

St Martin's Newsletter



SPRING TERM - Friday 8th March

Attendance

There has been a **slight drop** in whole school attendance this week as it is now 93.1%.

Parents Evening

Parent's evening will be held on **Wednesday 20th March** from 1.45-6pm. The booking system will be available from 3pm today.

Online Safety

This week's guide focuses on **Tekken** <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/tekken>
It highlights a number of risks for younger players. Click the link or see the attached guide for more information.



St Martin's Stars

Well done to everyone who got a certificate this week.

Purple Tie certificates are given for children who embody our rules of being Kind Respectful and Responsible.

Pre-School – Reuben P & Anaya HC
Year R – Carolyn J
Ava-Grace C
Year 1 – Blake B & Gabby C
Emmanuel I
Year 2 – Ava F & Harper MK
Rosalie C
Year 3 – Charlie S & Quie-andrew D
Olina C
Year 4 – Eliza B & Luca P
Sofia L
Year 5 – Isobel W & Harrison C
Ella R
Year 6 – Lenny S & Ava B
Olivia B

Family Learning Workshops

We have two family learning workshops coming up this week:

Family fun for **Pre-school, Reception and KS1** on **Wednesday 13th March, 2024** at 1.30-3.00pm.

Online wellbeing for **Year 4, 5& 6** on **Wednesday 27th March, 2024** at 1.30 – 3.00 pm.

These are available to book on using the school spider app but there are limited places left.

Comic Relief

On **Friday 15th March** it is **Comic Relief**. Children can come to school wearing something red/own clothes. We are asking for a contribution of **£1** to raise money for this cause. Please make the payment on the school gateway app.



Attendance

Year R - 89% 3 Lates

Year 1 - 97% 9 Lates

Year 2 - 90%

Year 3 - 96% 2 Lates

Year 4 - 92% 8 Lates

Year 5 - 95%

Year 6 - 93% 6 Lates

5 Classes with less than 10 lates

Well done to year 2, this weeks Dojo Champs

Anyone who comes into school after 8:50am is marked as late. Please try to be an attendance



Homework

The children no longer have access to reading plus so we have slightly changed the **homework expectations**.

*ALL children should be reading at home 3 times per week. This will be checked on and if children have not read three times during the week they will read in class on a Friday during their playtime/golden time.

*KS2 children should be completing TTRockstars at least once per week. Y4 in particular may be set additional days due to the timestables check.

*ALL classes from Y1-Y6 will be sent home spellings to learn for a weekly test – test days may vary from class to class but the majority are on Friday. We will know if your child has completed their spellings homework through the score they achieve and whether there is improvement or not.

*In Y6 the children will be bringing home revision in the run up to SATS.

*In Y1 the children may receive additional phonics flash cards and words to practice. Thank you for your continued assistance in supporting your child's education at home.

Upcoming Events

Next week will be beginning the **Big Lent Walk** to raise money for **CAFOD**. As a school we need to walk a total of at least 200km. Each class will contribute from preschool to Y6. If you would like to donate/sponsor your child you can do so by following this link to our JustGiving page. <https://schools.walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/cafod-big-lent-walk185>
https://trk.justgiving.com/f/a/hyaZXC_tujofwYxNxrNkrQ~/AAME8QA~/RgRnyu3ePOSYaHR0cHM6Ly9zY2hvb2xzLndhbgGsuY2Fmb2Qub3JnLnVrL2Z1bmRyYWZaW5nL2NhZm9kLWJpZy1sZW50LXdhbGsxODU_dXRtX21lZGl1bT1lbWVpZCZ1dG1fc291cmNIPVBvc3RZmZpY2UmdXRtX2NhbnBhaWduPURTXOVWRU5UUY1MRkNfVHJhbnNfUGFnZUNyZWFOZWVhbnNwY0IKZeLeaO_hloeICPIIdaGvHZEbzdC1tYXJ0aW5zLmhhbHRvbi5zY2gudWtYBAAAAAM~

We will soon be celebrating Easter which will be a very busy time – key dates and a list of activities will be included in next week's newsletter.

World Book Week

The children have had a lovely week celebrating reading and books. Mrs Ming visited every class to read them a story, which she loved so much she is going to make it a regular thing 😊. We were treated to a lovely visit from author Sally Nicholls who showed everyone how easy it was to come up with their own stories. Everyone looked amazing in their costumes yesterday and so far the school has raised **£718.37** to purchase new books.

