



# NEWS & VIEWS

Be the best you can be.

Executive Headteacher: Mr Jamie Foster

## Headteacher's Comment:

What a fantastic end to the half term we had last night with our final performance of the Upper School Production of Chicago. The Deputy Mayor of Brentwood, Governors, parents and staff, all came to support our students in what was a spectacular show! It was amazing to see all of our very talented music and drama students showcasing their singing and acting skills. Well done to the Music and Drama departments for all their hard work in putting on such an amazing production.

This half term our students have been very busy in school with their learning and also externally taking part in a variety of trips to help broaden their education. In this week's News and Views, we share some of the trips that took place last week.

Finally, it is important to recognise as many students as possible in school for all their hard work in lessons, commitment and perseverance or simply for just showing kindness towards others and in the community. I share photos of this week's Headteacher Galleries; Rose Ridgley in Year 9, for her exemplary work in Art and supporting her peers. Ollie Carter in Year 9, for his positive attitude as well as being respectful and kind. Plus, Ellie Lain in Year 9, for her consistent attitude to learning and being a positive member of the school community. Have a great half term break!



## Royal Holloway University visit

Last week, 45 students in Year 10 had a University Taster Day at the Royal Holloway University. The purpose of the trip was to broaden students' horizons and inspire them to start thinking about studying at University. The students met with a lecturer and the Student Ambassadors and were able to ask questions to find out more about student life at university. Students enjoyed a campus tour, including the stunning Founders Building. University Taster Days are an excellent experience for our students and we hope to arrange more taster days in the future.



## Trip to Disneyland Paris

89 Year 9 students attended the Maths Disneyland trip last Monday. The trip was an opportunity for the Year 9's to gain a deeper understanding of Maths in the real world, linked to everything Disney. They attended a Maths seminar, where the guest speaker spoke about all the aspects of Maths that are incorporated into running Disney. Students were then tasked with designing their own rollercoaster with some interesting attempts.

The students were able to explore both parks, experiencing all the thrilling rides and of course the local McDonalds! The trip was a great success, showing students what is learnt in lessons is relevant to life after school.





## Year 12 Lessons from Auschwitz Trip

Six Year 12 students had the opportunity to visit Auschwitz-Birkenau in Poland last week, with the *Lessons from Auschwitz programme* run by the Holocaust Educational Trust. The program was open to college and Sixth form students across the country. Our students visited the town of Oświęcim and visited a museum about pre-war Jewish life, to discover what life would have been like for the Jews before the war broke out. Students then went on to Auschwitz, walking under the well-known 'Work Sets You Free' gate, where they took a tour around the camp with a guide. The next stop was at Birkenau, exploring what life would have been like for the prisoners in the camp and the conditions in which they lived.

Our students then were given the opportunity to reflect on their day and remember those who lost their lives during the Holocaust, by attending a memorial service led by a Rabi, at the Holocaust Memorial inside Birkenau.



## Outstanding performance!

Thursday evening, the cast of Chicago performed their amazing finale of the Musical '*Chicago Teen Edition*' and received a standing ovation. The cast has performed to 3 full audiences and 2 primary school matinees alongside our live band. This year the role of Billy Flynn was played by Hamish Baumber, in Year 13, who showed off his outstanding tapping skills.



Our younger cast leads playing Roxie and Velma were the dazzling Hannah Northcott and Leah McGeoch both in Year 11, with the older leads played by the talented Eve Page and Katie Mollard both Year 13. The drama and music departments wanted to recognise both Eve and Katie's outstanding commitment to the school as they have both been involved in every school production since Year 7.



The show was a huge success and the students gained lasting memories and stage experience. *Mrs J Page, Head of Year 12 & 13*



## Dates for the Diary

- 19.02.24 - 23.02.24 - Half Term Week
- 26.02.24 - Return to school – Year 11 Core PPE's
- 27.02.24 - Year 10 PPE Art & Lower School Production Rehearsals Start
- 28.02.24 - 29.02.24 - Year 9 Girls and Boys Immunisations
- 29.02.24 - Year 13 Parents' Evening

For PE fixtures please follow twitter @STMartinsSchPE or [click here](#) for further PE updates



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