



12 September 2025

# NEWS & VIEWS

Be the best you can be.

Executive Headteacher: Mr Jamie Foster

## Headteacher's Comment:

I would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who supported our Open Evening last night. We were delighted to welcome over **1,700 parents and visitors** through our doors, and the atmosphere around the school was outstanding.

I am especially proud of our pupils, who acted as fantastic ambassadors for St Martin's throughout the evening. Whether as tour guides, helpers in departments, or performers showcasing their talents, they demonstrated the very best of what our school community represents.

The success of the evening is a true reflection of the hard work, dedication, and pride our pupils and staff show every day. Thank you once again to all involved for making the event such a memorable one.

This week's **Headteacher Awards** go to **Stan and Orlando in Year 7**, who volunteered to lead tours for prospective families, despite having only been at St Martin's for two weeks! Several parents contacted me directly to say how impressed they were, praising Stan and Orlando for going above and beyond to make their son feel welcome.



## New Year 12 Induction

This week, our new Year 12 pupils began their exciting journey at St Martin's Sixth Form with a two-day induction programme designed to inspire, inform, and connect. The induction featured: Team-building activities led by the Army, a self-care presentation focusing on mental health and wellbeing, a safe driving workshop, promoting responsibility and awareness on the road and an introduction to our new Edge programme, designed to help pupils develop key character strengths and life skills.

Pupils were also introduced to a range of exciting opportunities offered by the Army following A Levels, including fully funded degree pathways in fields such as medicine and veterinary science.



Throughout the two days, pupils had the chance to make new friends and begin building the foundations of a strong and supportive sixth form community. We will be excited to see what this cohort will achieve in the coming years!



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**Chief Executive Officer: Mr R Duff**

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## Year 13 Leavers' Ball

Last week, we had the pleasure of celebrating and bidding farewell to our wonderful Year 13 Class of 2025 at their Leavers' Ball.

The evening was a fantastic occasion, featuring a deluxe buffet, giant chocolate fountain, DJ, and a 360-photo booth. It was a lovely opportunity for students to reunite after the summer break, share memories, and wish each other the best for the future.

As they now move on to the next stage of their journeys, whether that's university, an apprenticeship, or the world of work, we could not be prouder of all they have accomplished.

We wish every one of them every success in the exciting adventures ahead!



## Dates for the Diary

- 15.09.2025 – Year 12 Information Evening
- 16.09.2025 – School Tours commence  
Parent Information Evening Basketball Trip
- 17.09.2025 – Year 8 Information Evening  
Bossy Drama Group 18:00-21:00
- 19.09.2025 – School Photo Mop-up session

### Word of the Week

#### Week 2 resilient



**adjective:** someone who can recover quickly from difficulties, stress, or illness, demonstrating qualities like toughness, adaptability, and optimism.

**Sentence:** Despite facing numerous setbacks, she was a resilient individual who always found a way

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



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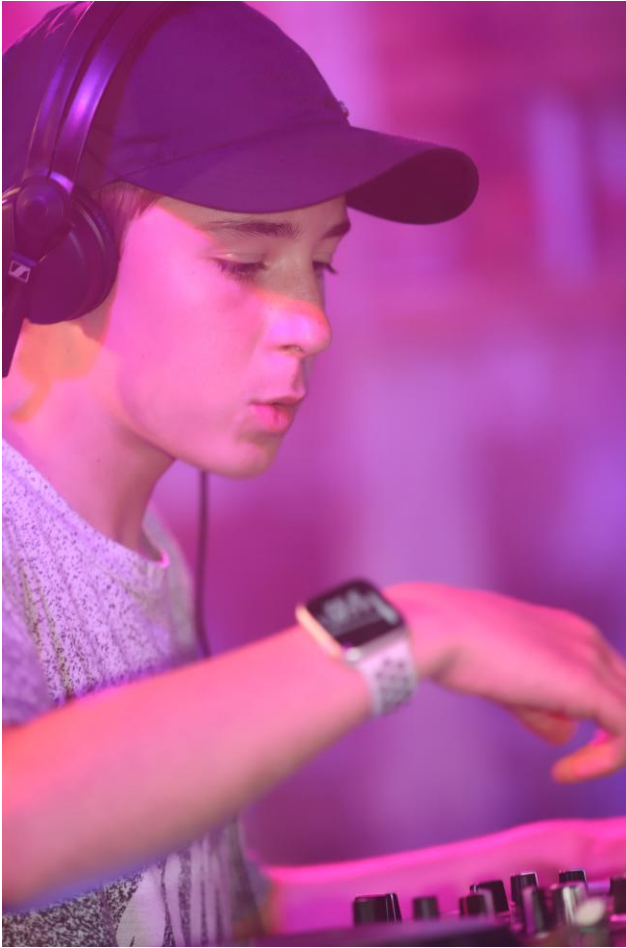


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But my three years of performing to the public has taught me something new and helps me grow and adapt, not just as a DJ, but as a person. The best part about DJing is seeing the crowd react - the laughs, the dancing, the shared energy. Music has the power to bring people together, and being part of that connection is an incredible feeling.



