



Friday 14 June 2024

NEWS & VIEWS

Be the best you can be.

Executive Headteacher: Mr Jamie Foster

Headteacher's Comment:

It has been another amazing week at St Martin's. Our U15 Girls Football Team have secured their place in the National Final, the date and venue will be confirmed. There has been another fantastic production from our lower school students in the 'School of Rock'. Our students performed to primary schools throughout the week, which culminated in two evening productions to a full audience. Well done to everyone for your hard work!

It has been brought to my attention that a letter was emailed out to all year groups titled 'Year 8 Parents' Evening' that included important information for all families. This may have been subsequently missed by parents and carers of students in other year groups. I am aware that the parent evening appointments are challenging for parents to be able to see the staff you need to. We have one exceptionally large year group in Year 8, where we had to make some concessions to allow as many appointments as possible. As a result, on Thursday 4 July, the school will finish at lunchtime for all students. The bus companies are aware.

This week's Headteacher's Gallery goes to Oliver Martin in Year 10, for being proactive and using his initiative when supporting the umpiring at the Essex County Cricket Competition.



Hertford College Trip

Last Tuesday 4 June, 13 potential Oxbridge candidates visited Hertford College, Oxford. Students completed a tour of the College and were able to ask current students questions about the application process and student life at Oxford. This built upon the recent parents and students information evening held at St Martin's in March.

Further support for our most able Year 12s will continue with an Insight Day later this month, where the school liaison team from Hertford College will come into St Martin's and work with these students on their UCAS applications ahead of the Autumn Term. This collaborative work is something that the school hopes will only lead to more students getting into the top universities in the country.



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Year 12 Visit to the Tower of London

On Friday 7 June, Year 12 A Level Historians visited the Tower of London for an A Level enhancement day. Students were led around the Tower of London by a resident historian. This brought to life what students have been learning about in Year 12 on Henry VI and Henry VIII. As a palace, a prison and a place of execution, the Tower of London played a crucial role in re-shaping Henry VIII's England. Students were able to stand in the spot where key events had occurred. The reign of Henry VIII saw cataclysmic changes for both church and nation. Students analysed physical and documentary evidence to consider the Tower's role as a reflection of both the domination and destabilisation of Henry VIII throughout his reign. Students then had the opportunity to explore the Tower independently including the Crown Jewels.



Year 10 Field Trip

On Thursday 6 and Friday 7 June, our Year 10 Geography students visited Walton on the Naze for their GCSE field work. The fieldwork completed will support the students to answer the fieldwork hypothesis. The tide was in on both days but the students adapted their fieldwork and were a real credit to St Martins School. Well done to everyone!



Young Sports Leaders Training

Just before half term some of our year 10 students were selected to take part in a leadership training day with Paralympic athlete Alistair Patrick-Heselton. Alistair had an inspiring story to share with our pupils about the struggles he has faced and how he overcame these to continue competing in the sport he loves.

Our students were coached on how to be young leaders ahead of the Move Now Festival on the 18th June. Here, our students will be running events for young people with and without special educational needs and /or disabilities from different schools across Essex. Alistair showed them many problem-solving activities that required them to work as a team and be resilient.

Alistair said our year 10's were the best students he has worked with and cannot wait to see them in action at the festival that hopes to build inspiration for the upcoming Paralympic Games.



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