



NEWS & VIEWS

Be the best you can be.

Executive Headteacher: Mr Jamie Foster

Headteacher's Comment:

Last week we welcomed the Directors of Education from Nanjing Province, China, who were visiting beacons of excellence across the country. They were looking at curriculum offers and behaviour and culture throughout their UK tour that included Russel Group Universities and primary schools. Part of the tour was supported by our Year 11 to 13 pupils who will be visiting the Province with me in August. They were extremely impressed with the engagement and overall aptitude of our school community.



We will be welcoming 40 pupils from Nanjing throughout Culture Week in July as part of the exchange.

This week's 'Making a Difference' award goes to Ms Louise Fordham for her efforts in raising money and awareness for the 'Bamboo School' children's charity in Thailand for refugees.

<https://bambooschoolthailand.com/>

The 'Headteacher Gallery' award goes to Oscar Green, for achieving a Distinction in his Grade 5 French Horn exam.



Year 13 Leavers' Day

Last Friday, we bid farewell and wished the very best to our Year 13 Class of 2025 as they celebrated their final day at school. The occasion was filled with joy and reflection, beginning with student-led performances and the presentation of certificates recognising subject excellence. A special commendation was awarded to Benji Copping and Erika Jones for an incredible achievement—100% attendance over two years.

The celebrations continued with an informal gathering that included fun 'Most Likely To' awards, as voted by the students, and a heartfelt leavers' video and photo. The day concluded with a relaxed BBQ, where students and staff came together to share memories and mark the end of a significant chapter. It was a day full of pride, laughter, and excitement for the future that lies ahead.



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★ Musical Theatre training for St Martin's Pupils

Former St Martin's student Charlotte Hardy—now professionally known as Billie Hardy—has spent the past 11 years performing in musical theatre internationally, across the UK, and in the West End. Her credits include *Chicago*, *Saturday Night Fever*, *Grease*, *Bat Out of Hell*, *The Time Traveller's Wife*, and many more. As the founder of **Act Two**, a new musical theatre training programme, Billie is passionate about giving aspiring performers every opportunity to succeed in both musical theatre and screen acting. She believes Essex is full of talent and is excited to mentor the next generation, just as she was supported during her time at St Martin's.

Charlotte is joined by fellow **St Martin's alumnus Ben Page**, whose love for drama and music led him to star in many school productions. Ben went on to study **Actor Musicianship at the Guildford School of Acting**, where he discovered a passion for Musical Directing. In his final year, he served as Musical Director and has since worked on productions including *School of Rock*, *Grease*, *Made in Dagenham*, *SIX*, and *Legally Blonde*. Now based in Brentwood, Ben is Head Singing Coach at **Act Two** while continuing to work professionally in the industry.

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!

An elite **musical theatre** training programme run by **West End** industry professionals

 <p>BILLIE HARDY Founder</p>	 <p>BENJAMIN PAGE Head of Singing</p>	 <p>GEORGE GREENLAND Patron</p>
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Our training takes place on **Sundays from 10am - 1pm**, at Brentwood School Sports Centre which is attached to Brentwood Private School

Singing, dancing and drama (stage + screen)

ACT TWO
Singing | Dancing | Acting

www.act2mt.co.uk Info@act2mt.co.uk

Also, part of the team is St Martin's graduate **George Greenland**, who trained at **Mountview on the BA Acting course**. Since graduating, George has performed across TV, film, and theatre, with credits for Channel 4, Netflix, and the BBC. Act Two is an exciting addition to Brentwood's extra-curricular landscape, offering young people the chance to train with experienced professionals in a supportive and inspiring environment—all united by a shared passion for the performing arts.



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★ VE Day Celebrations

On Thursday 8 May, St Martin's marked the 80th Anniversary of Victory in Europe Day. As well as the 2-minute silence, we put the bunting out, laid out red, blue and white tablecloths, and served up some "British Classics" in the canteen. During line ups in the lead up to VE Day, pupils heard quotes relating to VE Day.

On Wednesday, the Year 10 PIPS also led a VE Day Circle Time with their Year 7 and 8 form groups. On the day itself, Mrs Ragbir (Head of History) provided Form Tutors with a resource to deliver during form time.



★ Cheerleading World Championships

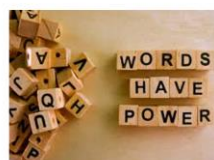
Congratulations to our Esme Monk in Year 10, who recently travelled to the USA to compete at Disney's ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex, in the Cheerleading World Championships. Esme's team, Unity Allstars Royals, won making them back to back world champions!



📅 Dates for the Diary

- 19.05.2025 – Emmanuel College More Able Visit
- 20.05.2025 – Production Rehearsals South Hall
Cologne Trip Meeting South Hall
- 22.05.2025 – Yr 12 PPE Assembly South Hall
- 23.05.2025 – Year 11 Leavers' Day
Year 9 and 10 Barbados Trip
- 25.05.2025 – Comic Con Trip
- 26.05.2025 – Half Term break

Word of the Week Week 30 effervescent



adjective: (person) enthusiastic, joyful, bubbly. (liquid) giving off bubbles.
Sentence: Michael Jordan's competitive drive and on-court brilliance are also often associated with his effervescent personality.

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



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★ Young Player of the Year!

It was great to see former St Martin's student, George Earchy, winning the Young Player of the Year Award at Bristol City Football Club last week. George is on loan from West Ham United and has had a hugely successful season with Bristol City helping them to finish 6th in the Championship and qualify for the Play-offs, for a place in the Premiership. With 3 goals and an assist, George has been integral to their strong finish to the season and became a fan favourite!



George won our Young Footballer of the Year, here at St Martin's, when he was in year 7 and again in year 9 at our annual Lower School Sports Awards Evening. He played a vital role in our year 7 football team winning the coveted Essex Cup Trophy and having been awarded a Jack Petchey prize, George chose to use his grant money for a new school football kit.



George will return to West Ham for their pre-season in July and will be hoping to cement his place in the squad for the upcoming season.

Everyone at St Martin's is extremely proud of George and what he has already achieved since leaving us in 2021. We all look forward to seeing his development continue at West Ham!

#Alumni #ForeverSAINTS



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NOODLE

BAR *next* TUESDAY!

Your choice of egg, udon or rice noodles, with Asian broth & vegetables

CHOOSE TWO TOPPINGS FROM...

- Pulled Chicken
- Boiled Eggs
- Plant-based Chicken strips
- Sweet Chilli Sauce
- Soy Sauce

