



Focus on personal development and academic excellence in a happy school

TRIP TO BEIJING CHINA



Easter 2015, for the third time, a group of St Martin's School students ventured east of the globe to Beijing, China. A packed schedule included visits to the Summer Palace, the Forbidden City and the Ming Tombs, experiencing and enjoying beautifully preserved monuments to China's



imperial past. We saw pandas at the zoo, were instructed in calligraphy in one school and participated in Kung Fu in another. We explored religious sites such as the Buddhist Lama Temple and the Taoist Temple of Heaven, although now a public park. We saw the contrasting faces of the city, took a rickshaw ride through the Hutongs old town, with trips to the Bird's Nest and Water Cube, venues built for the 2008 Olympic Games. Undoubtedly, one of the highlights of the week was climbing the Great Wall of China; we had some intrepid students taking on the steep path to the top. All in all, it was a fantastic experience and to many the trip of a life time.

Mr Smith, Teacher of Science





ENGINEERING EDUCATION SCHEME



The Technology Faculty had a successful year running the Engineering Education Scheme with four Year 12 students; Isaac Gell, Sophie Moody, Christie Spicer and Jack Wells. We are fortunate to be sponsored by Selex ES from Basildon, an international engineering company. They set our students a brief of designing and prototyping a remote controlled vehicle to provide first aid to a wounded soldier. We attended the Celebration Assessment Day at Anglia Ruskin University. The students presented their results in front of a team of professional engineers; this involved a written report, a presentation and then being interviewed at their display stand. They responded to the tasks well and were complemented on their team work, planning and the excellent final product that they had prototyped.

Mr Parker, Teacher of Technology

ESSEX UNIVERSITY

On Monday 9 March, 18 students from Years 9 - 11 spent a day at The University of Essex Colchester campus.

Students were given an insight into university life and the realities of studying at degree level. The day was led by three university students who completed a range of activities with the group. During this session students were given an insight into the realities of university life and informed on the application process and how to choose a course. They were then taken on an extensive tour of the campus including a visit to halls which was quite an eye-opener for our students! The day finished with a maths lecture from Chris Saker, a charismatic and enthusiastic lecturer.

It was a great day and the students learnt a great deal about the realities of studying in further education.

Mrs Fernandez, Teacher of English





A DAY FOR YEAR 6 IN TECHNOLOGY CLASSES AT ST MARTIN'S SCHOOL

During the summer term the Technology Faculty will be hosting three technology days for pupils from Ingrave Johnston, Willowbrook and Larchwood primary schools.



The day is designed to help Year 6 pupils feel less daunted when starting secondary school and give them an insight into Design and Technology at St Martin's.

Pupils spend half of their day in food technology

making healthy pretzels and the other half in graphics where they make packaging boxes and learn about CAD/CAM. The boxes are decorated and then used to take their pretzels home. Pupils from Ingrave Johnston were the first to attend this year and said that they



thoroughly enjoyed their day particularly making the pretzels.

Miss Day, Teacher of Technology

ST MARTIN'S STUDENTS RAISE THE FLAG OF SAINT GEORGE

Year 7 students Katie Gold and Sam Johnson were invited to Brentwood Town Hall to raise the flag to commemorate Saint George. Looking impeccable in their uniforms they mixed with many local dignitaries including Mayor Vicki Davies and MP Eric Pickles.

Year 7 Raising the Flag -Katie Gold and Sam Johnson



HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR MR MANFRED GOLDBERG

On Tuesday 2 June, Year 10 GCSE history students were fortunate to be given the opportunity to meet one of the few remaining holocaust survivors. Mr Manfred Goldberg visited



students and shared his testimony of life in Nazi Germany. He spoke sensitively of his younger days as a Jew living in Germany with his family and how they faced increasing persecution by the Nazi Party.

Mr Goldberg explained how, at the age of eleven, he was moved with his mother and brother to the Riga Ghetto in Latvia and his experiences of different concentration and labour camps he was placed in. Mr Goldberg explained what his life was like for him and those around him until their liberation on 3 May 1945. Mr Goldberg was brought to England after the war.

All involved found listening to this firsthand account extremely moving and it has increased the understanding of subjects studied in history lessons.

