



20 June 2025

NEWS & VIEWS

Be the best you can be.

Executive Headteacher: Mr Jamie Foster



Headteacher's Comment:

You may be aware of the funding challenges that schools face in the upcoming budget. As headteacher I do have to consider areas of efficiency savings in the school and will always have our young people's best interests at the forefront of a curriculum led budget. However, some of the resources to develop the school that I could normally support in full are more of a challenge and I have been overwhelmed with the amount of support Mrs Bamigbele has received from the community following a call to action for her environmental project. This has kick started our plans to reinstate a 'Parent/Teacher Association' that can help support key projects through fundraising and harness the might of our school family, past and present. I will send out an expression of interest shortly to see who may be able to support this new partnership.

I would also like to note how hard Year 8 have been working over the past fortnight completing their litter picking duties. Their efforts are much appreciated by the whole school community – Well done Year 8!

This week's Headteacher gallery goes to Harry in Year 10, in recognition of delivering an outstanding speech on public speaking anxiety, demonstrating remarkable courage and eloquence despite personal apprehensions.



This week's Make a Difference Award goes to **Miss McLintock** for her outstanding leadership and direction of the recent Lower School production of *Mary Poppins Jr.* Her dedication, creativity, and hard work brought the performance to life and created a memorable experience for everyone involved. Congratulations, Miss McLintock!



University and Apprenticeship Spring Fair

On Friday 13 June, our Year 12 pupils attended the UK University and Apprenticeship Search Fair at Arsenal's Emirates Stadium, London. During the trip pupils had the opportunity to speak to over 100 exhibiting universities and apprenticeship providers. The Fair also included seminars on Russell Group universities, choosing a Higher Degree Apprenticeship and pupil finance and UCAS personal statements. It was a fantastic event which provided an excellent opportunity for our pupils to consider both their post-18 choices and future careers.



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Mary Poppins Jr, Lower School Production

After months of rehearsals, all the hard work of the cast and crew of 'Mary Poppins Jr' culminated in two amazing shows, performed to packed audiences on both nights. The show, based on the hugely popular 1964 film with Julie Andrews, was adapted into a musical in the early 2000s. Over 100 pupils across Years 7, 8 and 9 were involved in bringing this production to life, taking on singing, acting and dancing roles. For many involved, this was their debut show at the school. The cast has worked incredibly hard to put the show together, and they have been a pleasure to work with in rehearsals. Their enthusiasm and dedication have been a joy to witness, and their enjoyment was infectious and left every audience member smiling.

Due to the large cast and number of roles, we were able to double-cast the majority of the characters. It would be impossible to mention every cast member by name, but some of the anchors of the show included our leads: the titular Mary Poppins (played by **Louise**, Year 9, and **Georgie-Lea**, Year 8), Bert (**Spencer**, Year 9, and **Vaughn**, Year 7), Jane (**Loni** and **Nina**, both Year 8) and Michael (**Michael**, Year 8). The entire cast performed with professionalism, and their commitment to the show was evident in each individual performance. My particular commendation goes to those for whom this was their first show at St Martin's. It is clear to see that the entire cast are destined for great things in the future, both at St Martin's and beyond.

I would like to take this as an opportunity to thank the staff and production team, who have supported the entire process. **Miss Askew**, our musical director and **Miss Barnes**, our choreographer, have both worked tirelessly to ensure the pupils looked and sounded their best, whilst **Miss Elliott**, our Performing Arts Technician, worked behind the scenes to source props and set. I also need to thank our wonderful pupil team, particularly **April** (Year 10), who gave up her lunchtimes to choreograph multiple numbers in the show and even headed her own dance group. I would also like to thank **Ruby** (Year 11) for her help in rehearsals; **Nick**, **Evania**, **Amelie**, **Olivia**, **Kwesi** (all in Year 10), and **Josephine** (Year 9) for their help backstage; **Aidan** and **Alfie** (both Year 9) for helping with the lighting; **Tobias** (Year 9) for working the camera; and **Isabelle** (Year 9) for assisting with costumes. A special thanks goes to **Erika** and **Benji** (both Year 13) for their help with the set, and **Jack** (also Year 13) for assisting with the set and operating the sound. We are so lucky to have so many pupils who are willing to give up their time to support younger pupils and act as role models for them.

All that is left to say is thank you to everyone who has supported the show, and we are already looking forward to next year's talent-filled productions!

Miss McLintock, Director



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Rounders Success

We have had lots of rounders fun over the last two weeks. Our Year 7 & 8 girls' teams both played friendly fixtures against Redden Court in preparations for their district rallies. The Year 7 girls were looking particularly strong, securing wins in both innings. The Year 8s won one and lost one.

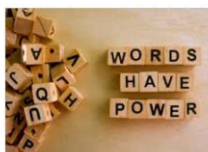
Our Year 7 & 8 boys teams played in the Mid Essex Rally yesterday, hosted by Sandon School. The Year 7s came runners-up, winning all their games and drawing one. This meant it came down to rounders scored to decide the champions. The Year 8 boys were comfortable winners. Their bowling and fielding were faultless to secure the Mid Essex title. Our U14 mixed team travelled to Saffron Walden to play in the Essex County Finals. The team played brilliantly throughout the tournament and came home with the bronze medals.



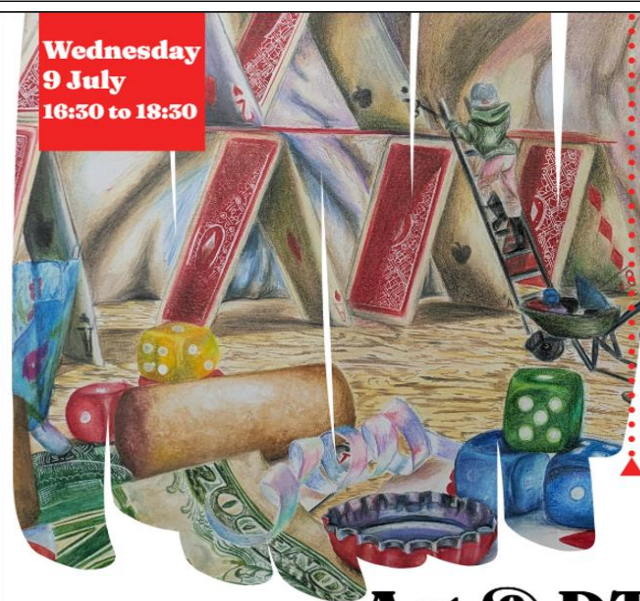
Dates for the Diary

- 23.06.2025 – Year 10 PPEs continue
- 24.06.2025 – Year 12 Induction Day
- 25.06.2025 – Summer Concert Rehearsals
Sixth Form ACCA Accountancy Trip
Summer concert South Hall 18:00 – 20:00
- 26.06.2025 – Year 6 Induction Day
Year 12 & 13 MyBNK
Inclusion Information Evening South Hall
- 27.06.2025 – Year 6 Induction Day
Year 12 & 13 MyBNK

Word of the Week Week 34 nuance



noun: a subtle difference or distinction.
Sentence: He watched her face intently to catch every nuance of expression.



Art & DT Exhibition

Come celebrate our amazing GCSE and A Level Art, Photography, and Technology pupils with us! Enjoy refreshments and music.

ADMISSION IS FREE



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