Thank you for all your support 😊 There are many photos from throughout the week on the FB page.



WORLD
BOOK DAY

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TEKKEN 8

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Thirty years after its debut on the original PlayStation, the Tekken franchise is back with its eighth mainstream instalment. A one-on-one fighting game series in the same vein as Street Fighter and Mortal Kombat, Tekken 8 can be commended for its relative lack of in-game purchases – but there's still plenty to consider in keeping young players safe from potential hazards.



FUTURE SPENDING?

Tekken 8 carries a PEGI 16 rating, with the assessors noting its violence, occasional profanity and in-game purchase options. The latter issue, however, is a little different to what you may expect from a modern game: unlike many high-profile releases, Tekken 8's content is all accessible without spending any extra money. The exceptions are new characters, which will become available to purchase separately in the future.

COPYCAT RISK

With characters flying across the screen using a mixture of authentic and fantastical fighting styles, younger children and impressionable teens may find themselves tempted to copy their favourite characters or act out their epic fights in real life. This could simply amount to harmless fun – but could also easily lead to accidents, injury and distress if young gamers start actually landing blows.

VIOLENT GAMEPLAY

As a fighting game, Tekken 8's gameplay is heavily based on punching, kicking and throwing opponents around – while some characters' attacks occasionally involve weapons. Most of the violence is comparatively cartoonish in its execution and lacking in gore, but the fact remains that the action still revolves entirely around intense combat and inflicting damage on an opponent.

FAMILY CONFLICT

Tekken 8's story mode, 'The Dark Awakens', focuses on two of the series' most important characters – Kazuya and Jin, a father and son who have been warring for years. The sight of two family members physically fighting each other may be hard to understand (and difficult to deal with) for some children – causing confusion and concern over why relatives would want to hurt one another.

RANKED ONLINE PLAY

Tekken 8 features an array of online modes – most notably its 'Ranked' section, where players battle to reach the top spot of a worldwide leaderboard. Many players will dedicate significant amounts of time to practising and – while the challenge can be fun – some of these matches can get extremely competitive. Children could become obsessed with climbing the rankings and dedicate an unhealthy amount of time to the game or grow angry if they wind up on a losing streak.

ONLINE CONTACT

Tekken 8 doesn't offer voice chat by default, but a player's platform ID is visible (such as their PlayStation Network ID, Steam account or Xbox gamertag). Rival players can, therefore, reach out via messages if they wish. Given the game's fiercely competitive nature, these communications can potentially put children at risk of online abuse if their opponent is a particularly sore loser.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TRY IT OUT YOURSELF

As with many popular games, we'd recommend checking it out for yourself in advance if you have any concerns. In the case of Tekken 8, there's a free demo version available (for all platforms) which lets you experience fights with a handful of the characters: a useful way of establishing first-hand whether some children might find the game's violence to be too intense.

EXERCISE YOUR JUDGEMENT

While Tekken 8 features a sort of 'spray' impact effect when attacks land, it's not the kind of game that most observers would describe as gory (unlike, for instance, the Mortal Kombat franchise). Of course, any fighting game worthy of the name will include a significant degree of violence – but the level at which the battles in Tekken are pitched may not be an issue for some children.

MARTIAL ARTS MOTIVATION?

With characters utilising real-world fighting styles such as jiu-jitsu, boxing and kickboxing, Tekken could represent an opportunity to channel a child's fondness for the game into a beneficial interest in real-world martial arts. Classes can help to build young people's confidence and physical fitness, as well as providing avenues for making new friends.

CONTROL COMMUNICATIONS

If a child plays Tekken online with anyone apart from their friends, then parents and carers could consider restricting communications – such as shutting off the facility to be messaged by other players (although the child's profile name will still be displayed) – to reduce the chance of contact from strangers. This can be done via the console's account settings or through the child's Steam account (if playing on PC).

Meet Our Expert

Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon, Lloyd Coombes has worked in the games media industry for five years. He's played every Tekken title since the series began and, as a parent, also values the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



Source: https://pegi.info/en/search-peg7q-tekken-850g-048&age35875B=50&wzcr-gta102875B=&publisher=&platform35875B=&newase_year32875B=&page=1&form_buId_0=&form-01948501M051M2LW0C0Z245xum1f0a60f0085e-0&form_id=peg7_search_form