



3 July 2026

NEWS & VIEWS

Be the best you can be.

Headteacher: Mr Jamie Foster
& Deputy CEO

Headteacher's Comment:

As another busy week draws to a close, this edition of *News & Views* once again highlights the breadth of opportunities available to our pupils and the many ways in which they continue to make us proud.

I would like to congratulate Olivia Stanford on winning the prestigious Simon Powell Poetry Prize. To receive national recognition for such a personal and powerful piece of writing is a remarkable achievement and reflects the creativity, courage and talent that exists within our school community.

It has also been a pleasure to welcome Year 6 pupils from Willowbrook Primary School into our Design and Technology department. Working alongside our staff and experiencing our facilities is just one of the many ways we strengthen partnerships with our local primary schools and help pupils look forward with confidence to the next stage of their education.

Looking ahead, Aspirations Week, work experience placements, Science Day and our Summer Art Exhibition promise yet more opportunities for pupils to develop new skills, broaden their horizons and discover where their talents may lead them in the future.

Finally, thank you to our staff, parents and carers for your continued support. Together we continue to provide an environment where every pupil is encouraged to aim high, embrace new opportunities and, above all, be the best they can be. Please look out for my end of term letter which covers the start to next term as well as other key dates for your diaries.

Olivia wins prestigious Poetry Prize

Year 11's Olivia Stanford has recently been awarded the Simon Powell Poetry Prize – a national competition for aspiring poets.

Olivia's deeply personal poem, titled 'Clockwork Heart', explores her life living with Tourette syndrome. It was one of 10 winning entries chosen by an expert panel of judges.

One of the judges, Daljit Nagra, said of Olivia's poem: "A nightmarish poem whose disturbance is amplified by the end-rhymes and haunting images of violation, 'so when my clockwork heart wouldn't stop wiring,/they put me in a machine that wouldn't stop screaming'. Terrifying."

As part of her prize, Olivia will receive a collection of books from renowned poets, some of whom she saw perform at Poetry Live earlier this year.

In addition, she has also been invited to attend a poetry workshop at the Barbican in London next month, as well as being asked to read at one of next year's Poetry Live events.

Congratulations Olivia – we wish you all the best for your GCSE results next month.



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Year 12 Geography Trip

On the 16th of June, the Year 12 Geography class travelled to Devon for 3 nights to carry out fieldwork research to use for our A-Level Non-Examined Assessment, which is worth 20% of their overall grade. We trundled our suitcases across London before catching the train down to Devon. Once arriving to Plymouth train station at around 14:00, the FSC Slapton Ley Tutor (Em), showed us around Plymouth City Centre and showed us sites where we could collect data and gave us a taste of methods, we could use to carry out our investigation for human geography into the success of regeneration across the city.

The next day we all went to Beesands and Torcross, where we walked along the coastal defences, trialling physical geography research methods. Our journey took longer than usual as the main coastal road at Torcross had washed away, however this did allow us to see the geography in action! Back at the centre we worked hard to plan out our independent projects and of course sit down to watch the England match together.

The third day was spent independently gathering our data so we split up and travelled to the two main locations - either Plymouth City Centre (human geography) or Beesands (physical geography). After all data had been collected, we headed back to the Field Study Centre in Slapton Ley to begin measuring our samples, writing up our data and using GIS to model some of our results.

Before setting off home on the final day, we had an intense session statistically interpreting our data and forming some early conclusions. Our final reports will be submitted at the start of Year 13, so we shall be busy finalising our findings over the summer break.

By Callam R Y12



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Young Leaders Inspire our Future SAINTS

Mrs Swan and Miss Ashwell could not be more proud of our Elite Netball Academy Young Leaders for all their hard work at the Primary Netball Festival that we hosted last week. Our Essex Cup-winning Year 7 pupils confidently led the warm-up activities, while our Year 8 table officials took charge of timekeeping and recording results throughout the tournament. Our U14 Regional Finalists expertly umpired each match, communicating clearly to explain rule decisions and ensure fair play.

During breaks, the girls also stepped into coaching roles, sharing their knowledge and offering encouragement. Their support was evident as the participants' skills and confidence grew throughout the day.

We are incredibly proud of the leadership, teamwork and maturity our girls displayed. It's hard to believe they are only in Key Stage 3! A special mention must also go to Bori, in Year 11, who came back after her exams to offer her support to the event. Congratulations to Lee Chapel Primary School on being crowned overall champions.



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★ Willowbrook Year 6 Visited Design & Technology Dept

This week, we welcomed Year 6 pupils from Willowbrook Primary School to our Design and Technology department.

The pupils worked on the motorised trucks they are making as part of their DT lessons. They watched demonstrations of computer-aided design (CAD) software being used with our laser cutter and vinyl cutter to manufacture parts for their vehicles.

They also spent time in the DT workshop, marking out timber and using drilling and sawing techniques to create the chassis for their trucks, gaining valuable hands-on experience in the process.

We are grateful for the opportunity to support Willowbrook Primary School in enhancing their DT curriculum. Design and Technology provides pupils with valuable practical skills, creativity and problem-solving experiences that will benefit them throughout their education and beyond.



