



ST
MARTIN'S SCHOOL

FOCUS

Summer 2018

Focus on personal development and academic excellence in a happy school

YOUNG SPORTING STARS HONoured AT AWARDS EVENING



The achievements of our young sporting stars were recognised at the annual Lower School Sports Awards Evening.

The PE department enjoyed another exceptional sporting year, and proud families watched as some 400 students were honoured in the presentations.

Over 500 competitive matches were played against other schools from friendly local games to National Cup fixtures. In total St Martin's reached 11 county finals and clinched many more district titles in various sports.

Highlights of the year included our U16 Boys Basketball Team making it through to the National Cup semi-finals and our U14 Mixed Rounders Team being crowned National Champions. Seven of our single sex basketball teams reached at least the semi-final stage of their respective year group Essex Cup competitions, with our U14 and U16 boys both being crowned County Champions.

During the evening each student received a certificate listing the sports in which they had been involved throughout the year. The second half of the evening featured over 70 trophies being awarded to students who achieved 'Player of the Year' status.

The most committed students in each year group were also honoured with a special award. In Year 7, Keira Chatrath and Henry Silvester were recognised. In Year 8 the awards went to Freya Godfrey and Ed Walker. The Year 9 recipients were Ruby Stone and Sidney Walker.

The Young Volunteer of the Year awards went to 18-year-old Emily Diwell and 15-year-old Luke Jagger for their outstanding commitment to coaching and officiating school football and basketball. Team of the Year was the U14 Mixed Rounders National Champions.

A very special trophy was awarded for outstanding dedication to lower

school rugby. The 'Lewis Frazer Memorial Trophy' was presented in memory of St Martin's sixth-former, Lewis Frazer. Khalaf Bhatti was exceptionally proud to be the recipient of this cup.

The evening concluded with the 'Overall Contribution' awards being given to the boy and girl deemed to have been the most influential sports persons in the lower school. Ruby Ham and Owen Adams were worthy and popular winners, having being instrumental in many of the school's successes over the past three years.

The evening was attended by Deputy Headteacher, Mr Goddard and Deputy Mayor of Brentwood, Cllr Keith Parker. Mr Goddard took time to thank the committed and dedicated PE team. He praised Mrs Swan for organising the evening and also commented on the fantastic support provided by parents.

IN THIS ISSUE...



- Barbados Tour - p3
- Year 13 Leavers Day - p7
- Made in Dagenham - p8-9
- Year 11 Leavers Fair - p10

COLCHESTER ZOO

"At Colchester Zoo we saw a range of different animal species. Some of the highlights from the trip were: the lemurs jumping on our backs on The Madagascar Express, making enrichment toys for some monkeys, then watching their primal instincts come alive using them, watching the beautiful leopards lazing in the sun, and photographing our favourite animals such as the penguins, pink flamingos and giraffes. Everyone on the trip had a fantastic day and the Calippo slushies at the end gave us the energy we needed to sing "Football's Coming Home" all the way home!"

By Amber Murphy, Isaac Loffredo, Ben Turner and Tom Bland



*The students really were fantastic
and a credit to St Martin's.*

Miss French, Teacher of Science

YEAR 8 BAKING GERMAN PRETZELS

On Friday 4 May, 20 Year 8 German students took part in a cross-curricula lesson baking German Pretzels.

In the Year 8 food topic, students developed knowledge of recipes and ingredients before being invited to

put their linguistic and culinary skills to the test in an end of week bake-off. Knowing the difference between Zucker and Salz meant the students chose either savoury or sweet pretzels, but a good knowledge of German numbers allowed students to weigh out ingredients accurately. Thanks to the students' hard work on vocabulary learning and dedication to their German studies throughout the year, this cultural opportunity turned out to be a successful baking experience. We are extremely grateful to the Food Technology Department for sharing their facilities.

Richard Bellworthy, Teacher of MFL



BARBADOS TOUR 2018!