Miss Tilby, Teacher of History





LET THEM EAT CAKE

Year 13 Food Technology Final Practical Assessment

Year 13 Food Technology students had to make and develop a dessert or celebration cake to industry standards for their coursework.

The task was a culmination of a year's work on product investigations and scientific developments in the industrial manufacturing of food.

Below is a selection of some of the products: rhubarb and custard pie, boston cream cake, meringue berry gateaux and mini lemon meringue pies.

Mrs Moodley, Teacher of Food Technology









AS AND A2 LEVEL ARTWORK

The Headteacher took some time to visit the A-Level art students while they were completing some of their controlled assessment art work. When you see the level of work they are achieving it is hard to believe they are only students and still have a long journey ahead of them. Here are a few snap shots of some of their magnificent creations.



'MISSTASIA'

Katie Lawrence, a former student at St Martin's School, who was a sports captain and Jack Petchy winner, is currently in a girl band, 'Misstasia' which appeared in 'Britain's Got Talent'.

The group won a place in the semi finals and appeared in the televised live shows. Before Katie's appearance she shared her excitement with staff and students at lunchtime on a non-uniform day, we all took advantage of the photo opportunities! Well done Katie!







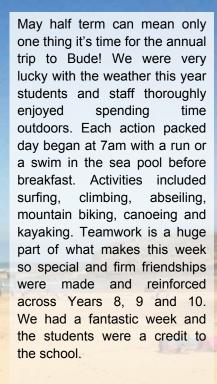






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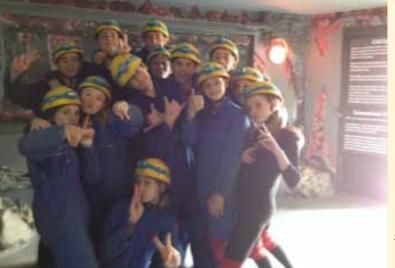














MOCK TRIALS AT BASILDON CROWN COURT

The culmination of months of lost lunch times and after school practices finally arrived on Saturday 7 March 2015 for the Year 9 magistrates' court mock trial team. The competition took place at Basildon Crown Court and saw Rebecca Warwick and Joe Pepper defend Theo Hughes on a charge of mobile phone theft against a prosecution team from Linton College, Cambridgeshire. They were assisted ably by star witness Thomas Higgins and Court Usher, Molly Harris. It was then the turn of Aimee Burns, a last minute stand in, and Ellen Hardie to prosecute a student from Shoeburyness High School on the same charge. They were assisted by witnesses Rebecca Francis and Lily Kirk with Mia Boughen acting as the legal advisor. Both cases were judged by Magistrates Lois Collis, Georgina Ambrose and Megan Ingram. Their analysis of the case, conducted in private, was described as the best the judges had ever seen.

The competition was extremely hard as the team not only had to prepare the case in advance, but react and respond to events in the court room as they happened.



Although Theo Hughes was successfully defended, and Aimee Burns and Rebecca Francis didn't get their man, the judges actually based their final marks on how well the team performed, not the outcome of the case. Overall the team came fourth out of the nine teams competing. They were congratulated and handed certificates by Lord Petre, the Lord Lieutenant of Essex and Nick Charrington, the High Sheriff of Essex. This day out was deemed a success by the team, who not only are wiser to the workings of the English legal system, but also received the rare privilege of going deep below the courts into the holding cells and emerging as a complete and free team afterwards.

Mr Hagger, Head of History







LIBRARY

A note from our senior librarian – please see a summer activity that all students can get involved in.

Essex Libraries Summer Reading Challenge ImagiNation 11 July - 5 September 2015

ImagiNation is a free reading and arts activity for young people aged 10 to 18, to encourage reading for pleasure and to provide an opportunity for young people to create their own original art based on their reactions to books. Young people have co-produced all aspects of this project from the start, choosing the name, recruiting artists, designing the logo and the activity and setting up the online presence in the form of a blog. The project is in its second year, last year over 7000 young people around the Eastern region took part.

How does it work?

ImagiNation runs in the summer holidays. Young people join in their library, where they can collect a free

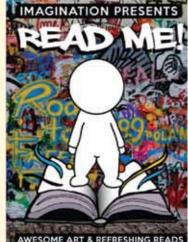
ImagiNation log. They begin by reading two books and then choose from a range of arts activities to help them express their ideas. They also contribute to a collaborative artwork and can share their ideas, art and book reviews

on a blog moderated by library staff.

