



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

This week I had the pleasure of judging the Jack Petchey "Speak Out" Challenge which was wonderful to see how confident and passionate the students were when presenting their speeches to members of their year group. Thank you to Mr Bates for organising the highly successful workshop, more details about this are below.

I now introduce the 9 to 5 school production which is running on several nights in the second week of February. Staff and students have been working very hard during rehearsals after school and also had the opportunity to visit the live performance at the New Theatre in Oxford last Wednesday. Thank you to all the staff involved for all their hard work in organising the theatre trip and the school production. Have a good weekend everyone.



Jack Petchey "Speak Out" Challenge

This week, 30 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 an expert Speakers Trust trainer who facilitated inspirational speaking activities for our students. They were also offered insights into overcoming nerves, 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 this point every student had been provided with several opportunities to speak in front of their peer group.

By the end of the workshop, every student had given a 90 second speech without notes on a topic they are passionate about. Speech topics ranged from 'paper straws' to 'autism' and left the judges, Miss Casey, Mr Dearmer and Mr Smyrk, extremely impressed.

Our four semi-finalists, Sally Hoghton, Ethan Jolly, Jess Reeves, and Taylor Lovegrove, will battle it out in a Year 8 Speak Out Assembly for a place in the regional final.

Well done to all involved for some passionate and well executed presentations.



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 Upper School Production

On Wednesday 19 January, the cast, crew and band of our upcoming production of '9 to 5' had the privilege of going to see a professionally performed version of the show at the New Theatre, Oxford, with our own production now only under two weeks away. The trip was an absolute triumph, with every student leaving the theatre feeling truly inspired with plenty of ideas for characterisation, costumes, effects, vocals and interaction between actors. We even managed to catch the actress who played Doralee as she came out of the stage door after the performance!

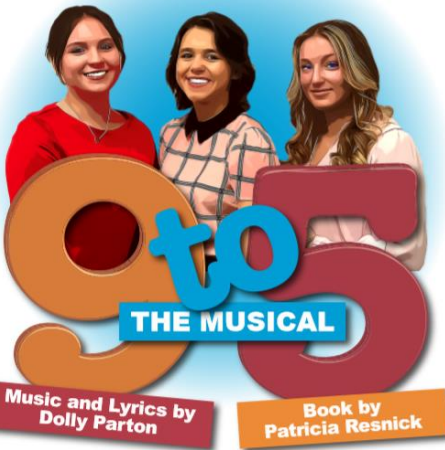
Our own production will be staged in the South Hall over three nights, on Tuesday 8 February, Wednesday 9 February and Thursday 10 February. Each performance will begin at 7pm.

There is so much strength and breadth of talent at St Martin's that we are even able to double cast some of the characters, in order to give opportunities to as many students as possible. Students in Years 10 and 11 will play lead roles on the Wednesday night and students in Years 12 and 13 will assume these parts on Tuesday and Thursday night.

We do hope you will be able to join us for what will be our first production in two years. It is something we have waited a very long time to be able to do and something we have all worked so hard for. Tickets are now available from the finance office, priced at £10 for adults and students can pay the discounted rate of £6, in order to encourage as many of them as possible to come along and support their peers. We also look forward to giving previews of the show to every year group next week in morning assemblies.

Break a leg everyone!

ST MARTIN'S SCHOOL PRESENTS



9 to 5
THE MUSICAL

Music and Lyrics by **Dolly Parton**
Book by **Patricia Resnick**

8th, 9th & 10th of February 7pm

Ticket price £10 available from finance
This is a fundraising event and all proceeds will be donated to future productions.

Based on the 20th Century Fox Picture
Originally produced on Broadway by Robert Greenblatt, April 2009
This amateur production is presented by arrangement with, Music Theatre International
All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI
www.mtishows.co.uk



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