



ST
*M*ARTIN'S SCHOOL

FOCUS

Spring 2016

Focus on personal development and academic excellence in a happy school

ROTARY YOUNG CHEF – COMPETITION

On Wednesday 27 January we held our Year 10 Rotary Young Chef competition. Students had to prepare a healthy two course meal in two hours for two people, complete with service for fine dining.

The candidates were Emily Fenwick, Cia'n Moroney, George Hallybone, Jack Park, Megan Baldock, Sophie Matthews and Alex Brady. The students produced dishes using a variety of skills and an excellent finish.

The overall winner was Emily Fenwick, who prepared blinis with a variety of toppings for canapés and a main course of stuffed chicken breast wrapped in pancetta served with steamed green beans, roasted

sweet potato and peppers and a Hollandaise sauce.

The competition was judged by our deputy head of faculty Mrs Rainbird and Mr Lelliot from our senior leadership team. They were impressed by the standard of dishes served and commended all the candidates for the effort and hard work that went into the competition.

A big thank you to the parents and our technicians Cathy Hutchinson and Chrissie Bannatyne for all their support in the background, we could not have done it without your help.

Mrs Moodley
Teacher of Food Technology

(Emily Fenwick is seated far right)



YEAR 9 PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

The English department has recently completed a Public Speaking Competition for the entirety of Year 9. All students have written and crafted their speeches during English lessons and then competed in a class competition. The winners of these first heats then performed to the rest of their year group in a semi-final in north hall. The speeches were outstanding and the commitment from students and teachers alike was evident. The finals were then performed after school to senior members of staff, parents and students. Our runners-up were: Millie Barfoot and Rachael White, whilst our Best Speaker Prize was given to Jessica Clark for her exceptional speech on women in society. All students performed with confidence and were incredibly impressive in both the delivery and content of their speeches. They have shown determination and maturity, a real credit to the school.

Mrs Fernandez, Teacher of English



YEAR 9 STUDENT JUDE STALLARD COLLECTING GOLD!

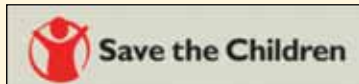
Pictured here is our Year 9 student Jude Stallard collecting Gold in a recent Judo competition in the U46kg boys' group. Jude has now won a total of three gold medals this year which is a fantastic achievement, one of these being a qualifier for British Schools. This is some feat at such a young age and a true sign of Jude's dedication to training which enables him to compete at this level. Jude is also rising through the ranks with his belts, he is now a green belt, building a strong platform to allow him to go further within the sport.

Well done Jude.

Mr Hallahan, Head of Year 7



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY: RAISING MONEY FOR SAVE THE CHILDREN



Sixth form students and staff donned their best Christmas jumpers to raise money for Save the Children. £283 was raised to help with projects around the world.



YEAR 9 TEXTILES

During the Autumn Term, Year 9 textiles students produced quilted patchwork cushions. This was a new project for Year 9 which culminated in an array of highly coloured, beautifully made pieces of work.

Mrs Rainbird, Head of Textiles



SIXTH FORM ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY PARIS TRIP



Three nights and four days is certainly not enough time to visit all of the attractions in Paris, but we gave it a good go! During our excursion, the Year 12 and Year 13 art and photography students visited the Musée d'Orsay, Centre Pompidou, Musée d'Orangerie and the Louvre. Traversing the Métro was almost as complicated as finding our way through the Louvre (and excellent work to Rachel, our navigator). Although beautifully painted with vibrant hues and sfumato, Leonardo's famous smoke effect, the Mona Lisa was a little smaller than expected

but certainly did not disappoint. The Venus de Milo inspired several of our art students to sketch, but that was halted due to the typical Louvre crowds blocking the statue, much to the chagrin of Nathan, Issy and Victor.



Manet's Olympia was a thrill to see in the flesh (literally!), and the modernist artwork at the Pompidou gained some new Brentwood fans. Giacometti, du Champ, and Matisse captured our students' attention as did actress Natalie Portman creating sandcastles on the second floor. Aside from a sneaky sighting of actor Johnny Depp (or was it?), the view of the Eiffel Tower was certainly as demanding as the view from the top of the Tower. Our boat cruise down the Seine also proved to be very entertaining: wonderful views of Notre Dame, the lock bridge, as well as an impromptu dance contest. Some fell in love with Paris' beige beauty, while others just fell for the Parisians. Miss Levis and I are proud of our students' engagement and decorum in this lovely city and cannot wait to explore the cultural sights of another city next year.