Where can you find out more?

You can see some of the young people's artwork and read updates on the design of the 2015 activity on the ImagiNation blog: www. imaginationeast.org.uk

Mrs Peters, Senior Librarian

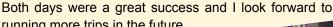


YEARS 7 AND 8 SCIENCE TRIPS

In the summer term Year 7 and Year 8 students were offered two exciting trip opportunities by the science department. The Year 7 group went to Colchester Zoo over two days to learn about adaptations of animals and the Year 8 group went to the Natural History Museum to be a scientist for the day.

Both groups enjoyed themselves immensely and as well as the workshops they had a chance to look around these interesting huge spaces. The trip to Colchester Zoo was over a period of two days due to the massive interest shown by students and we were lucky with the weather on both days. The students had the opportunity to feed elephants and giraffes, test their speed against cheetahs and their strength against chimpanzees and tigers. The two groups of 90 students each really enjoyed themselves and saw a lot of the adaptations up close that we have been learning about in class, some students even got to dress up as Mrs Cool and Mr Hot using the zoo's resources.

Year 8 students went to the Natural History Museum and had the chance to use over 300 of the Museum's actual specimens. There was a wide range from sea turtles and sword fish to butterflies and stick insects. Students used the specimens to discover more about those artefacts just like the scientists do every day giving them a real insight into what it is like to be a scientist at the museum. As well as this workshop students had time to look around the displays, with particular favourites being the earthquake simulator and the precious stones.













HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

LOWER SCHOOL PRODUCTION

In June 2015, St Martin's drama department ran two successful sold out nights of Disney's 'High School Musical'. With over 60 in the cast and technical crew the show was always going to be a massive event and the size of the audience proved just how successful it was. The opening night was attended by the Mayor of Brentwood, who was astounded at the age of the performers and their talent. This was seconded by Headteacher, Mr O'Sullivan who stated that the students were performing 'far beyond their years'.

The lead roles of Troy and Gabriella were taken up by students from Years 7 to 9; Sam Hobern, Sam Johnson, Olivia Murrell and Tabitha Dodge. The effort and commitment from the whole cast allowed the performance to be the success that it was. The event was a rewarding, confidence building experience, students have bonded together and made lifelong friends. I am so proud of all the students involved and hope they feel proud of their achievements; hard work and their free time that was given up to attend rehearsals was well rewarded with a wonderful show.

Miss Barnes, Teacher of Drama











UPPER SCHOOL DRAMA

The first half of the summer term was a busy time for the Drama department with exam performances from Years 11, 12 and 13. We had a high calibre of work from all year groups and some outstanding individual performances. To kick off the exam season, Year 13 performed two superb devised performances based on the stimulus, trapped. Year 11 students then excelled themselves with some challenging material including '4:48 Psychosis' by Sarah Kane and 'The 39 Steps' adapted by John Buchan. Our Year 12 students performed a selection of monologues and duologues from 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time' adapted by Simon Stephens and '5 Girls Wearing the Same Dress' by Alan Ball. Finally our Year 12's then went on to perform in three teacher-directed performances; 'Lord of the Flies' adapted by Nigel Williams, 'Dunsinane' by David Grieg and 'Girls Like That' by Evan Placey.



Thank you to all those who came and supported our students, all evenings attracted a good-sized audience of family and friends as well as drama students from younger years who we hope were inspired for their future performances!

Mrs Wilkinson, Head of Drama















WORLD CLASS BASKETBALL FOR ST MARTIN'S SCHOOL GIRLS

St Martin's School U18 girls' basketball team represented England at the 23rd International Sport Federation World Schools Championships in an eight day tour in Limoges, France.

St Martin's School were honoured to be chosen by England Basketball as the first ever school girls team to represent England in this bi-annual event alongside Noel Baker School, Derby in the boys competition. Year 11 Carlie Abbott-Imboden was the England flag bearer at the prestigious opening ceremony in front of a 5000 capacity stadium.

The St Martin's team was made up of mainly U15 players and knew from the off that they would be up against many basketball academies from countries where basketball is their national sport.

