



7 November 2025

NEWS & VIEWS

Be the best you can be.

Headteacher: Mr Jamie Foster
& Deputy CEO



Headteacher's Comment:

This week's edition of *News and Views* perfectly reflects the spirit of St Martin's — ambition, compassion, and community.

Our pupils continue to seize extraordinary opportunities, whether that's competing internationally in Barcelona, performing in Hollywood, or exploring academic pathways at Cambridge. Each of these experiences highlights the same values that define our school — courage, curiosity, and pride in helping others.

As we approach Remembrance weekend, St Martin's Day and the festive season, it's inspiring to see that same spirit extended into our wider community through initiatives like the Christmas Foodbank Appeal. Thank you to all pupils, parents, and staff who give their time and energy to make a difference.

Congratulations to this week's Headteacher Award winners **Aron Montgomery and Tim Povoroznyk in Year 9**, in recognition of their incredible dedication to Music this half term, consistently coming in during break and lunch to work on their One Kiss remix projects.

Together, we continue to demonstrate what it means to be part of St Martin's — *Traditional Values, Learning for the Future, Outstanding Personal Achievement.*



Year 10 Trip to Emmanuel College

A group of our Year 10 pupils had the exciting opportunity to visit Emmanuel College, University of Cambridge, for a taster day on Tuesday.

During the visit, pupils learned about university life and the application process, including valuable insights into pupil finance. They were then given a guided tour of the college by current Cambridge pupils, exploring its impressive facilities and asking plenty of thoughtful questions.

After enjoying a delicious lunch, pupils took part in activities that explored suitable A Level choices for Oxbridge courses and engaged in source analysis tasks designed to strengthen their critical thinking and teamwork skills.

We hope the experience has sparked their intellectual curiosity and inspired them to start thinking about their post-18 pathways — and to dream big about their futures!



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Saints Fire Ignite Barcelona

The Saints Fire Basketball squad recently returned home from a comprehensive and intensive tour of Barcelona, combining world-class training with rich cultural experiences. The tour was a resounding success, both for player development and team bonding.



The core focus was on high-intensity basketball, highlighted by a training session at the prestigious FC Barcelona Basketball first team facility. Players were reportedly in awe of the state-of-the-art courts and atmosphere, using the experience to push their conditioning and technical skills under the guidance of both Saints Fire and Barcelona coaches.

The team also participated in several competitive games against local Spanish youth academies, showcasing their talent on an international stage. 10 games were played in total across 2 evenings, where all pupils showcased their determination and skill set through some closely contested games.

Balancing the rigorous schedule, the pupils enjoyed dedicated time for relaxation and cultural exploration. Pupils spent a memorable day trip into the heart of Barcelona, immersing themselves in the city's rich and vibrant culture. Lots of pupils were encouraged to try local delicacies, as well as visiting the famous Las Ramblas and Sagrada Familia, providing a valuable educational element to the trip. After such a busy schedule, essential downtime was needed at the hotel pool and local beaches, allowing the players to recover physically while strengthening team bonds through casual activities.

Overall the experience of elite training, competitive games and cultural exposure has prepared the players for their upcoming season. The successful tour is expected to ignite the team's performances moving forward and provide a platform for the Saints Fire Basketball Academy to grow.



★ Trip to Hollywood

The Drama and Music department took off on another unforgettable adventure, again across the pond to Los Angeles, California, with 73 excited Year 10 pupils in tow. The trip was packed to the brim with thrilling activities, cultural experiences, and plenty of chances to earn their very own Hollywood Star of Fame!

Day one kicked off with a bang as pupils plunged into the world of film with a Hollywood Behind the Scenes tour, exploring famous locations and catching glimpses of their favourite movies. Then, they headed to Madame Tussauds, where they had a blast posing for pictures next to life-size wax figures of their favourite celebrities! The next day, some of our talented music pupils took the stage at Universal Studios Hollywood for a live performance on the CityWalk, entertaining the public with their musical skills. Afterwards, they dove into movie-themed attractions, including the magical Harry Potter ride and a visit to real-life film sets, like the one from *Jaws*.

One of the highlights was the day spent cycling along the iconic Santa Monica and Venice Beach. The pupils soaked up the California sunshine, raced along the coast, and even challenged the staff to a fun game of volleyball. The day ended with a meal at Bubba Gump's, the famous *Forrest Gump*-themed restaurant. The excitement continued on the final day with a tour of the Hollywood Bowl and Warner Bros. Studios, where the pupils got to explore the magic behind hit shows and films, see iconic props, and step onto legendary movie sets.

Throughout the trip, the pupils had the chance to earn a Hollywood Star badge by demonstrating the school's values of kindness, positivity, and resilience—qualities that made the trip even more special! It was a perfect blend of fun, creativity, and inspiration—a trip that will be talked about for years to come!



Dates for the Diary

- 10.11.2025 – Year 11 PPEs continue
Disability History Month
- 11.11.2025 – Remembrance Day Event
Production rehearsals
- 12.11.2025 – Year 13 Trip Advertising Unlocked
Production rehearsals
- 13.11.2025 – St Martin's Day service rehearsal
Eden Animal Oasis (selected pupils)
- 14.11.2025 – St Martin's Day Service Year 7 & 13 Pd 1 - 3

Word of the Week Week 8 opaque



adjective: A material that you cannot see through.

Sentence: Wood is opaque, but glass is not.



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

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Help support your food bank this Christmas

Donate food



Donate an item or two from our shopping list, ensuring we can provide food for people facing hardship in your community.



If collecting festive food, please deliver before 24th November.

Donate money



Help to cover the costs of storing and distributing food, as well as developing sustainable projects.



Just Giving



Other ways to
donate money

Shopping list

- Christmas Cake
- Christmas Puddings
- Christmas Cakes/Biscuits
- Chocolates/Sweets
- Selection Boxes
- Biscuits for Cheese
- Sponge Puddings (syrup/ chocolate/jam)
- Tinned Custard
- Tinned Rice Pudding
- Tinned Fruit
- Tinned Salmon
- Tinned Ham
- Pickles/Cranberry Sauce
- Packet Stuffing
- Jelly's
- Carnation Milk

Ending hunger together

info@brentwood.foodbank.org.uk

Facilitated by Doddinghurst Road Church. Registered Charity in England and Wales (1171227)