



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

As we approach the end of term, we appreciate many of you may wish to buy gifts for members of staff to say thank you for this year. While this is very much appreciated we do have to be mindful of accepting gifts that are deemed expensive. With this in mind, please can I make you aware of our Gifts and Hospitality policy which states the following; *"Staff and Local Governors/Trustees/Members can accept gifts and hospitality, which are small gestures, that are isolated gifts of a minor or trivial nature, and that have a value of £25 or less, without approval". "Where a collective gift is given, i.e. from a group of parents/carers or pupils, the gift can be accepted if worth more than £25, provided that the average contribution per person is no more than £25."* For more information please [click here](#) for the DET Gifts and Hospitality policy.

Please can I remind you of our Summer Art & DT Exhibition running next Wednesday in the North Hall, all are welcome please come along to see some of the fantastic work of our students.

This week, I share with you highlights of our Summer Concert which took place last week. This was Mr Harris's last summer concert and what a fitting tribute to all his and the rest of the music department's hard work! Wishing you all a great weekend.



Summer Art & DT Exhibition

You are cordially invited to St Martin's School 'Summer Art & DT Exhibition 2023' on 12 July in North Hall, from 5.00pm until 7.00pm.

We would very much like you to join us in celebrating the work of our GCSE and A-level Art, Photography and Technology students. Work will be displayed from students in Year 11, 12 and 13. Live entertainment will be provided by our music department and refreshments will be available. This is a free event.

We look forward to seeing you there. Please extend this invitation to anyone you feel may be interested. This is an excellent opportunity for our students to showcase their work to family, friends and the wider community.



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Summer Concert 2023

On the evening of Thursday 28 June, we were delighted to welcome a packed audience to the South Hall for our final musical event of the year, the Summer Concert. The evening was a wonderful festival of celebration to mark the end of another brilliant musical year – the strength and breadth of talent at St Martin's never ceases to amaze me, and we continue to be very lucky to have such a rich Performing Arts culture at our school.

In addition to our Junior and Senior Choirs, Concert Band, Guitar Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Chamber Ensemble and Year 10 Ensemble, I must give a special mention to our soloists for the evening – Isabella Bone, Ethan Chan, Phoenix Ward, The Unnamed Band, Caitlin Maisey, Keira Chatrath, Eliza Kane, Katie Mollard, April Wilks, Ella Abberley, Annie Goddard, Kai Marland-Brown, Louise Percival, Sophie Cross, Claudia Burgess, Annie Savill, MINT and Emily Thomas-Scrine. All of these students showed remarkable courage and determination to perform, and are outstanding ambassadors for the school of whom we are very proud.

Another year done – every year I say what a year it has been, and this year it's certainly no different. We have enjoyed countless events, productions and trips, more than ever before (and that's some doing). This term alone, our Year 12s enjoyed visits to both *The Phantom of the Opera* and the Music department of Royal Holloway, we have performed two sell-out nights of *Beauty and the Beast* with our younger students, and we have just enjoyed an amazing trip to London seeing *We Will Rock You* with Year 7 and 8.

I would also like to give a special mention to our exam classes, all of whom worked exceptionally hard over the course of this term when completing their GCSE and A Level coursework and exams – it was quite a process but we just about made it through to the other side! We are exceptionally proud of their achievements and look forward to celebrating with them on Results Day in August, particularly our fantastic Year 13 students, who we wish every success in their next endeavours.

Very sadly, this was my final concert at St Martin's. It is with the heaviest heart that I say farewell to my wonderful students, colleagues and department, but I feel exceptionally proud to have been a part of such a special place. To have been able to play a part in affording our young people so many unforgettable experiences has been a true honour, and St Martin's will forever hold a special place in my heart.

I would like to offer my most heartfelt thanks for all the support I have received over the past five years, and can only hope I did our remarkable young people justice during my time here. I wish the department every success under the capable leadership of Mr Williams – no doubt it will continue to go from strength to strength.

Mr Harris, Head of Music





Summer Concert 2023 Cont.



Dates for the Diary

- 10.07.23 – Year 12 Pathways Day
- 10.07.23 – Years 7 & 8 Science Club Trip
- 10.07.23 – Higher Education Information Evening
- 11.07.23 – Sports Award Evening
- 11.07.23 – 14.07.23 – Year 12 Geography Residential Trip
- 12.07.23 – Year 12 Computer Science Trip
- 12.07.23 – Summer Art Exhibition
- 14.07.23 – Sports Day
- 16.07.23 – 26.07.23 – Barbados Trip
- For PE fixtures please follow twitter @StMartinsSchPE or [click here](#) for further PE updates.



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