of your choice.

If you do not have access to the internet, there are computers in all Oldham libraries, where staff will be happy to help you.

School Dinners in September

All children moving up to **Year 3** after the summer break will **no longer be eligible for free school meals** under the government programme. If you feel you qualify for free school meals, please apply on Oldham free school meals website.

If you wish to change your child's provision for lunch, from packed lunches or school dinners, please let the school office know, giving at least **one week's notice**. This will ensure that enough meals are made in the school kitchen, and also that you are not continuing to be charged for meals if you are now providing a packed lunch. **If the office is unaware of a meal change, you will be liable for paying for the dinners that have been provided for your child.**

Packed Lunches

We are very proud of the choices our school meal children are given at lunch time. We are also very proud of the children who bring healthy packed lunches to school too, however, we have noticed that there's been a few children bringing crisps/chocolate/cakes in as part of their lunch. Please can we remind you that these are not acceptable as part of a healthy packed lunch, except on Fridays, when our school meal children also have chips as an option as part of their meal.

You can find lots of healthy packed lunch ideas on our school website.

Please keep crisps in packed lunches for Fridays only!

Thank you for your continued support.

We provide all students with a fruit snack at break times, if your child would prefer to bring their own snack this can be fruit or vegetable. Please can we ask no other snacks are brought into school.



Arbour App

We are now using Arbor within school and are asking all parents to download the Arbor app to access important information about School. We are currently setting up the payment system for lunches and this should be up and running by the end of next week. **We will be making all communications with parents/guardians through Arbor.**

School Uniform

Please make sure that **ALL of your child's uniform is clearly labelled with their name** to avoid any lost items.

Thank you.

Every child should be wearing:
Yellow polo shirt or white shirt
Green sweatshirt or cardigan
Grey skirt/pinafore or trousers/shorts
Black or grey socks
Black school shoes (not trainers)
Green checked summer dress

PE kits are also part of the uniform, and should consist of:

White t-shirt
Green sports shorts
Black pumps and outdoor trainers

Please make sure that **ALL of your child's uniform is clearly labelled with their name** to avoid any lost items.

Thank you.

Attendance and Holidays in Term Time:

Please make sure your child is in school every day, unless they are unable to attend due to illness.

Headteachers are no longer allowed by law to authorise term-time holidays. This has been in place since September 2013. Parents will be fined by the local authority for taking children out of school during term-time to go on holiday.

Please book your holidays during the school holidays to avoid being fined by the local authority. Oldham are now fining for holidays in term time.

If school has been notified that a child is off due to illness when they are in fact away on holiday, and this comes to our attention, this will be regarded as an unauthorised absence and recorded as such.

Asthma Inhalers and Glasses in School



If your child has been prescribed asthma reliever inhalers please make sure that they have one available in school and that you have completed school ASTHMA ACTION PLAN. These are kept in the classroom where the staff can access it if required.

Please make sure any inhalers in school are within their use by date.

Please also ensure your child either comes to school with their glasses or has a spare pair in school if necessary to ensure they do not struggle to access their learning.

Thank you.

Approved Adult List

If you have any amendments to be made to your child's current list of approved adults to collect them from school, please update your child's Arbor profile as soon as possible. This will avoid any delays at the end of the school day. You are welcome to ring the office if you have any queries.

Thank you.

Term Dates

Autumn Term 1

Wednesday, 6th September - Friday, 20th October - School Term

Monday, 23rd October - Friday, 27th October - Half Term Break

Autumn Term 2

Monday, 30th October - Thursday, 21st December - School Term

Friday, 22nd December - Friday, 5th January - Christmas Break

Spring Term 1

Monday, 8th January - Friday, 16th February - School Term

Monday, 19th February - Friday, 23rd February - Half Term Break

Spring Term 2

Monday, 26th February - Thursday, 28th March - School Term

Friday, 29th March - Friday, 5th April -- Easter Break

Summer Term 1

Monday, 8th April - Friday, 24th May - School Term

(Monday, 6th May - May Day Bank Holiday)

Monday, 27th May - Friday, 7th June - Half Term Break

Summer Term 2

Monday, 10th June - Friday, 19th July - School Term

Friday, 19th July - Finish for summer break

Diary Dates

School individual photographs – 3rd October