Our girls faced tough opposition from Croatia and Israel in the preliminary group stage of the competition. Saints were dominated by older, taller, more experienced players in both games but performed well and learnt

lots. A fantastic win against India (66-44) raised the girls' spirits with MVP Tia Stack scoring a massive 38 points.

More hard hitting games were to follow; Greece and Bulgaria, but the St Martin's team held their nerve and never gave up, representing England they came incredibly close to victory when playing Chile, in the last minutes losing by only 57-64.

Team coach, PE teacher Tara Allen said of the trip "Overall the opportunity to play against six teams from three continents was an experience the girls will never forget. They met players and coaches from around the world on and off court and during an organised cultural day extended their knowledge and

understanding of national dances, songs and traditions of countries from across the globe. It was amazing!"





Captain Carlie Abbott-Imboden is the flag bearer.



Noel Baker School from Derby (also representing England).

THEO HUGHES AT THE EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Congratulations to Theo Hughes who has been selected for the England U15's basketball squad in this summer's European Championships in Copenhagen.

Theo has worked tirelessly this year to improve his game and is proof that hard work and commitment goes a long way in helping you achieve your goal.

Well Done Theo!

Mr Roberts, Teacher of PE



KARATE MEDALLIST CAIN MORONEY YEAR 9



Cian represented England at the JKA European Championships in Bochum, Germany. He progressed through several rounds in kumite (fighting) taking him into the finals where he narrowly missed first place, taking home the silver medal. He was praised by many spectators and referees for his performance and spirit. He also helped his team win gold for the team kumite event. Cian was the highest ranked England team individual this year.





U13 FOOTBALL TEAM

After a very successful year the St Martin's U13 football team had retained their Mid-Essex winners title and looked to win the prestigious Essex Schools Cup against the Sydney Russell School, Dagenham.

They defeated their close rivals, Brentwood School in a closely fought 1-0 semi final; the youngsters were optimistic that they could step up to the plate and be victorious at the final which was played at Dagenham & Redbridge FC ground.

The ever-present parents of the boys who have been supportive throughout the whole season were also hopeful that the talent and cohesion already shown in their short time together would overcome the big, strong athletic opposition.

A final befitting of any team from St Martin's School, the boys played with passion and skill. In a yo-yo tie St Martin's took the lead through striker Owen Bessey. This was cancelled out by the opposition early in the second half but James Earthy scored to help St Martin's restore their lead. Defending valiantly St Martin's tried to hold on but unfortunately conceded a goal with a few minutes to go which took the game to extra time.



Extra time proved a step too far for the boys conceding first then equalising through a Sam Park free kick before cruelly conceding with a minute to go losing the tie 4-3.



Teacher, Mr Hallahan said "The boys were magnificent today on both sides. Essex is a very strong county for school football so to make a final was an achievement in itself and I thought the game could have gone either way. The boys will learn from this experience and will come back stronger for it next year."

U15'S EAST OF ENGLAND BASKETBALL SQUAD

William Raife was picked to represent his club in the U15 Essex Boys Basketball County Tournament. He has since been selected to be a part of the U15's East of England squad which means he will be playing up almost two years his age. St Martin's School PE department have supported William by



coaching him before and after school and allowing him to play in many school basketball games this year, the practice has benefitted his game and the results speak for themselves. Practice, practice, practice as with everything. Well done William your family and the school are supporting you all the way.

DISTRICT ATHLETICS SUCCESS

St Martin's students performed superbly at the 2015 Brentwood District Athletics competition. The sun came out and provided the perfect backdrop for some outstanding athletic performances. Chelmsford Athletics Centre played host to this year's championships which culminated in St Martin's finishing as overall runners up narrowly missing out on the top position. Both individually and as a team our young athletes performed with exceptional dedication and effort pushing themselves faster, higher and stronger than they have before. Many athletes enjoyed receiving their medals on the podium from a rotation of local headteachers, and countless personal bests were broken.

The girls' teams finished the day in 3rd position overall out of 7 schools. This was a tremendous achievement as they faced tough competition from



Brentwood School and The Ursuline Convent. Tia Stack broke the Year 10 Girls Javelin record throwing a huge 33.71m. Rosie Andrews, also in Year 10, triple medalled with a bronze, silver and gold.

