



# 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,

Congratulations to Charlie Livesey in Year 8 who was sent to me for assisting a member of staff and being extremely helpful and considerate. It was great to meet Charlie and hear all about his good deed. He is now inducted into the Headteacher's Gallery, well done Charlie!



Please note that next Friday 27 May is a non-uniform day, supporting the 'Raise Your Hands' charity and running alongside our celebrations for The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. To support this, where possible, we are asking students to donate £1 to wear an item of clothing that is red, white or blue. I look forward to the celebrations next Friday.

In this week's News and Views we hear all about the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge and what an amazing achievement for Taylor Lovegrove in Year 10 who came runner up at the event. Well done Taylor! Finally, we share news of our Year 7 and Year 8 students who competed in the Essex Panathlon event earlier this month. Well done to all the students who took part. Have a great weekend everyone!



## Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge

On Monday 9 May, after competing in the Speak Out workshop and winning the assembly speeches, Taylor Lovegrove in Year 10 was selected to represent St Martin's in the West Essex Regional Final of the Speak Out Challenge.

The event held at Brentwood County High, saw 14 schools compete for the title of Regional Champion. Speeches covered a broad range of topics, from identity, mental health, pressure and music. It was a fierce competition with many passionate well presented speeches, trying to impress the eight judges including Ronald Mills the Chair of the Jack Petchey foundation and Councillor Mark Reed, Deputy Mayor of London.

Taylor's clear and articulate speech on autism earned a huge cheer from those watching and made both himself and the school proud. At the end of the event Taylor came in as a runner up, which is a fantastic achievement! Well done Taylor!



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## Year 7 and Year 8 Panathlon Xtend

At the beginning of May a small team from Year 7 and Year 8 competed in the Essex Panathlon event. This is an inclusive competition where they had the opportunity to compete in fun, new games. The competition was very really well organised where they successfully worked as a team to gain points. Everyone had a fantastic morning.

A special thank you to Mrs Hamber for supporting and to Charlie McCartney as our Year 7 captain for all his encouragement.



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