



16 January 2026

NEWS & VIEWS

Be the best you can be.

Headteacher: Mr Jamie Foster
& Deputy CEO

Headteacher's Comment:

Thank you to parents and carers who have taken the time to raise questions following last week's communication regarding **Phone Locker pouches**. I plan to keep the feedback form open for a further week and I will provide a follow-up response addressing the questions raised.

Of the **40 responses received so far**, the main concern is related to ensuring there is **no delay when pupils exit the school site at the end of the day**. It is reassuring that, alongside this, the initiative has been **widely supported in principle**. If you have any additional questions that are not covered in the FAQ document, please submit these via the link below by **next Thursday**.

[St Martin's School - Phone locker pouches initiative – Form](#)

This week, I would also like to highlight the exceptional achievement of **Leo Cross in Year 9**, who recorded **three podium finishes** in ski racing over the Christmas period. Leo secured **one 2nd place in Slalom** and **two 2nd place finishes in Giant Slalom**, competing against athletes from **over 12 countries**, including the USA and Canada. This is a fantastic achievement for both Leo and **Team Great Britain** in a highly competitive field. Congratulations, Leo!



Royal Navy Visit

Year 10 GCSE Food pupils were delighted to welcome chefs from the **Royal Navy** for an inspiring and hands-on visit. The session began with an engaging careers presentation, giving pupils a fascinating insight into life as a Royal Navy chef, the training involved, and the wide range of career opportunities available.

The visit concluded with an exciting *Ready Steady Cook*-style competition, where pupils worked as teams against the clock to create two dishes, guided and judged by the visiting chefs. The event was both educational and great fun, leaving pupils motivated, inspired, and with a real taste of culinary careers beyond the classroom.

The Year 10 winning teams were;

- Team 1: Georgina B, Bella-Mai B, Molly T.
- Team 2: Emily R, Anjali S, Katie L.
- Team 3: Charlie B, Dimitri F, Zak H.
- Team 4: Charlie F, Archie K, Frankie T, Alfie W.



Chief Executive Officer: Mr R Duff

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★ Talented Year 9 Pupils

WOW! Just look at these fantastic cultural cushions created by some of our talented Year 9 pupils. Their task was to create a cushion cover inspired by a culture of their choosing. From Japan to Nigeria, the pupils researched a whole range of different cultural themes that influenced their individual designs. Hours of careful work went into making these beautiful covers using a range of techniques including batik, tie die, sublimation printing using CAD and applique. Maybe you were the lucky receiver of one of these cushions covers as a Christmas gift!

A big well done to pupils whose work is pictured - Isabel, Zakariya, Colson and Ethan.



★ Key information & Updates for Parents

Following on from the letter regarding the use of mobile phones on site, we would like to share an update from the Children's Commissioner advising of a new published guide. Please click on the link to access all the information which I hope you will find very helpful. [What I wish my parents or carers knew: A guide for parents on managing children's digital lives.](#)



Dates for the Diary

- 21.01.2026 – DofE Parents Information
DTP Vaccine commence
- 22.01.2026 – Year 10 show Case Set up
Year 9 Parents' Evening on line
- 23.01.2026 – Year 10 Showcase
Selected pupils Brentwood Ski Centre

Word of the Week Week 16 momentum



noun: The force that keeps something moving once it has started.

Sentence: The vehicle gained momentum as the road dipped.



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

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