The boys' teams finished the day as overall winners, this was the first time that the boys have taken this title since 2006, just showing how hard they have trained with athletics guru and former GB 1500m runner Mr Warburton throughout the year.

Team successes went to the Year 7 and Year 8 teams who both won their respective titles. The individual

performance went to Year 10 student Tom Starling winning the 100m, long jump and relay. As the most successful male athlete of the meet he was awarded the Lewis Fraser Memorial Cup.

Mrs Swan, Head of Girls PE





MATTHEW DOE REPRESENTING ESSEX U14 NATIONAL COUNTY CUP

After years of hard work, dedication and commitment to his tennis, Matthew Doe, a student in Year 9 spent four days at the Nottingham Tennis Centre with the Essex U14 boys' team playing in the finals of the National County Cup. Matthew, a member of Great Baddow LTC has been playing tennis since the age of 3 having had his first lesson with Head Coach, Ash Baker.



Matthew has always been determined to succeed, training regardless of the weather both in and outdoors. He spends hours perfecting his technique as well as having competed in weekly tournaments from the age

of 6. Matthew started training one weekend a month with the County team last November and since then his game has gone from strength to strength.

After some lengthy three set matches and with the County coach Justin Layne by their side, the team made it to the semi finals and became the National County Cup Runners-up 2015. An outstanding achievement for both Matthew and the Essex team.



HOLLYWOOD!

Over the Easter break the Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 Drama and Theatre Studies students accompanied by four members of staff visited Hollywood, Los Angeles in California. The students were involved in four Stella Adler Conservatory for Actors workshops, a tour around Sony Picture Studios, the Dolby Theatre, home of the Oscars, a Hollywood behind the scenes tour, admission to Universal Studios, an excursion to Santa Monica and Venice Beach with cycle rental and a movie at Disney's El Capitan Theatre. Students stayed at the Radisson Hotel which was a train ride away from the Hollywood Walk of Fame, they enjoyed the food, time by the pool and being woken up at 7.30am every morning! The trip was led by Mrs Page and accompanied by Mrs Wilkinson, Miss Barnes and Mr Wilkinson. It was the fourth time staff had taken students on this adventure across the Atlantic. On









the final day students were lucky enough to meet George Chakiris who played Bernardo in the 1961 film version of West Side Story in a Q&A session. They even got to hold the Oscar that he was awarded for that role. The students had a fantastic time and built lasting friendships.

Mrs Page, Teacher of Drama



JACK PETCHEY AWARDS

St Martin's School 2014 - 2015 Jack Petchey Award Winners



Phoebe Miller

Phoebe is highly regarded in her volunteer work at Heron Court Old Residential Home for the elderly displaying a caring and compassionate character.



Hannah Belshaw

Hannah has put in copious amounts of time and effort with a foster child that was placed into her family. She has helped the young girl overcome personal difficulties through continued love and support.

William Raife



Will is a very talented and committed young man who plays basketball for four different year groups within the school. He has recently been selected for the U15 East of England squad demonstrating that enthusiasm, dedication and hard

work can pay off.



Katherine Hilliard

Katherine is a kind and thoughtful student who puts other people before herself. She has put many hours into volunteer work within the community. This includes work at Hopefield Animal Sanctuary, helping

elderly people with dog walks as well as helping at her dance school.



Aled Jones

Aled is highly regarded in his volunteer and work at Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA) displaying his kind, caring nature showing maturity and reliability making a difference to many young people.

Tia Stack



Tia has dedicated many hours to sport and had an outstanding season particularly in basketball. She demonstrated 100% commitment in all her games leading by example throughout. Overall Tia is an

exceptionally talented young lady with a clear passion for the game, always pushing herself to achieve more and to excel within the sport.

Cameron Scott



Cameron has had many challenges as he has Asperger's Syndrome and Dyspraxia. Cameron gave a very moving speech to his peers about his condition which showed real strength. Dyspraxia

affects coordination so sport was a struggle. Five years after joining the school rugby team, Cameron is a starting player who has won county cups and progressed in national competitions; an inspiration and a testament to hard work and a positive attitude.

Chloe White



Chloe takes a great deal of interest in her environment, she holds the positions of form representative and year representative on the school council. This confidence encouraged her to

become a member of the Young Essex Assembly which enables Chloe to be a voice for the youth of Essex and communicate that feedback to Essex County Council. She attends regular training and marshals at events whilst also enjoying participating in fun runs such as, the Race for Life.

