



9 October 2026

NEWS & VIEWS

Be the best you can be.

Headteacher: Mr Jamie Foster
& Deputy CEO

Headteacher's Comment:

This week's *News & Views* highlights some wonderful examples of our pupils making a positive contribution both within school and to the wider community. I was particularly pleased to see our Year 7 Bake-Off raise over £228 for SNAP, alongside the excellent pupil-led Black History Month assemblies. Both demonstrate the enthusiasm, confidence and kindness that we encourage at St Martin's.

Looking ahead, we are particularly excited to welcome prospective students and their families to our **Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 15 October**. This is an excellent opportunity to explore the courses and opportunities available as students consider their next steps beyond GCSEs.

I would also like to remind families about our **free Community Cooking Course**, which we promoted last week. We now have just **12 places remaining**, so I would encourage anyone interested to register here [St Martin's Free Cooking Course Adults and Pupils – Sign Up – Fill in form](#).

Well done to **Sophie F in Year 8**, who has earned a place in the Headteacher's Gallery for her fantastic charity work. Sophie has been selling homemade keyrings, pens and cakes to raise money for **South Essex Wildlife Hospital**.

What a wonderful achievement. Well done, Sophie!



Year 7 Bake-off Challenge

To celebrate the European Day of Languages, our Year 7 pupils put their baking skills to the test in a fantastic Bake-Off competition!

With over 30 entries, the competition helped to raise an amazing **£228.41 for SNAP**, a Brentwood-based charity supporting families in our school community. Fiona from SNAP had the difficult task of choosing the winners, who each received a certificate.

A huge well done to all of our Year 7 bakers. What an impressive display of creativity and skill!



★ Celebrating Neurodiversity, Difference and Kindness

This week, we reflected on our assemblies celebrating neurodiversity and diversity. We were reminded that kindness matters and that our words and actions can make a real difference to how others feel.

Today, we celebrated our differences and similarities.

At St Martin's, we are proud to be a community where everyone is encouraged to be themselves, feel valued and know that they belong.

In a world full of different people, perspectives and experiences, we all have a part to play in ensuring others feel accepted and respected.

We will continue to celebrate what makes us different, recognise what has brought us together and, above all, choose kindness every day.



★ Christmas Card Competition



St. Martin's School

Christmas Card Competition

Submit to your art teacher or the art office

A5 or A4 Paper using 2D materials
such as pencil, paint, pen... get creative!
Or it could be a digital art submission.

SUBMISSION DUE TUES 17TH NOVEMBER

Achievement points for entries, winners and runners up!

Speak to the art teachers for more details



DISCOVERY
EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Chief Executive Officer: Mr R Duff

St Martin's School is proud to be part of the Discovery Educational Trust



www.st-martins.essex.sch.uk



@StMartinsSch



@_stmartinsschool



@StMartinsSchool



Black History Month Assembly

This week, Seacole House pupils took to the stage to deliver a Black History Month assembly to all Houses. They explored the history and significance of the celebration, shared the stories of inspiring role models, and addressed important issues such as representation, microaggressions, and inequality. Through preparing and presenting the assembly, pupils developed valuable confidence, teamwork, and communication skills, helping them to become more articulate and self-assured speakers. We look forward to many more engaging pupil-led House assemblies throughout the year.

Well done to Jadon O, Lily K, Gabriel W, Adi A, Spencer Y, Zoe S, Matei J, Isabelle O, David O, Lara I and Matthew M.



Bright Futures: Building Positive Academic Habits

This week, pupils in Years 8, 10 and 12 took part in Bright Futures study skills workshops, each tailored to their age and stage of learning.

From establishing good habits in Year 8 to developing effective GCSE revision in Year 10 and independent study in Year 12, the sessions gave pupils practical strategies to organise, recall and apply their knowledge.

Pupils will now be encouraged to use these strategies in lessons and at home, making effective study a regular part of their learning.



Dates for the Diary

- 13.10.2026 – Trip Year 12 Art/Photography Hyde Hall
Year 8 HPV Immunisations
- 14.10.2026 – Year 8 HPV Immunisations
Year 11 Art Skills Day
- 15.10.2026 – Year 10 Trip Science Festival
Sixth Form Open Evening
- 16.10.2026 – Sixth Form Trip to New York
Maths New York Trip
Year 8 & 9 Rugby Trip Paris

Word of the Week Week 6 judicious



adjective: Showing good judgement by thinking carefully before making a decision.

Sentence: The captain made a judicious decision to pass the ball instead of shooting from a difficult angle.

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



DISCOVERY
EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Chief Executive Officer: Mr R Duff

St Martin's School is proud to be part of the Discovery Educational Trust



www.st-martins.essex.sch.uk



@StMartinsSch



@_stmartinsschool



@StMartinsSchool