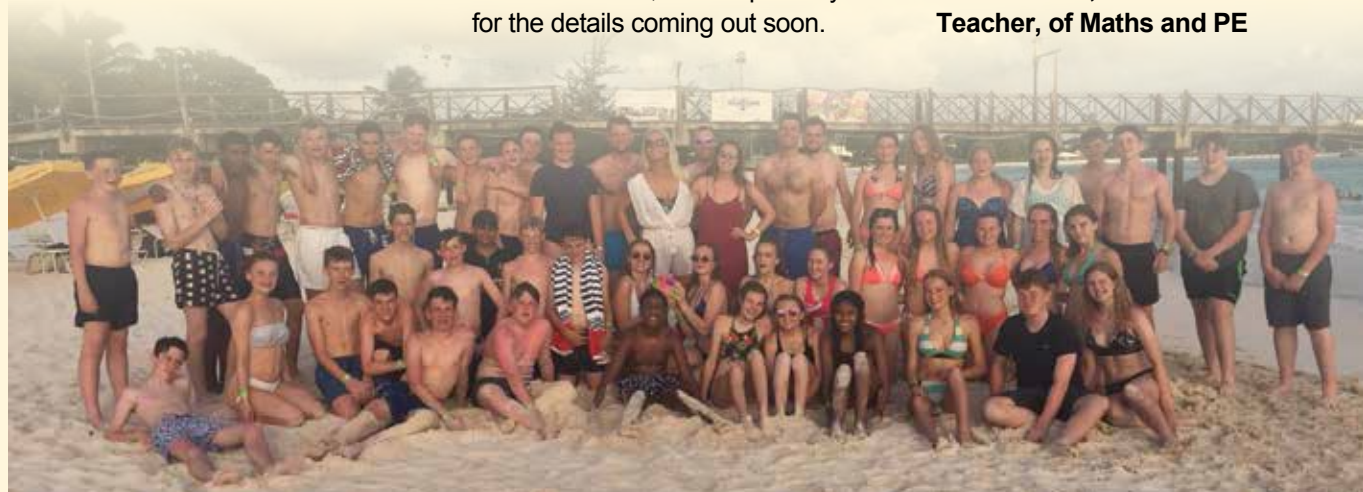
During the May half term 49 of our Year 9 and Year 10 students had the amazing opportunity to visit Barbados on a Cricket and Netball Tour. We played local Bajan teams in a total of 13 fixtures, winning 7 in total. This included playing at the National Netball Stadium and a night time T20 cricket fixture – winning both!

Daisy Hendry our tour captain said about the trip “We had 9 full days of doing activities we had never done before; visiting the Harrison's Caves, driving around Barbados on the jeep safari's and even swimming with turtles. The nights consisted of eating out at local restaurants, visiting the beach and we even had a night beach party! We had an unforgettable experience in Barbados and enjoyed every minute of it.”

This was our second trip to Barbados and once again the students were an absolute credit to the school. Discussions have already started for Barbados 2020, so keep an eye out for the details coming out soon.



Mr Roberts, Head of Year 10 Teacher, of Maths and PE



GAME AND BUTCHERY LESSON, AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT

On a chilly afternoon on the 24 January, the food preparation and nutrition students attended an enrichment class on how to pluck and prepare wild game for cookery. Butchery skills are now part of the new food syllabus so this was an exciting opportunity to learn first-hand how game is shot and hung to mature.

We are fortunate to have Mr Pitchers, who is an expert on game. Students were involved in learning how to pluck, remove the innards and butcher pheasant and partridge. They learnt about sustainable, free-range animals and the reasons to support local produce. It was a thoroughly enjoyable experience for

our students. They have now been set a task of creating recipes for the game meat they have prepared.

Many thanks to Mr Pitchers for giving up his time, and pheasants, to facilitate this class.

Mrs Moodley, Head of Food



JACK PETCHEY

The Jack Petchey Achievement Awards have really been an inspiration to this year's winners from St Martin's School. Achievement comes in many forms, and the evening celebrated and acknowledged the range and diversity of all of the individuals receiving an award on the night.

