



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 come to the end of this term it has been great to see the school back to normality with assemblies, extra curricular clubs, trips and school productions all taking place without any COVID-19 restrictions.

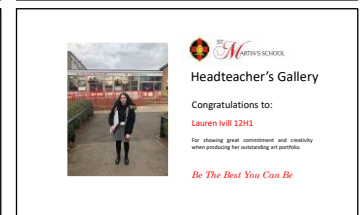
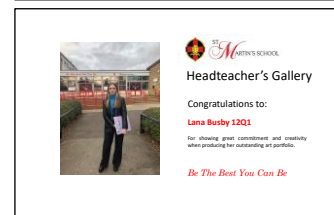
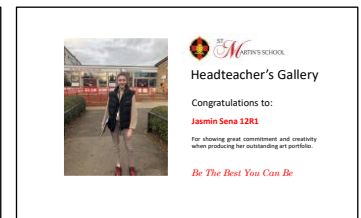
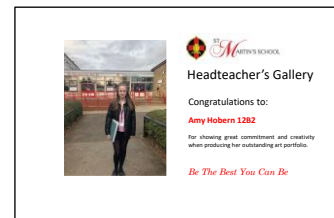
Congratulations to Amy, Jasmin, Lana and Lauren who were all sent to me for the Headteacher's Gallery award for their fantastic art portfolios. It gave me the chance to view their work and talk through how they have developed their skills and got their inspiration.

The group picture at the bottom is of our highly talented Year 12 textiles group who were inducted into Headteacher's Gallery for their commitment when producing their outstanding coursework. You can make out some of their work on the mannequins behind them.

Finally, I had the pleasure of seeing the last night of the 9 to 5 upper school production and what a show it was! I am incredibly proud of all the staff and students involved for putting on such an amazing performance....thank you.

This week's News and Views is a 9 to 5 special from Mrs Page and Mr Harris.

Hope you all have a great half term.



9 to 5 School Production

It has certainly been a week to remember for the drama and music departments at St Martin's.

When the curtain came down on our triumphant production of *Sister Act* two years ago, our thoughts immediately turned to our next production. We excitedly started making plans for it, albeit with the niggling thought in the back of our minds that there was something circulating in the Far East, that could have the potential to cause us some minor inconvenience at some point in the future. This turned out to be somewhat of an understatement.

Finally, in late September 2021 we got the green light, and after what seemed like an eternity we were finally back to what we do best, putting on a show. And what a show it is, *9 to 5* took the West End by storm when it first arrived several years ago and is now delighting audiences across the country with its nationwide tour. The combination of easy-listening, toe-tapping tunes along with Dolly Parton's distinctive country style (not to mention that title number) is nothing short of a downright winner and seeing our talented cast bring it to life has been a joy to behold.



Chief Executive Officer: Mr R Duff

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



www.st-martins.essex.sch.uk



@StMartinsSch



enquiries@st-martins.essex.sch.uk



9 to 5 School Production cont'd

Last Saturday, we had an all-day technical rehearsal and on Monday we had our dress rehearsal. At this point we realised we had one very special show on our hands. Our first performance was on Tuesday morning, when primary school students came in their droves to witness the talent of St Martin's. Over the course of Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, we had almost 450 Year 5 and Year 6 students come to watch our show and they were absolutely blown away. The evening performances took place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evening this week and once again busy audiences were hugely impressed.

Such is the strength and breadth of talent at St Martin's that we are able to double-cast many of our lead roles. It is impossible to name everyone, but the three anchors of the show, Violet (Amelia Stanley and Elvie Squire), Judy (Emily Ellis and Katie Mollard) and Doralee (Phoebe Knight and Eve Page) were portrayed with outstanding professionalism and accomplishment. Senol Isik was perfect in his role as the objectionable Mr Hart, and Chloe Jones/Sophie Cross' portrayal of the hapless Roz brought exceptional comedic value to the performance.

A special mention must go to the staff and production crew, all of whom worked so hard to make this spectacle a reality, Director Mrs Page, Musical Director Mr Harris, Assistant Director and Stage Manager Miss Barnes, Technical Manager Mr Scates, as well as the rest of the drama and music departments and assisting students. We also must point out Year 10 student Jack Liddicott, whose meticulously-planned lighting design was worthy of West End quality.

All that's left to say is thank you so much to those of you who supported us along the way. Bringing live theatre back after a lengthy pandemic was never going to be easy, but we did it and it was a true triumph. We cannot wait to see what is in store next for the performing arts at St Martin's.



DISCOVERY
EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Chief Executive Officer: Mr R Duff

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



www.st-martins.essex.sch.uk



[@StMartinsSch](https://twitter.com/StMartinsSch)



enquiries@st-martins.essex.sch.uk



9 to 5 School Production cont'd



DISCOVERY
EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Chief Executive Officer: Mr R Duff

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



www.st-martins.essex.sch.uk



@StMartinsSch



enquiries@st-martins.essex.sch.uk