



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 meeting Annabel, Esme and Lily who were sent to me for Headteacher's Gallery for their exceptional performance in competing in the Regional Finals of the National Schools Competition. It was great to meet them, see their medals and hear all about the competition. They have now qualified for the National Finals in March which is a great achievement, well done girls!

I also met with ten Year 11 students who all achieved outstanding progress in their PPE examinations in GCSE History, Sociology, PRE and Geography. Congratulations to Amy Lawson, Woody Earp, Matthew Harris, Sebastian Oakley, Freyja Poole, Emmanuel Obayemi, Simran Sohal, Dylan Taylor, Sophia Stephanou and Max Richardson. Well done to all of them for their hard work, they have all now been inducted into the Headteacher's Gallery.

This week I introduce Alan Pitchers who is our site manager at St Martin's. We are very grateful to him and the site team for all they do to keep the school running so efficiently. Also, Miss Smith and Mrs Cocklin share with you what our students have been up to in our Thursday Geography Club.



Site Manager

I am sure most of you know me, I manage the Site Management Team. I have worked at St Martin's for 13 years. I even came to the school so to say I have seen some changes is an understatement!

There is a lot that goes on behind the scenes to ensure the smooth operation of the school. Our huge site requires a lot of maintenance and care. Each day is different for the team and we never know what surprises we are going to get, from mending broken pipes and electrical issues to dealing with deliveries of equipment worth thousands of pounds.

The site team work on call as well as attending any call outs there may be. I am incredibly proud of the team I have and the magnificent job they do every day to keep St Martins running. We are coming into an exciting period as we work on a school wide refurbishment plan. We try to do most jobs internally with the skill set we have within the team.

I am responsible for the grounds and I am sure you will agree, we are very fortunate to have the surroundings we have.



Alan Pitchers
Site Manager



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KS3 Geography Club

Last term the geography club were hard at work constructing their very own volcano!

Students heard about the La Palma volcanic eruption and decided they wanted to learn more. They researched some of the world's most explosive volcanoes to gather more inspiration before planning how they would recreate their very own tectonic event.

Students spent two weeks constructing the rock structure using discarded plastic from around the school, paper-mâché and scrunched up newspaper. They then painted the structure black to represent the solid volcanic rock covering the steep slopes of their volcano. On the final week of construction students mixed together baking soda, washing up liquid, white vinegar and food colouring to create a series of eruptions which caused many lava flows to ooze out of the top and down the sides of their volcanic creation!

The geography club is run by Miss Smith and Mrs Cocklin in N012 every Thursday lunchtime.