RISK AVERT



Students in Year 8 who took part in the Training Effect's "Risk Avert" programme are pictured to the left with Mrs Wilson (SEAL Co-ordinator) and their Head of Year,

Ms Casey, having successfully completed their training and gaining their certificates.

St Martin's School was recently awarded Schools Risk Avert Champions at this year's Healthy Schools awards. Pictured is Mark Bowles, Director of Training Effect and Mrs Wilson.

BLETCHLEY PARK

On the 4 June, 23 Year 10 computing students enjoyed a visit to the National Museum of Computing at Bletchley Park, Milton Keynes.

A presentation on codes and ciphers and the role the code breakers played during the Second World War was explained to students before they embarked on an informative tour of the exhibits including the Harwell Dekatron Computer (aka WITCH) and the Tunny and Colossus Galleries. The highlight of the trip was the retro programming that students enjoyed using 15 BBC computers and they established a direct connection with







programming using BASIC without modern day distractions of the usual applications and the Internet.

The 'Beeb' made a home computer? No way!

Yes way... Did you know that our very own BBC (yes that's the British Broadcasting Corporation) was instrumental in commissioning massmarket computers in the early 1980s?

Probably one of the most iconic home computers of the eighties, the BBC Micro found its way into the homes of over 1.5 million people by the time it ceased production in 1986. Starting out as an educational tool for the BBC Computer Literacy Project, it soon evolved into a popular games machine, allowing you to build and control a wheeled mouse, to being a fully fledged Doomsday laser disk archive system. It is also reported that as late as 2004, a BBC Micro was



still being used to steer the 42ft radio telescope at Jodrell Bank.

It found more uses than probably any other system of its time and many a computer programmer of today started with BBC Basic, and dare I say, some still use it today.

Mrs Hale, Teacher of ICT

YOUTH WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

A massive congratulations to Eleanor Page, Year 10, who was shortlisted for the Natural History Museum's renowned Youth Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2015. This global competition seeks to highlight the best young photographic talent documenting wildlife spectacles and the natural world. Eleanor made it through the first round of judging, with two of her photographs being selected from a whopping 49,000 entries. Although she didn't make the final cut, take a look for yourself and you can see this is a wonderful achievement and it has boosted her interest in photography. Good luck next year Eleanor and keep snapping away!

Mrs Powell, Head of Art and Photography





MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES THEATRE PRODUCTION

As part of a talent management programme for teachers I organised a theatre group to perform plays in French and German for selected students of Year 8 and Year 9, building on students' enthusiasm for languages and drama. Students had feelings of trepidation when I announced that we would be watching a production in a foreign language, some of the students saying 'Will I be able to understand any of it?' However, after studying some of the play in French and German lessons and looking at parts of the transcript, students felt a lot better.

Both plays 'Meine neue Schwester' (My new sister) and 'Erreur d'identité' (Mistaken Identity) were excellent fun and the students thoroughly enjoyed putting their language understanding skills to the test. Of course not every





word was understood but learning a foreign language is all about working to understand the gist of what is happening. With the fantastic acting from the theatre companies and their use of props and gestures students were able to engage and follow the play.

The French play in particular relied on some participation from students although which, nervous,

managed to do really well, especially when they invited Bihan Le Faucheur to go up to the stage, unaware of him being our native French speaker in Year 8!

Overall students left the production feeling proud of themselves with achieving the incredible task of understanding a whole play in a foreign language. Our student had a lot of fun watching and interacting with the actors. We very much hope that we will be able to offer a similar opportunity to students in the next academic year.



Mr Bourton.

YEAR 13 LEAVERS' DAY

Our Year 13 students' last day with us was Thursday 21 May. An emotional day for both staff and students as we said goodbye and good luck to many whom have been with us for seven years. To mark the last day Year 13 had a final leavers' assembly in South Hall which

included the première viewing of the leavers' video this year "Blame it on the Boogie".

Students and staff were then invited to enjoy a hog roast and to say a final goodbye on the grass behind the sixth form block.

Best of luck for your A Level examinations and for the next steps

along your chosen pathways. Mr Peacock,

Acting Head of Sixth Form



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