★ Gifts or Hospitality from Pupils or Parents/Carers

As we approach the end of term, you may have seen that shops and supermarkets are using the end of the academic year to promote the giving of token gifts to teachers to say thank you. I must stress that this has never been and never will be expected by any member of St Martin's School staff. However, if you or your child/ren would like to say thank you in this way, please ensure that you refer to Section 10 of the Trust's Gifts and Hospitality Policy, available [HERE](#), which details the monetary values that members of staff are allowed to accept from pupils and/or parents/carers.



Dates for the Diary

- 06.07.2026 – Strasbourg Trip
- Year 10 & 12 Work Experience commences
- Aspirations Week
- 07.07.2026 – Year 9 Reward Trip Thorpe Park
- 08.07.2026 – Science Day
- Summer Art Exhibition
- New York Trip Meeting
- 10.07.2026 – Year 5 Day



Art & DT Exhibition

Work on display by pupils in
Year 11 GCSE Art, DT
A Level Art, Photography, Product Design, Textiles

North Hall
Wednesday 8 July 2026
16.00 – 18.00

Everyone welcome
Free entry / Refreshments / Music



Word of the Week

Week 36 trajectory

noun: The path or direction in which something is developing.

Sentence: Her trajectory improved throughout the year as her confidence and effort increased.

For PE fixtures please follow twitter @STMartinsSchPE for further PE updates



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Brentwood
Foodbank
Together with Trussell

Foodbank Shopping List

July 2026

- Ravioli (tinned)
- Macaroni Cheese (tinned)
- Potatoes (tinned)
- Ham - all sizes (tinned)
- Corned Beef (tinned)
- Biscuits
- Squash
- Coffee
- Deodorant (for women)



Find us at 56-60 Doddinghurst Road, Brentwood CM15 9EH
Doddinghurst Road Church. Tel:01277224528

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FREE
11-19 years only

SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME 2026

AN AWESOME PROGRAMME ALL SUMMER LONG

TUESDAYS: 3PM - 5PM
JULY 21, 28 / AUGUST 4, 11, 18, 25
AUGUST 4, 11 (Street Art)

WEDNESDAYS: 3PM - 5PM
3 Moores Pl, Brentwood CM14 4AG
AUGUST 5, 12, 19, 26

THURSDAYS: 3.15PM - 4PM
AUGUST 6, 13, 20, 27
AUGUST 6, 26 (Street Art)

VARIOUS SPORTS ACTIVITIES

FREE FOOD

STREET ART WITH BRAVE ARTS

CAFÉ A'MOORE

DROP IN TO CHAT

PLAY GAMES & ACTIVITIES

FREE MILKSHAKE OR HOT CHOCOLATE

KING GEORGE'S PLAYING FIELDS - SKATEPARK

SCOOTER, SKATE & BMX SKILLS & TRAINING

TEAM RUGBY COACHING TEAM

STREET ART WITH BRAVE ARTS

SKATE JAM - 27TH AUGUST

YOUR SUMMER. YOUR WAY. GET INVOLVED!

For dates, activities and for further information visit:
www.arisebrentwood.org

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YOUTH SERVICE

Essex County Council

PFCC

everyone ACTIVE

Active Essex

YOUTH SUPPORT

WHEN YOU NEED IT!

ARISE BRENTWOOD

WE WORK WITH SECONDARY SCHOOL AGED YOUNG PEOPLE.

You can talk to us directly. We are here to listen, help and support you.

HOW WE SUPPORT YOU

DETACHED (STREET-BASED)
We meet you where you are - in your community.

SCHOOLS WORK
Working in partnership with secondary schools.

1-2-1 SUPPORT
One to one support tailored to you and your needs.

YOUTH CLUB
Safe spaces, fun activities and positive connections.

CRISIS SUPPORT & ADVOCACY
We're here when things feel tough. We'll stand with you.

REACH OUT - WE'RE HERE TO HELP.

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GET IN TOUCH NO JUDGEMENT JUST SUPPORT

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COMMUNITY FUND

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ESSEX YOUTH SERVICE

PFCC

Active Essex

everyone ACTIVE

COMMUNITY FUND

EVERY WEDNESDAY 3:30PM - 5:30PM
Term Time Only

YOUTH CLUB

DODDINGHURST ROAD COMMUNITY CHURCH
56-60 Doddinghurst Road, Brentwood, CM15 9EH

WALKING ALONGSIDE YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES IN BRENTWOOD

TONS TO DO. PEOPLE TO MEET. A PLACE TO BE YOU.

POOL

TABLE TENNIS

GAMES CONSOLES

FOOD & DRINK

ARTS & CRAFTS

CHAT SPACE

BOARD GAMES

BASKETBALL

CHILL-OUT SPACE

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IT'S OKAY TO TALK
WE LISTEN
WE SUPPORT

FOOD & DRINK

GAMES & ACTIVITIES

CHILL OUT SPACE

SUPPORT & GUIDANCE

MAKE NEW FRIENDS

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WALKING ALONGSIDE YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES IN BRENTWOOD

Supporting you to grow in confidence, build friendships, and discover your potential in a safe environment with trusted adults.

COME AS YOU ARE. JOIN THE COMMUNITY.

TONS TO DO. PEOPLE TO MEET. A PLACE TO BE YOU.

POOL

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