Looking ahead, my goals are to keep improving, perform at even bigger events, and eventually start releasing my own music. For anyone thinking about chasing their dreams, my advice is simple: start small, stay consistent, and never give up. Every big achievement begins with a single step.

To everyone who has supported me so far - thank you. I'm excited to see where this journey takes me next!

- Aidan Buckley

Well done to Aidan, and congratulations for being awarded a Gold Jack Petchey Achievement Award.



# Chasing the Beat

Aidan Buckley

Whilst music has always been a huge part of my life, I never imagined it would grow into something bigger than just a hobby. Over the past few years, I've been working hard to build my career as a DJ, and it's been an incredible journey so far with some unforgettable experiences.

I'm DJ Beat, and what started as experimenting with tracks in my bedroom, is now gaining traction. At Dirst, I spent hours teaching myself how to mix songs, match beats, and create transitions between tracks, then Alex Mercier helped to take my skills to the next level. I have since performed at numerous venues including Hotbox (alongside Essex Music Service), Towngate Theatre, The Hermit, Hylands House and Chalkwell Park Rooms, slowly building my confidence and learning how to read a crowd and keep the energy going, especially at the kitchen disco's!!

One of the biggest moments in my journey so far has been working alongside DJ Shy Cookie (Alex Mercier), who has inspired me and taught me a lot about the craft. Collaborating with someone so talented has helped me improve my skills and pushed me to take my DJing to the next level.



This year is especially exciting for me because I've been invited to perform at a major festival, Street Eats & Beats, which brings thousands of people together to enjoy great music and food. These opportunities mean so much to me, not just because of the exposure, but because they show that hard work and dedication really do pay off.

Behind every set I perform, are hours of preparation - selecting the tracks, practicing transitions, and making sure the energy flows just right. I've had to overcome nerves, handle unexpected challenges during live shows, and constantly push myself to improve.

# Harvest Appeal at Brentwood Food Bank



## Harvest appeal

Please donate an item or two from the list to help local people left without enough money to live on.

### Shopping list

- Chocolate/Peanut Spread
- Tinned Custard
- Tinned Fruit
- Tinned Corned Beef/Ham
- Jars of Pasta Sauce
- Hotdogs
- Sugar
- Tinned Tuna/Sardines
- Savoury Rice/Pasta
- Tinned Tomatoes
- Tinned Macaroni Cheese
- Tinned Beans & Sausages
- Shampoo
- Shower Gel
- Toothpaste

[brentwood.foodbank.org.uk](http://brentwood.foodbank.org.uk)

Facilitated by Dodinghurst Road Church.  
Registered Charity in England & Wales (1171227).



## Harvest appeal

Please donate an item or two from the list to help local people left without enough money to live on.

### Shopping list

- Tinned Potatoes
- Tinned Rice Pudding
- Tinned Custard
- Tinned Ravioli
- Tinned Mixed Vegetables
- Peanut/Chocolate Spread
- Tinned Ham/Corned Beef
- Biscuits
- Sugar
- Tea/Coffee
- Rice Bags/Pouches
- Tinned Sardines/Mackerel
- Tinned Chilli Con Carne
- Laundry Gel
- Shower Gel
- Washing Up Liquid

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## Harvest appeal

Please donate an item or two from the list to help local people left without enough money to live on.

### Shopping list

- Jars of Pasta Sauce
- Tinned Tuna/Salmon
- Bag of Rice
- Tinned Fruit
- Tinned Mince & Onion
- Tea/Coffee
- Jams/Spreads
- Biscuits
- Bottles of Squash
- Savoury Rice/Pasta
- Tinned Mixed Vegetables
- Tinned Corned Beef/Ham
- Shower Gel
- Shampoo
- Laundry Gel
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Help support your food bank this Harvest

### Donate food



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

### Donate money



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



### Shopping list

- Tinned Corned Beef/Ham
- Tinned Hotdogs
- Tinned Tuna/Salmon
- Tinned Sardines/Mackerel
- Tinned Ravioli/Macaroni Cheese
- Tinned Chilli Con Carne/ Mince & Onion
- Tinned Beans & Sausages
- Tinned Tomatoes
- Tinned Mixed Vegetables
- Jars of Pasta Sauce
- Rice Bags/Pouches/Savoury Rice
- Pasta
- Tinned Custard
- Tinned Rice Pudding
- Tinned Fruit
- Jams/Chocolate/Peanut Spread
- Biscuits
- Tea/Coffee
- Sugar
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