13 November2026

NEWS & VIEWS

Be the best you can be.

Headteacher: Mr Jamie Foster
& Deputy CEO

Headteacher's Comment:



This week has provided some wonderful examples of the values that underpin our school community. Our Remembrance Service on Wednesday was a particularly moving occasion, and I was extremely proud of the respect and maturity shown by our pupils, particularly our Junior Leadership Team, who represented St Martin's so admirably at the Brentwood War Memorial.

It has also been fantastic to see the enthusiasm and generosity shown through our Children in Need activities. Thank you to everyone who contributed and helped make the occasion such a success. These events remind us of the importance of kindness, compassion and responsibility towards others.

This edition also highlights the breadth of opportunities available to our pupils, from Year 12 exploring the latest developments in Biology to Year 9 gaining practical experience of careers within the NHS. I would also encourage parents and carers to explore the free online workshops advertised later in this edition, offering valuable advice and support for families.

The Headteacher's Gallery goes to Carolina M (10A1) for her outstanding dedication to GCSE Art. Her high-quality work and commitment to extra-curricular sessions this half term have been exceptional. Well done, Carolina!

Brentwood War Memorial Remembrance Day Service

We are exceptionally proud of our Junior Leadership Team, who represented St Martin's at the Brentwood Schools' Remembrance Day Service at the Brentwood War Memorial.

Joining pupils from schools across the borough, they marked this important occasion with maturity, respect and dignity. A special mention goes to **Marcus** and **Cameron**, who laid a wreath on behalf of St Martin's, and to **Violet**, who delivered a moving poem recital.

All of our pupils conducted themselves impeccably throughout the service and were excellent ambassadors for the school. They represented St Martin's with pride and truly did us proud.







St Martin's Remembrance Event

On 11 November, the whole school community, together with visitors, gathered to observe the two-minute silence at 11.00am to commemorate the signing of the Armistice. The silence was preceded by the sounding of the Last Post, played by former and current students. The service included readings from Scripture, traditional and contemporary poetry, and the moving inscription from the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior. Mr Foster reflected on the importance of remembering with respect and gratitude the sacrifices made by those who came before us, while reminding us of our shared responsibility to build a future founded on peace.



As part of our Week of Remembrance events, pupils from Aristotle House also led a series of assemblies entitled *Beyond Human Heroes*. The assemblies explored the often-overlooked role of animals in times of war, sharing powerful and moving stories of their courage, loyalty and service. Pupils reflected on how remembering these animals does not diminish the bravery of those who served; rather, it enriches our understanding of sacrifice and makes the story of remembrance more complete.

Year 9 Gain Hands-On Experience of Careers In the NHS

A group of Year 9 pupils enjoyed an exciting and informative work experience day at Brentwood Community Centre, exploring the wide range of careers and responsibilities within the NHS.



Pupils took part in a variety of hands-on activities, including an experiment using UV gel and specialist lamps to test how effectively they were washing their hands. They then moved into a simulated hospital ward, where they learnt how to wear personal protective equipment (PPE), make hospital beds and prepare spaces for incoming patients.

The practical learning continued as pupils took on the roles of both patients and healthcare professionals, testing blood pressure, oxygen levels and temperature to understand how medical teams monitor vital signs. They also developed essential first-aid skills, including CPR, using a defibrillator, supporting someone who is choking and managing wounds and serious bleeding.





The day provided a fantastic opportunity to build confidence, develop practical skills and gain an insight into careers within the NHS. Alongside discovering potential future career paths, pupils also gained valuable life-saving knowledge. Following the success of this first opportunity, we hope to provide more practical experiences of this kind in the future, particularly for our SEN pupils.

Children in Need

Our annual Children in Need fundraising was a huge success this week! Years 7-11 participated in their PE lessons, either wearing their own choice of sportswear or fancy dress.

Many pupils generously baked cakes and cookies to sell and the Pudsey theme was evident throughout! Lots of fun was had in Just Dance and beat the teacher penalty shoot outs and inflatableanimal races.

Thank you to everyone who donated to help improve the lives of disadvantaged children & young people across the UK!

We raised **over £1000 # MakeADifference # SAINTS**















Year 11 Road Safety



On Friday 16 October, our Year 11 pupils watched *Dead End*, a thought-provoking performance by Collingdale Theatre Group, highlighting the importance of safe driving.

The pupils were excellent, showing fantastic engagement throughout the production. The powerful messages around risky behaviours, drink and drug driving, seatbelt use, distractions and peer pressure really seemed to hit home, encouraging pupils to reflect on the choices they make and the potential consequences.

We would like to thank Collingdale Theatre Group for delivering such an impactful and memorable performance. We would love to welcome them back in the future!

Year 12 Trip Biology In Action



On Monday 9 November, our Year 12 A Level Biology students attended an inspiring Education in Action conference, where they heard from leading scientists and explored the real-world impact of biological science.

Students enjoyed presentations from Professor Lewis Dartnell, who discussed extremophiles and the possibility of life on other planets; Dr Helen Pilcher, who explained how IVF technology could help save endangered rhinos; and Professor Tim Underwood, who shared insights into medical research and advances in the treatment of oesophageal cancer.

The conference provided an excellent opportunity to connect A Level studies with current scientific research and future career pathways. Our students represented the school exceptionally well throughout the day and returned with a greater enthusiasm for biology and its many possibilities.

Dates for the Diary

16.11.2026 – 17.11.2026 – CV Workshop
17.11.2026 – Y12 Trip: Computer Science In Action
19.11.2026 – Community Cooking Course
19.11.2026 –



Word of the Week
Week 9 perspective

St Martin School
Be the best you can



noun: A particular way of seeing, understanding or thinking about something.

Sentence: After hearing both sides of the argument, Mia realised her perspective had changed.

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

Free Work Shops available in December 2026

Please click on the pictures links links to register for the Free Work Shops







