



NEWS & VIEWS

Be the best you can be.

Executive Headteacher: Mr Jamie Foster



Headteacher's Comment:

It has been lovely to welcome everyone back from the Easter break. The summer term has had a really positive start; the pupils look smart and have returned with a spring in their step. This half term is extremely busy for our Year 11 and 13 pupils who begin their exams in the coming weeks. They are aware this is the time to manage their distractions and focus on revision preparation and exam practice. Staff and pupils were in over the break for extra classes and all subjects continue to run interventions. For parents of these young people it is important to continue to emphasise good routines and self-discipline in punctuality, organisation, and adopt a positive attitude every day. For parents of our younger pupils it is a timely reminder of how quickly time flies and by establishing good habits and high standards it will pay dividends when it is their turn! There will be a whole school focus on pupils bringing the correct equipment, as well as having a school bag every day; the pastoral team will be sending clear expectations later in the term.

The school community has risen to every challenge we have laid out for them and I am proud to say our uniform is very good and our attendance is among the best in Essex. Our standards are continually improving and I look forward to the next step.

This week I would like to congratulate two pupils who have been nominated for our Headteacher's gallery:

Anton Gordon-Scott, in recognition for competing at the British Karate Federation Four Nations Championships in Edinburgh. He demonstrated outstanding skill earning the Gold Medal in the Cadet -57kg category.

Fleur Bennett, in recognition of her participation in football, proudly representing the Independent Schools Football Association during the holidays and contributing to a victory by opening the scoring with the first goal.



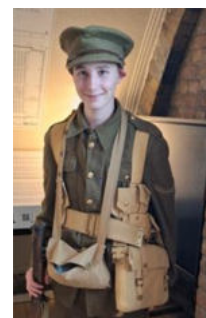
Year 9 visit to Ypres, Belgium

On Friday 28 March, Year 9 pupils enjoyed a day trip to the First World War battlefields in Ypres, Belgium. The first stop was the Lijssenthoek military cemetery. Pupils were able to view mostly Commonwealth graves of men who died of their wounds in the nearby hospital.

Pupils also recognised the differences between French and German headstones in the cemetery. In addition, there were graves of non-combatative Chinese labour corps, as well as the grave of the nurse, Nellie Spindler.

Later pupils explored the reconstructed British and German trenches at Hoge Crater Museum, Langemark German Cemetery as well as Tyne Cot, which is the largest Commonwealth War Grave Cemetery in the world. Pupils then visited the Menin Gate in Ypres city which commemorates the names of those missing in the region.

The pupils' last stop was at the Belgium chocolate shop, where parents were lucky if their child arrived home in the UK with any remaining chocolate to share with their families.



DISCOVERY
EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Chief Executive Officer: Mr R Duff

St Martin's School is proud to be part of the Discovery Educational Trust



Year 11 Excel at Business GCSE Event in White City

Year 11 pupils from St Martin's attended a GCSE Grade Booster event focused on Business Studies, where they demonstrated confidence and knowledge in a series of engaging challenges.

The event provided pupils with an opportunity to sharpen their business skills, answer subject-specific questions, and reinforce key exam topics. St. Martin's pupils stood out for their enthusiasm and strong participation, tackling complex business scenarios with confidence.



Their efforts paid off as many pupils won prizes for their outstanding performance.

A pupil who attended the event shared their experience: *"It was a great way to revise. The interactive activities helped me feel more prepared for my GCSE Business exam."*

Teachers and organisers praised the pupils for their hard work, highlighting how the event served as a valuable revision tool ahead of the upcoming exams. With boosted confidence and enhanced knowledge, St Martin's Year 11 pupils are now better equipped to achieve top grades in their Business GCSE.

Brentwood Parent/Carer Forum

Sammi-jo Goldman, Community Connector for Brentwood, Rayleigh and Rochford has contacted our school and has asked if our parents would like to be part of their quarterly Parents Forum. This will give the opportunity for families to discuss topics affecting families and communities.

If you would like to participate please use the link here:
<https://forms.office.com/e/K5pTvwaTnc>

Writing Workshop

Shenfield Library have 2 writing workshops with YA author Gina Blaxill that will be taking place at Shenfield library on Saturday 3 May. The first workshop is running 14.00-15.00 where Gina will help aspiring writers create their own fantasy stories, with the second workshop at 15.30-16.30 which will be focusing on murder mystery stories. The workshops are open to anyone aged 12-17 and are free of charge but booking is required. Please see attached flyers.



May Shortages 2025

All donations will go locally to those in need

- Tinned Potatoes
- Tinned Ravioli
- Tinned Hotdogs
- Tinned Pea
- Tinned Carrots
- Laundry Gel
- Toothpaste



If you would rather make a financial donation for us to purchase food, please use our Just Giving page.
Accessible by the QR Code

Thank you for supporting this work
Brentwood Foodbank is part of the Trussell network,
Facilitated by Doddinghurst Road Church
Registered Charity Number 1171227

Dates for the Diary

- 28.04.2025 – Year 12 PPEs
French and German GCSE Speaking Exams commences
Year 12 Higher Education Information Evening
- 29.04.2025 – Production Rehearsal South Hall
- 30.04.2025 – Production Rehearsal South Hall
Year 13 A level Photography Exam commences
- 01.05.2025 – Year 8 Parents' Evening
- 05.05.2025 – Bank Holiday Monday

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

Word of the Week Week 27 vernal



adjective: of, relating to, or occurring in the spring
Sentence: April saw the vernal freshness of the land.



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Create your own fantasy

with **Gina Blaxill**
for age 12-17

Shenfield Library

Saturday 3 May
2-3pm



Book via
library-events.essex.gov.uk



Essex County Council
Libraries



Create your own murder mystery

for age 12-17

with our Author in Residence

Gina Blaxill

Shenfield Library

Saturday 3 May

3.30-4.30pm



Book via
library-events.essex.gov.uk