

St Martin's Newsletter






Autumn TERM 2025/2026

Friday 3rd October

Attendance

Whole school attendance this week was **92.7 %**.

Remember anyone arriving at school after 8:50 am will be marked late. Let's be an attendance HERO!

			
	Attendance	Lateness	Class Dojo
Nursery	87.16%	1	2.75
Reception	98.53%	4	9.35
Year 1	93.75%	2	8.25
Year 2	96.43%	2	4.57
Year 3	95.37%	4	13.53
Year 4	89.58%	6	4.50
Year 5	94.29%	0	4.15
Year 6	89.69%	3	10.58

Year 3 win the bonus break for most average dojos this week.

St Martin's Stars

Well done to all our certificate winners this week!

			
	Shining Star	Purple Tie	Our Values
Nursery	Ellie C		Matilda A
Reception	Archie P	Munachi I	Yvie P
Year 1	Archie F	Bobby C	Everlyn S
Year 2	Kohnan B	Hazel D	Isla S
Year 3	Emmanuel I	Teddy S	Corbyn S
Year 4	Halle W	Rosalie C	Christopher N
Year 5	Amelia F	Tyler R	Imogen T
Year 6	Ewan W	Eliza B	Chloe M

Safety Advice

This online safety guide [explores EA FC 26](#) – the latest edition of the immensely popular football game. It flags potential risks, including in-game purchases, scams, and exposure to strangers via voice chat.

Message from Mrs Ming

We have begun Black History Month this week where throughout October children will be celebrating, understanding, and reflecting on the impact of Black people on history, culture, and our society. If any of our families would like to come in to talk about their heritage and share stories of the past with the children please let the class teachers know.

Parent Notice Board

Y3 Stay and Pray Tuesday 7th October 8.50am

Y4 Assembly Friday 10th October 9am

Book fair w/c13th October

Y6 Stay and Pray Tuesday 14th October 8.50am

PARENTS EVENING 15th October 1.40pm-6.30pm

Clubs

Clubs until **Friday 17th October**

Tuesday:

Y3 and **Y4** Commando Joe's with Mrs Ming and Miss Rowe

Y1 and **Y2** Book and Biscuit club with Mrs Monks

Homework club With Mrs Wilson for all children

Thursday:

Y5 and **Y6** Multisports club with Mr Cullen

School Discos

The Fundraising committee are holding Autumn discos on **FRIDAY 17th OCTOBER**. The children can dress up in party clothes or fancy dress.

These will be in the school hall and will be

YR, Y1, Y2 from 3.25-4.30pm

Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6 from 4.45-6.15pm



Places are limited! Tickets cost £2 per child and are available to buy via gateway.

There will be a tuck shop available but more details will go out nearer the time.

Catholic Life and Reflection

The Wednesday Word is a resource for parents to use when discussing the [weekly Gospel](#) with their families.

All parents and families are welcome to join **Y3** and **Y1** for Mass on **WEDNESDAY 15th OCTOBER at 10am**.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about EA SPORTS FC 26

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
3

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Our guide looks at the risks surrounding EA Sports FC 26 and our top tips to minimise them. This marks the third year since EA left the FIFA licence, and the game is mostly unchanged from last year. While Kick-Off mode is great for playing with friends and Career Mode allows players to fulfil long-term ambitions as a manager or player, Ultimate Team remains the main draw for many players – and it can get out of hand in terms of how much money players can invest.

AN ANNUAL RELEASE SCHEDULE

As was the case with the last two EA Sports FC games and the FIFA series before it, the franchise rolls out once a year with updated squads and new features. This can make it expensive to keep up with, particularly when so many dedicated players are keen to get their hands on the latest edition.

VOICE CHAT

Voice chat can be enabled across all platforms, meaning young people can speak to anyone they play with or against. While it can be switched off, some children will no doubt want to speak to their friends while they play. This also means they may encounter strangers much older than them, which can expose them to inappropriate language or behaviours.

IN-GAME PURCHASES THROUGH ULTIMATE TEAM

Ultimate Team is the big draw for EA Sports FC, letting players spend real money on packs that they can open to build a squad of the world's best players. They're not always easy to obtain, and new, improved versions of players will be regularly added as limited-time offerings. Young people could feel pressured into spending money and experience fear of missing out.

SCAMMERS IN ULTIMATE TEAM

Ultimate Team is managed by EA itself, but that hasn't stopped scammers from looking to dupe players out of money and in-game coins. Some scammers sell their accounts, which is a violation of EA's terms of service, while others will 'sell' coins – something the developer is still working to crack down on. Some try to gain access to others' accounts, potentially giving them access to payment information.

POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

While EA Sports FC is potentially addictive, thanks to its fast-paced gameplay and mirroring of the real-world skill and glamour of football, Ultimate Team's focus on limited-time rewards and the lottery of winning packs can make it feel closer to gambling than gaming, which may lead to addiction and impulsive spending of money.

Advice for Parents & Educators

PREPARE FOR ANOTHER GAME IN A YEAR

The annual-release cadence aligns with the return of the school year, and can be a great way to incentivise good behaviour at the start of term. If children are applying themselves and preparing for a new year of school, or were particularly well behaved in the summer, EA Sports FC 26 could make a great reward.

LIMIT SPENDING

If you're worried about children accidentally spending real money in Ultimate Team, whether in game or on the EA Sports FC companion app, don't link a payment card to their account. Reclaiming funds can be a mountain to climb, and the dopamine hit of opening flashy packs with slick animations means one purchase can lead to another very quickly. It's also worth adding a prepaid card if you'd prefer them to make their own choices with their budget.

MONITOR VOICE CHAT

As in-game chat is open, be sure to adjust the settings in EA Sports FC 26 to lock it down. If children want to chat with their friends while they play, consider setting up a safe space for them to call, to allow them to play without fear of outsiders.

BE VIGILANT

As with last year, there are ways to keep scammers at bay. Ensure passwords are locked down, and consider using a password manager application to keep them secure. EA will never contact players through the game itself, so be vigilant with incoming messages, and block and report suspected spam. EA will contact players by email if needed, but they will never ask for usernames or passwords. Players should also avoid buying in-game currency from unofficial websites – doing so can lead to accounts being banned and could cost players money in the process.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is an experienced freelance writer and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for seven years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/ea-sports-fc-26>

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 01.10.2025