Ms Powell, Head of Art



ROYAL OPERA HOUSE VISIT

On Wednesday 2 December, three Year 13 textile students were given an opportunity to experience an open day of the new Costume Construction BA course being offered by South Essex College in partnership with the Royal Opera House.

During the morning students were given an extensive tour of High House Production Park in Purfleet which is the Royal Opera House's new home for making scenery, backdrops and costumes for the operas and ballets performed at Covent Garden.

In the afternoon they participated in a two hour workshop led by Rachel Young, course leader of the degree. Their task, to make a partial costume for a character in Les Misérables distressed with sandpaper, tea, coffee, paint and cheese graters!

The day was completed by being given complimentary tickets to The Royal Ballet's performance of Romeo and Juliet at Covent Garden. A fabulous experience for our Year 13 textiles students.

Mrs Rainbird, Head of Textiles



YEAR 13 MID ESSEX SCHOOLS COUNTY CROSS COUNTRY

Amy Renaut and Dan Ashley, Year 13 students recently represented Mid Essex Schools in the Essex Schools County Cross Country Race held at Hilly Fields, Colchester.

Over a tough course they performed exceptionally well with Amy finishing 17th and Dan placing 14th in their respective races against strong opposition.

As a result both runners were selected to represent Essex in the South East Inter Counties race at Bexhill Down, Sussex.

Head of Girls' PE, Mrs Swan said of the pair "Essex is a hugely competitive county for cross country running. I am incredibly proud that two of our sixth formers have been selected to represent Essex. It is a testament of their dedication to regular training and racing both for the school and their clubs whilst juggling their academic studies."



Picture supplied by the Brentwood Gazette.

U14 RUGBY TEAM

Pictured below are before and after shots of the under 14 Rugby team sporting new tops kindly donated by Mr Cranwell, father of Ben (Year 9) and Matthew (Year 7). A mixed season plagued by injuries to key players has not brought about the success the training and commitment the team deserves but notable wins against local rivals, Brentwood School and Great Baddow have shown the boys (and parents) glimpses of their potential. Let's hope a strong finish to the end of the season can help prepare them for next season's assault on the silverware.

Mr Hallahan, Teacher of PE



U16 NETBALL

The St Martin's School U16 Netball Team progressed to the regional round of this year's National Schools Competition held at Hassenbrook School, Stanfor-le-Hope in January. Having being crowned Mid-Essex Champions back in November the girls went on to test themselves against the very best schools in Essex at the County round of the competition beating all bar one of their opposition to make qualification.

The action set off at a frenetic pace in the first game of the day against Stanway School (Colchester). Blustery conditions made it difficult for the girls but Saints were able to hold their nerve resulting in an 8-7 win. With the first victory under their belts the team's confidence grew. Tough opposition meant shooters Hannah Scully, Roxy Brown and Tia Stack had to be on form and they netted accurately all through the morning. Rebecca Dyball and Charlotte Jones were dominant in defence and the girls went on to win four more group matches. They beat Woodlands School (Basildon) 8-3, Helena Romanes (Dunmow) 15-1, Greensward Academy (Hockley) 9-3 and Chelmsford County High School for Girls 6-3. A narrow loss to King John School, (Benfleet) in the last group game meant the Hutton school girls went through to the knock-out stage as runners-up facing local rivals Brentwood School who Saints had already beaten in the Mid Essex qualifying round.

The semi-final was exciting and closely contested throughout; Rosie Andrews proved pivotal in the centre court linking well with her wings Tonie Abbott and Olivia Spink with Saints finishing eventual winners.

The final saw St Martin's face King John once again who, in their semi-final play off, had beaten previous

National Finalists Fitzwimarc School (Rayleigh) 10-8. Safe in the knowledge that as finalists they would both qualify to the Regional round the girls all seemed to relax and produced an outstanding display of high class netball with King John ending the tournament as winners 6-5.

Head of Girls' PE, Mrs Swan said "Our girls have worked exceptionally hard as a team in training to improve their match play and tactical awareness since September. They were really excited to be one of the two teams representing Essex at the Regional Finals and I am exceptionally proud of their achievement."



