



11 July 2025

# NEWS & VIEWS

Be the best you can be.

Executive Headteacher: Mr Jamie Foster



## Headteacher's Comment:

This week I would like to thank the parent and pupil volunteers that gave their time on Saturday, to help with the eco development projects that Mrs Bamigbele has started at the school. When you visit the school site next you will see a number of new planters and raised beds that really do enhance the school environment. Thank you everyone.

Our KS3 Science Club members enjoyed a fascinating and well-deserved trip to Colchester Zoo, where they explored the wonders of the animal kingdom and impressed members of the public with their outstanding behaviour and enthusiasm for learning. Meanwhile, our Year 12 students broadened their horizons with an inspiring visit to the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), gaining valuable insights into the world of finance and future career pathways.

We were also delighted to appoint our new Senior Student Leadership Team, made up of 13 exceptional students who will help lead and represent our school community over the coming year. Their commitment and dedication reflect the very best of our school values.

Our Year 7s showed fantastic teamwork and resilience on their muddy but memorable Nuclear Races trip, while our Year 12 Geographers developed vital fieldwork skills during their residential in South Devon.

This week's Headteachers gallery goes to **Keira (Y10)** for outstanding dedication in completing her Graphics Board to a high standard, **Dara (Y9)** for resilience and impressive cooking skills, **Austin & Alex (Y8)** for their commitment to Science, volunteering lunchtimes and setting a great example. **Toby (Y7)** For winning the **Bronze Award** in the Lower School Maths Challenge. Well done to all!

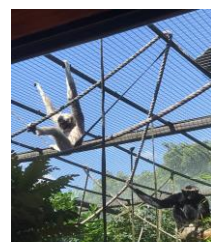


## Science club Reward Trip

On Tuesday, 40 KS3 Science Club pupils and three Sixth formers headed to Colchester Zoo as a reward trip for their dedication towards Science. The pupils spent the morning exploring the zoo and listening to interesting talks from the keepers about different tiger species and sea lions. Some of the favourites from the morning were the Elephants, Giraffes, Sun bears, the Komodo Dragon and an Anaconda!

In the afternoon, the pupils attended a presentation about "Wildlife Forensics" where the pupils found out about how animals are illegally smuggled around the globe and then had some hands-on activities where they learnt about becoming a Forensic Scientist to help stop this illegal activity.

The pupils were a credit to themselves with several members of the public stopping staff to say how well behaved and courteous all the pupils were. Well done to the Science Club, you really lived up to the school aims of "Being the Best you can be"



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## Year 12 visit to ACCA

On **25 June 2025**, 26 Year 12 students with a keen interest in finance, had the incredible opportunity to visit the **Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)**. The visit, led by **Alex Frappell**, offered valuable insights into the world of accounting and finance.

The students were warmly welcomed by their host, **George Tsounias**, who guided them through a packed and informative day. Throughout the visit, students explored the various pathways to becoming ACCA-qualified and delved into the importance of **transferable skills** such as communication, proactivity, relationship-building, teamwork, and resilience.

George also walked the students through the different stages of the apprenticeship application process, including online tests, interviews (both video and face-to-face), and assessment centres. As part of their learning, they participated in activities to help them prepare for interviews using the **STAR model** (Situation, Task, Action, Result) to articulate their transferable skills. They also picked up useful tips on presenting themselves professionally, including techniques like the **Superhero pose** to boost confidence.

A highlight of the day was the opportunity to **network with four ACCA-qualified professionals**:

- **Alexandra Falcon-Huerta**
- **Hollie Moore**
- **Joshua El Bidawi**
- **Sailesh Shah**

They shared their personal career journeys, experiences, and insights into the diverse roles available within the finance sector. Students asked questions about their current positions, how they progressed in their careers, and the values and attitudes that are essential for success in the professional world. Their stories were incredibly **inspiring**, demonstrating how the ACCA qualification can open doors to exciting career paths across various industries and even internationally.

A **huge thank you** to George Tsounias and the entire ACCA team for hosting us and creating such an engaging, insightful experience. **Report by Nathaniel, Year 12**



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## Devon Trip 2025

Last week Year 12 students were given the opportunity to take a 4-day trip to south Devon. The students stayed at Slapton Ley, an hour from Plymouth city centre and fifteen minutes from the beach. The trip's purpose was to help prepare Year 12 for the Geography NEA coursework, which they have now started and will continue into Year 13.

During the stay, the FSC instructors were able to provide students with informative resources, lessons on calculating statistical data, as well as data collection methods to help prepare for the day in the city. Students spent the first day in Plymouth city centre, looking at the quality of different areas based on their level of regeneration. The second day was spent at the coast, collecting samples of rocks and types of coastal defences, as well as collecting research from residents in the area. On the third day, the students had a successful but long day independently collecting data for their project. They began by making their way into the city centre and splitting off into smaller groups, using the day to collect clone town surveys, EQS, population counts, epitome surveys, as well as bipolar surveys. It was a knowledgeable and teamwork building experience. Students enjoyed their time, filled with laughter and many funny moments, as well as a few learning curves for many pupils (the importance of sun cream being a big one). The trip consisted of long working hours but they also found time to make good use of the football table and the TV each evening. **Report by Alice, Will and Bea/Y12**



