



NEWS & VIEWS

Be the best you can be.

Executive Headteacher: Mr Jamie Foster

Headteacher's Comment:

Year 11 received their PPE results in assembly this week. It is an important milestone in their academic journey and after the emotions of opening their envelopes, I spoke to them about the positive journey they will make working closely with us over the next 14 weeks.

It was great to meet Emmy Rawlings in Year 7 who was nominated for a Headteacher's Gallery this week. Emmy strived for perfection when producing her monster toy in textiles which was complex and well executed. Well done Emmy!

With the increasing traffic in and around the Brentwood area, we always encourage families to find different methods of transportation to and from school. This week, some of our Year 7s took part in our Level 3 'Bikeability', to gain a further understanding of cycle safety, road safety and to build confidence in using the road. I would like to congratulate all our participants on this fantastic achievement. We do have secured bike racks on the school site and encourage students to walk and cycle to school wherever possible.

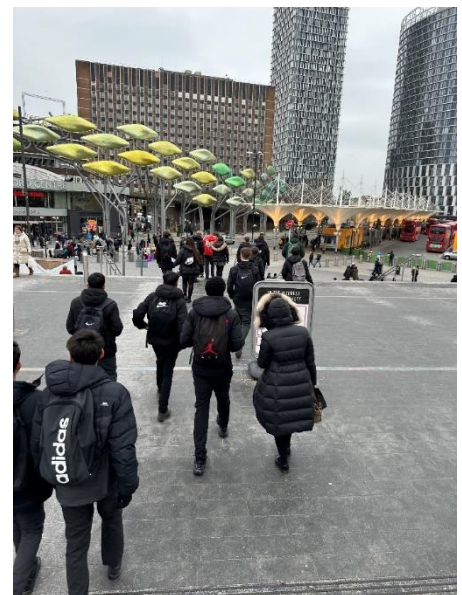
Rehearsals are well underway for our Upper School Production of Chicago which will be running on Tuesday 13, 14 and 15 February, tickets can be purchased for £10 from our school finance office.



Year 10 Geography Field Trip

On Wednesday this week, some of our Year 10 Geography students braved the cold to visit Stratford for their GCSE fieldwork. The trip allowed students to practise their skills in collecting and analysing data, preparing them for Paper 3 of their Geography GCSE.

The students arrived by coach to Stratford High Street, the Olympic Park and Westfield shopping centre. Students gathered local residents' opinions through: a questionnaire, by completing environmental quality surveys; conducting pedestrian counts and by drawing detailed field sketches. In class next week, they will use their data to conclude 'How successful has the London Olympic regeneration been in the Stratford area?'. The Geography students were a real credit to St Martin's School and we are very proud of them. Well done to everyone for showing such independence, versatility and enthusiasm.





Year 10 Enhancement Day



N - Act theatre Company are no strangers to St Martin's, having returned almost annually to present TIE (Theatre in Education) plays, such as, 'Friend' and 'Invisible' to our students as part of their PHSE Enhancement Days.

This year, we welcomed them back, as part of Year 10 Enhancement day to present their new play, '**Shadow**', which was developed with the help of some Year 10 students in their drama lessons last year. The play focusses on the theme of consent.

Students had the opportunity, throughout the day's workshops and presentations to explore healthy relationships and signposting where to seek further advice and help if they witness any forms of abuse.



*SYNOPSIS: Shadows are areas which have no light. Caused by someone standing in front of the light, or by being somewhere where the light can't get through. **Shadow** is a play about consent, manipulation and the courage to stand up and be counted. Throughout the performance – based on a true story - we share strategies to enable the audience to become empowered to make the right choice. This play is suitable for all year groups, adapted at source to be age appropriate.*



Jack Petchey Speakout Challenge

This week, 50 Year 10 students took part in the Jack Petchey "Speak Out" challenge. This was a fantastic opportunity for students to develop their public speaking, listening, deliberation and feedback skills. The full day workshop was led by expert Speakers Trust trainers, who facilitated inspirational speaking activities and workshops for our students. They offered insights into overcoming nerves, interview skills, learning how to listen effectively as well as working together to give positive and constructive feedback to each other.

Students learnt top tips for speaking in public, before they were given time to use all these skills to build their own speech from scratch.

By the end of the workshop, students gave a 90 second speech without notes on a topic they are passionate about. Speech topics ranged from 'Words' to 'Kindness' and left the judges, Miss Larkin and Miss Pullen extremely impressed.

Our six semi-finalists, Keith Jellis, Jessica Saunders, Kristopher Ibuaka, Jayden Barlow, Samuel Sadler and Casey Lord, will battle it out in a Speak Out Assembly for a place in the regional final. Well done to all.



Dates for the Diary

- 22.01.24 - Year 12 Drama Student Conference and National Theatre visit
- 23.01.24 - Year 10 Geography Field Trip to Stratford Upper School Production Rehearsals
- 24.01.24 - Year 10 Geography Field Trip to Stratford Upper School Production Rehearsals
- 25.01.24 - UCAS Deadline
- 26.01.24 - Year 10 Music Show

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