ESSEX COUNTY SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Congratulations to Noah Jameson Neal on becoming a multiple medal winner in the Essex County Swimming Championships. The strenuous training and commitment Noah has to put in is considerable and are always in addition to his school day. He is pictured at the award ceremony and wearing both his Gold medal for the Boys 12yr 1500 metre freestyle and Bronze medal for the Boys 12yr 400 metre IM. The competition was held in Stratford and Basildon in the Olympic pools. He should be, as we are, very proud of his achievements.





FAME

After last year's extravaganza of *Les Misérables*, this year we decided to pick a more upbeat musical and as it was Mr Tomlinson's debut show he decided on the popular musical, *Fame*. As always the standard of this year's show was extremely high. We were so overwhelmed with the talent of our students that we were able to double cast the show having main characters from Years 10 & 11 and 12 & 13. The lead roles were performed by Jonathan O'Neil, Daniel Pugh, Elizabeth Wilson, Lori Stansfeld, Jodie Tarrant and Rebecca Howell, all of whom have been involved in a number of school shows and have shown professionalism beyond their years. A performance of this scale is only a success with the help and dedication of both the students and the teachers. This year, Mr Tomlinson has led the band, made up of students, and was supported by Miss Devine-Smith. Miss Barnes has choreographed all the fabulous dances with the assistance of Faye Martin, one of our Year 13 students. The set has been designed and created by Mrs Randell and our dedicated site staff and the fantastic costumes and make up have been worked on and put together by Mrs Wilkinson and Mrs Wilson. The cast and band have all been rehearsing since October and their hard work and dedication has paid off to produce a quality performance once again.

Mrs Page, Director





CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT ST MARTIN'S SCHOOL

On the 15 and 16 December St Martin's students sat down to a delicious Christmas lunch. There were crackers, hats and Christmas music to get everyone into a festive mood. Our catering staff, from Pabulum, worked as fast as they could dishing up the tasty dinners, including Brussels sprouts! The senior leadership team and support staff served the meals to the students with teachers pouring piping hot gravy on request at the tables. For dessert it was the traditional mince pice, Christmas pudding and chocolate log which was the 'cherry on the top' of a lovely event. Thank you to Pabulum and the wonderful kitchen staff, who joined in, making it the beginning of a very merry Christmas.



MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

As part of our enrichment programme in languages, we have organised taster classes in Mandarin for Year 7 students, which will run for six consecutive Thursdays from 3.30pm until 4.30pm.

All six sessions are free of charge and are led by the Mandarin teacher, Yanghong from China, accompanied by members of the language department. The lessons are mainly language based but provide also a great opportunity to experience Chinese Origami, Chinese traditional songs, Chinese crafts and give students the opportunity to learn about the culture of China.

Mrs Mercer, MFL Teacher



YEAR 9 CHRISTMAS MARKETS TRIP TO COLOGNE

The MFL Christmas Markets trip to Cologne is an annual event and this year was as successful as previous years. Despite the cold, 37 Year 9 students turned up bright and early the week before the end of term for the coach trip to Cologne accompanied by Mrs Ballard, Mrs Mercer, Mr Bourton and Mr Smith. After an uneventful eight hour journey, we arrived safe and sound in Cologne ready for dinner and for the first job of the trip – making our own beds. That completed, we set off for our first trip to the Christmas market located at the foot of Cologne Cathedral.



On day two we set about exploring Cologne and experiencing the sights and sounds of this beautiful city. Our first trip was to the hands on Sport museum and then we were treated to a guided tour of the Chocolate Factory, learning about how chocolate is made, sampling the delicious chocolate from the chocolate fountain and then buying lots of goodies in the shop afterwards, as well as browsing the small market outside the museums. The weather

was very kind to us, despite being very cold, we experienced beautiful sunshine and blue skies – perfect for an afternoon ice skating beside the Christmas Market at the Heumarkt.

In the evening we dined at the Hard Rock Cafe and visited a different Christmas market on our way home.

On day three we travelled out of Cologne to Koblenz firstly having a guided tour of Marksburg Castle, a castle perched high above the Rhine and then seeing where the Rhine and Moselle rivers meet at Deutsches Eck. The group then walked into Koblenz town centre for lunch at the Christmas market



before heading off to the bowling alley for an afternoon's bowling. In the evening we paid our final visit to the main Christmas market before heading home for an early night in preparation for our final day which would be spent at Phantasialand, a local theme park.

Everyone had a huge amount of fun at the theme park on the last day, which rounded off another thoroughly enjoyable week, where we were able to give students an introduction to





Germany, the culture of the country and to experience how others celebrate festivals, something which is difficult to replicate in a classroom in Essex. The students were also able to practise their language skills when ordering food at the markets, writing in their diaries every evening and ordering their shoes and boots at the bowling alley and the skating rink.