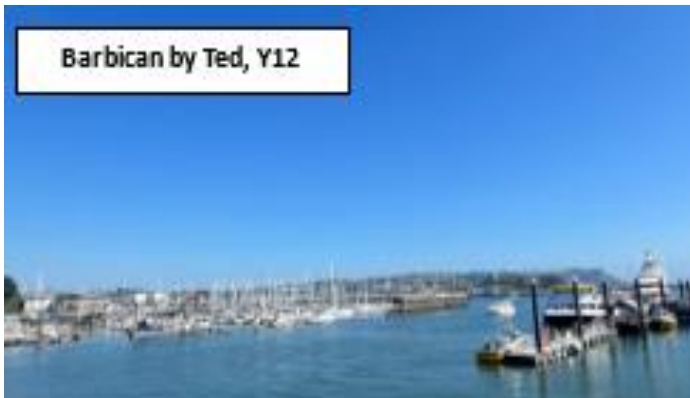
Slapton Ley by Joshua, Y12



Plymouth by Isabel, Y12



Barbican by Ted, Y12



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## ★ Opal Coast Trip

From Friday 7 to Monday 9 July, 35 pupils from Years 8, 9, and 10 enjoyed an exciting and immersive trip to the Opal Coast in France. Highlights included shopping at a local market where pupils practised their French skills, a thrilling Rando-Rail pedal cart adventure, bread-making and a unique opportunity to taste snails! They also toured a chocolate factory—with plenty of delicious samples—and explored the historic town of Boulogne-sur-Mer. A special moment took place at Béthune Cathedral, where some of our talented pupils were invited to play on the church organ, creating a truly memorable experience for all. Plans are already underway for next year's languages residential trip, with more exciting opportunities for cultural discovery and language practice to come.



## ★ U14 Mixed Rounders - National Silver Medallists

Last week our Year 8 and 9 combined team travelled to the University of Leicester to play in the National Rounders Finals. The standard of performance from our team was outstanding throughout the day. We won our group with ease and beat Finborough School (Stowmarket) 7-2 in the semi-final. The final was unbelievably close, but agonisingly ended in defeat by just one rounder!

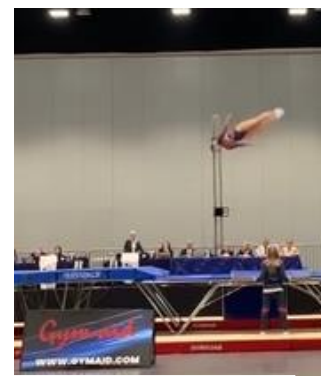
A special mention must go to our Year 8 bowler Dan, who was unstoppable from start to finish.



## ★ English Trampolining Championships

A huge congratulations to Molly in Year 9, who competed at the English Trampolining Championships last weekend, competing in the age of 15-16 category. Molly achieved fourth in the country which is a great achievement, especially as she was the youngest in the group.

Well done Molly, we are extremely proud of you.



## ★ Essex Basketball Regional Tournament

Congratulations to Katie and Izzy in Year 12, who both represented Essex Basketball at the East of England Regional Tournament.

Well done girls, you are wonderful role models for our younger pupils!





## ★ Senior Student Team

Last week, a new Senior Student Leadership Team was appointed from our current Year 12 cohort, following a highly competitive selection process. We received a large number of outstanding applications, and after shortlisting based on their application letters, candidates took part in a student panel interview with members of the main school, followed by formal interviews. Due to the exceptional calibre of applicants this year, we are delighted to appoint a team of 13 students, each taking on key responsibilities to support both the Sixth Form and the wider school community.

- **Isabelle** – Head Girl
- **Poppy** – Head Girl
- **Christopher** – Head Boy
- **Alice** – Deputy Head Girl
- **Max** – Deputy Head Boy
- **Annabel** – Assistant Head Girl
- **Elicia** – Assistant Head Girl
- **Mariam** – Assistant Head Girl
- **Olivia** – Assistant Head Girl
- **Poppy** – Assistant Head Girl
- **Archie** – Assistant Head Boy
- **Nathaniel** – Assistant Head Boy
- **Vahagn** – Assistant Head Boy



## ★ Year 7 Reward Trip Nuclear Races

On Wednesday, Mr. Bayston, Head of Year 7, and Mrs. Bauers, Deputy Head of Year 7, led Year 7 on an exciting trip to the Nuclear Races. The pupils had an action-packed day filled with mud, laughter, and teamwork. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the experience and came away with great memories (and some very muddy clothes!). Well done to all who took part!



## ★ Dates for the Diary

- 14.07.2025 – Sports Awards Evening 18:00  
Year 10 Walton On the Naze Trip
- 15.07.2025 – Year 12 & 13 MyBNK  
Year 10 Walton On the Naze Trip  
Year 12 Honours
- 16.07.2025 – Year 10 Walton On the Naze Trip  
Year 8 & 9 Immunisation Catchup
- 17.07.2025 – Year 8 & 9 Reward Trip to Thorpe Park  
Year 11 Prom Orsett Hall
- 18.07.2025 – Science in schools –  
Royal Institute Community Show 15:15 – 16:15

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

### Word of the Week Week 37 agon



**noun:** a contest or struggle, (especially in ancient Greek sports or drama)  
**Sentence:** The final race was a true agon between two evenly matched rivals.



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