



# 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, we held our sixth form open evening and it was wonderful to see so many new parents and students visiting the school and seeing what St Martin's sixth form has to offer. The event was a huge success so a big thank you to all the staff and students involved in making this such a great evening and thanks also to the parents who have emailed in for their overwhelming positive feedback, it is much appreciated.

Today I had the pleasure of experiencing my first St Martin's Day at Brentwood Cathedral and what a fantastic service it was I am extremely proud of all the students involved. Next week we have a special edition of St Martin's Day for our News and Views and our students will be reporting on this themselves. This takes me to my next subject of student leadership groups which I would like to introduce to you that will be up and running across the school over the next few weeks. There will be more leadership opportunities coming out soon but already in place are (final names to be decided): KS3 Community and Press Groups, KS3 & KS4 Prefects Group, KS5 Leadership Team, Year 12 Student Voice Group, Subject Ambassador Group, Assessment and Feedback Group, Wellbeing and Vision Groups.

I now introduce this week's news views from Mrs Howells who shares more information about the sixth form open evening. Also, Miss Barrell shares our latest house points poll, achievements and activities that are coming up this term and Mr Bates for wellbeing news.



## Sixth Form Open Evening

On Wednesday 11 November, the sixth form welcomed over a thousand people to our open evening. Students were able to talk to staff and student representatives from each of the subjects on offer to see whether it would be a potential choice for them. They were also able to listen to a presentation from Mr Smyrk and Mrs Howells, alongside the Head Boy, Michael Kafe and Head Girl, Karla Venter. The sixth form centre was open to showcase our facilities and over 180 of our current KS5 students helped to ensure the evening ran smoothly and was a great success. Applications for September 2022 need to be completed online by 1 February 2022 and the form is located in the sixth form area of the school website or click [here](#).



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**Executive Headteacher: Mr R Duff**

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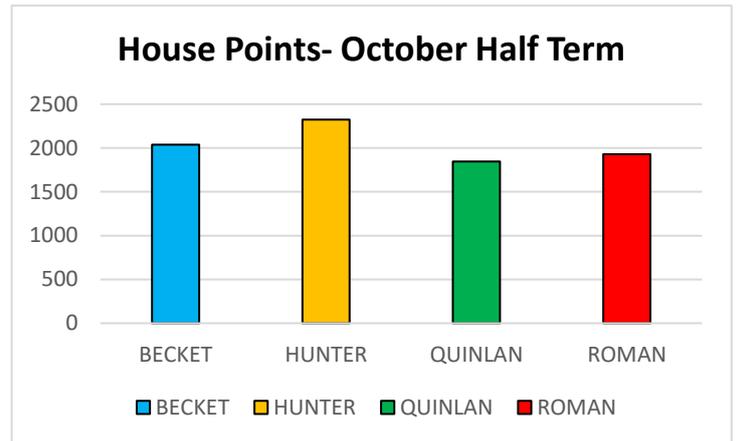


## House Points

Over the first half term of this academic year, 8,137 house points were awarded to students across the school. House points were granted to students through their academic achievements, extra-curricular endeavours, and participation in various subject competitions. A big thank you to the MFL and Music departments who organised excellent house competitions to get us started which included a bake off and the Young Soloist of the Year event.

Currently, Hunter house are ahead with Becket and Roman house in a close battle for second place. A big well done to all who have secured points for their house.

This half term we have the following competitions: Digital Literacy Bebras competition, pantomime competition in Drama as well as penalty shootout during form time.



## Wellbeing

This week, each of our Year 7 forms have been writing poems to do with our values of wellbeing. The poem below is an amalgamation of a selection of forms' outstanding work and nuanced understanding of what wellbeing means to them. I hope you are able to take something positive from what our students have to say. Well done to Ellie Lain, Ellie Ward, Ralph Phillips, Jake Davis, Jack Boys, Beth May Robins, and Katie Cuschieri for having their poetry featured below.

*Time is a thing that comes with life  
Some people use it wrong, and others use it right.*

*Empathy is like a falling feather  
It loses hope  
But really it lasts forever.*

*Trust is like an object:  
over time it can rust and shatter  
but the best part is putting it back together.  
It can rust and shatter  
but trust is there forever.*

*I'll give you my support  
like a beam holding up a house  
or like my love holding up your life.  
When you go down my support holds you up.*

*Support is helping others with things they cannot do,  
and then maybe next time they will help you too.*

*Perseverance means to carry on -  
To get back up even if it goes wrong.*



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