

St Martin's Parents' Association Chairman's Newsletter – 14 November 2023

Dear St Martin's Parents

Can you believe that we are already being asked what our plans are for the Christmas holidays!?! This year has whizzed by and in addition, so much has been packed into a very successful 2023 year at St Martin's.

Thank you to all our wonderful parents and kids, we appreciate and value your contribution. What a special school this is and there are many reasons for this fact, but one remains central: the outstanding teachers and support staff. They have all been phenomenal! They've helped at so many events, weighing in to assist when we haven't had enough parent volunteers, while continuing to teach at a very high level and all the while doing this with a big smile.

Teaching is a calling and I often used to ask myself, how hard could it be? Only to be reminded that teachers simply have one of the most challenging yet rewarding jobs on earth. A weekend alone with my kids is proof enough that much patience and kindness is needed! Much of what the teachers and support staff do is "their job", but outside of this, they have most certainly gone above and beyond this year.

This said, and as we enter the season of crazy busyness, I'd like you to reflect and remember our staff who looked after your greatest and most prized possession – your child. Let's be generous to the ones who've wiped tears and bums, hugged, and praised, laughed, and sung, motivated, challenged and taught, but most importantly loved and cared for our kids in a way that our kiddos always feel like the only child in the classroom or playground.

This letter is therefore an open request to invite you to make a gift donation in the form of a cash contribution to the Staff Vouchers that came home earlier in the term. This way, each of the staff can get a "special something" to remember 2023, rather than getting smaller individual gifts. The amount can either be added to your school account or paid via eft. No amount is too small or large as it all helps let them know that what they have done is seen, and deeply valued. If you chose to contribute, there is no need for additional gifts. Please speak with Belinda Fincham for more details.

God bless, safe travels and we'll see most of you next year!

Craig Stuart
PA Chairman



Regards Craig Stuart - PA Chairman