



NEWS & VIEWS

Be The Best You Can Be

Headteacher: Mr I Smyrk

Traditional Values

Learning for the Future

Outstanding Personal Achievement



Headteacher's Comment

Good afternoon

This week I had the pleasure of meeting Jeanne Blackburn in Year 7 who was sent to me for producing outstanding work in her French writing assessment and for consistently exhibiting all the THRIVE values in every lesson. Well done Jeanne you are now inducted in to the Headteacher's Gallery.

Last night we held our Year 11 Parents Evening online which was another successful evening which gave parents and teachers an opportunity to discuss their children's progress and achievements this term.

In this week's News and Views, I share below an exciting opportunity within our Trust, please click on the link below to find out more. We also hear news of our Year 10 Lego Competition for which our students were awarded the Rising Star Award for excellence in both the Innovation Project and Robot Design, well done to everyone and thank you to Mr Spencer for organising this event. Finally, please see below an update on Safer Internet Day and some dates for the diary next week including a flyer for our upper school production of Grease, showcasing next week! Have a good weekend.



Headteacher's Gallery

Congratulations to:

Jeanne Blackburn 7H3

For producing an outstanding piece of work in her French writing assessment and consistently exhibiting all the THRIVE values in every lesson.

Be The Best You Can Be



Trustee Vacancy



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Are you committed to improving the educational experience and outcomes of children, and to supporting a team of dedicated staff in their vital role? As a DET Trustee you will get the chance to make a real difference from the roots up, leverage your current skills and expertise for the benefit of St Martin's and the other schools in the Trust. The Trust welcomes applications from people from a wide range of backgrounds and experience. No prior knowledge of education or governance is required – we will provide all relevant training. For an informal conversation about the role, please contact Mrs Helen Witty, Chair of the Trust Board – hwitty@discoveryeducationaltrust.co.uk

More information on the role is available on the Trust website via this link:

<https://www.discoveryeducationaltrust.co.uk/aboutus/vacancies>



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Year 10 Lego Competition

A team of our Year 10 computer science students took part in the First Lego League competition, which is run by the Institution of Engineering and Technology and hosted by QUALCOMM at the engineering department in Cambridge University.

Students were given the theme 'Super Powered' and tasked with designing and programming a robot that could complete 15 renewable energy challenges. The students also had to identify a problem faced by renewable energy, design a way to solve it, share their findings with an industry expert, and present it to the judges at the event. Teams were then judged on their robot's performance, their project work, their demonstration of the core values and their presentation.

Our students were awarded the Rising Star Award for excellence in both the Innovation Project and Robot Design; students were rightly proud. They all gained a great deal from taking part, such as programming under pressure, teamwork and presentation skills. No doubt it will inspire some of them to go on to careers in either mechanical or electrical engineering.



Safer Internet Day

It is Safer Internet Day on Tuesday and in response to some issues around mobile phone use during the school day we will be reminding students about the expectations around mobile phones which are banned in school, and teachers will no longer be permitting their use in lessons.

Confiscation of mobile phones, if seen in school, will follow the usual tariff: first offence – returned at the end of the day; second offence – kept overnight; third offence – handed in at the start of each day.

The best way to avoid this tariff is to not have your phone out during the school day, and those students who use it to check their timetable will need to organise a paper copy of their timetable by the start of next half-term, 20 February.



Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 8 February

6.00pm - 8.00pm 'Grease' Upper School Production

Thursday 9 February

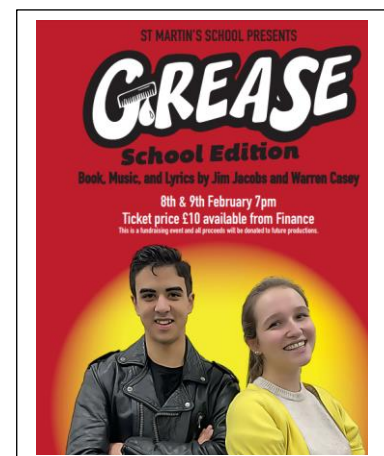
All day until 5.30pm Year 9 trip to Harry Potter Warner Bros. Studios Tour

9.00am - 11.00am Year 11 Enhancement (Road Safety Plan Dead End)

6.00pm - 8.00pm 'Grease' Upper School Production

Friday 10 February

School finishes for half-term holiday



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