The students' behaviour was excellent throughout the trip and a credit to the school and to their families, it was an absolute pleasure for me to lead the trip.

Mrs Ballard, Head of Modern Foreign Languages



BOSSY'S '13 THE MUSICAL'

BOSSY, an out-of-school drama group led by Mrs Wilson, recently finished their last performance of Jason Robert-Brown's, '13 - the Musical' before the Christmas break. As a performer in this show, the experience was amazing, and the cast fantastic - which corresponded with the positive reviews the musical achieved.

Many students from St Martin's School were part of the cast, including Adam Ellis, Jonathan O'Neill, Lucy Bacon, Michael Percival, Sam Johnson, Jack Llewellyn, Grace Harrington, Tabatha Dodge, Jodie Tarrant, Owen Jackson, and Louisa Philbrooks along with myself. We had great fun forming the show and performing at the Brentwood Theatre in the six performances throughout the week.

Each night we were paid a visit by various reviewing boards, one of which was NODA - a regional board of reviewers. Since finishing the show we have received news that the show has been nominated for a regional award - which is huge for the company and everyone who is a part of it. I also was nominated for and have won an award for young actor in the east region which is an absolute honour and hopefully brings me one step closer to fulfilling my acting dreams.

A massive thanks to NODA and to anyone who came to watch. We hope you enjoyed the show as much as we did.

Dan Pugh, Year 11 student

I am thrilled to advise you that Dan Pugh has been awarded the Best Young Performer from NODA regional awards. They awarded him for his performance as Archie in the production of '13', a very worthy winner!

Mrs G Wilson, Director



JACK PETCHEY SPEAK OUT CHALLENGE

On Monday 29 February and Tuesday 1 March, 50 Year 10 students were selected to take part in the annual Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge. These students were rewarded following an excellent set of Attitude to Learning grades in their recent reports.

Jonathon Drew, an external Jack Petchey representative, came in to help students develop their skills in public speaking. Some students took to this skill like a duck to water, but for some it was a highly challenging and embarrassing thing to do. Throughout the day students' confidence increased and they all produced some award winning speeches in the final competition of the day. Students had to speak for up to one minute on their chosen subject and were judged on delivery, structure and context.

On each day three or four winners were chosen to go onto the next stage of the competition where they will have to deliver their speech in a Year 8 assembly. Out of the seven students that made it to this stage, one final winner will be chosen by the Senior Leadership Team to represent St Martin's School at the regional finals on 10 May. We wish all the winners good luck in the next round.

Miss Ruffell, Jack Petchey Co-ordinator

"I found the day extremely useful! It really helped to boost my confidence and acquired skills that are going to help me - not only now, but later in life".

Megan Ingram, day one winner



At the beginning of the day I was really nervous and didn't want to speak at all. I was avoiding answering anything and then got asked my first question. It wasn't actually that bad! All I had to speak about was what I knew. As the day went on and I did more speaking; I started to feel a lot more confident in myself. It was then I remembered I had to speak for a minute and thirty seconds about a subject of my choice. Over lunch my heart was beating out of my chest. When my name was called I just said whatever words came into my head and if I am honest, it was easy. The relief of it being over and being able to relax for the rest of the day was immense. Overall I learnt a lot of techniques which helped me to improve my speaking and confidence within myself as an individual.

**Ethan Smith,
Most Commendable winner day two**

Monday 29th February winners; John Turner, Ellen Hardie, Megan Ingram

Tuesday 1st March winners; Emily Bardwell, Dan Game, Aimee Burns, Megan Smalley

MUSIC FILM NIGHT

Join St Martin's students in their inaugural Film Night Celebration, as they perform some of the world's most iconic film themes. This memorable journey will include various solos, duets and ensembles from such classics as Jurassic Park, Lord of The Rings, and James Bond with a few surprises along the way. This ambitious undertaking is a first for the music department and the students and it promises to be a magical evening.

St Martin's School Music Department invites you to

Film Night



Thursday 30th June 2016 at 7pm in the South Hall

Tickets £7 available from Finance Office

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This memorable journey will include various solos, duets and ensembles from such classics as Jurassic Park, Lord of the Rings, James Bond with a few surprises along the way. This ambitious undertaking is a first for the music department and the students. It promises to be a magical evening.