The winners of the Jack Petchey Achievement Award this year were:

William Lancaster - Yr7
Fraser Sowden - Yr8
Georgi Merazchiev - Yr12

Ethan Wigmore - Yr10
Daniel Tucker - Yr11
Alastair Crotty - Yr11
Leader Award - Mrs Tricia Rains

Jack Bland - Yr11
Kathryn St Pier-Groves - Yr11
Samantha St Pier-Groves - Yr11



JACK PETCHEY SPEAK OUT CHALLENGE

During June the regional final for the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge was held. Sophie Milham in Year 10 was our representative from St Martins, she did an incredible job and we are very proud of her.



MANDARIN LESSONS SUMMER 2018

As part of our enrichment programme in languages we were pleased to offer our popular Mandarin classes for Year 7 and 8 students. Classes have been running during the summer term and due to growing demand will continue again this year.

The sessions run every Thursday from 3.30pm to 4.30pm and are free of charge. The lessons are led by our new Mandarin teacher Miss Huo, who is from China, accompanied by a member of the Languages Department. The lessons are mainly language based but also provide a great opportunity to experience Chinese culture and crafts.

Mrs Mercer, MFL Teacher



I enjoyed the lessons and learnt a lot, such as making origami. I also made a lot of new friends. (Iason Mitrakas, Year 8)



I really liked this club and I hope that Miss Hue will have a lovely time in England. I am very grateful that she has taught me another language! I would definitely recommend this club to other people. (Dovydas Zutautas, Year 7)

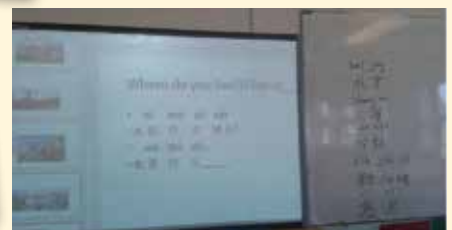
What I liked about Mandarin was being able to learn another language and another culture. I would definitely recommend this club, because it is a lot of fun and really educational. (Arnaud Salko, Year 8)

Thanks Miss Huo for the lessons. My favourite part was the origami. (Tyler Henry, Year 8)

Chinese club was a great experience with many fun activities and assists your learning or starts a pathway of learning Chinese. I recommend it to anyone who gets the chance. (Thomas Chow, Year 7)



What I liked about Mandarin club was learning a lot about the Chinese culture such as learning numbers, weather, how to introduce yourself, your age, how to make Chinese tea and write Chinese symbols. (Olive Adeniji, Year 7)



YEAR 7 & 8 AWARDS EVENING

YEAR 5 DESIGN TECHNOLOGY EXPERIENCE AT ST MARTIN'S SCHOOL

In June the Technology Faculty hosted a new Design and Technology Experience for Year 5 pupils from Ingrave Johnston, Willowbrook and Larchwood Primary Schools.

Historically we have always run this day with Year 6 pupils, but with the intention to get younger pupils learning skills in Design and Technology earlier and to challenge their abilities. We devoted these days to specialist areas of Design and Technology such as textiles and graphics to give the pupils insight into what we do at St Martin's in the Technology Department.

Pupils spent the day working on a mini project called 'Build a Frog'. The first half of the day is devoted to textiles, where many pupils got to use the sewing machine for the first time in order to design and make stuffed frogs. In the afternoon pupils took part in graphics and they made packaging for their newly made stuffed frog. In both subject areas pupils also experienced the use of CAD/CAM by using the vinyl cutter to make iron on fabric letters and stickers for their packaging.

Help was on hand from current Year 12 technology students who have recently been selected as 'Subject Ambassadors' they kindly helped students and answered questions about the school.

Pupils from all the primary schools that visited made some fantastic products to take home and said that they thoroughly enjoyed their day and couldn't wait to start secondary school.

A special thanks to our Year 12 Subject Ambassadors, George Baker (Product Design), Ria Kinnear and Eleanor Potter (Textiles) for their hard work and help on the day.



Mrs Varney, Head of Graphics & Mrs Fowkes, Teacher of Textiles



YEAR 7 ART

Year 7 students have been looking at the artist Guiseppe Arcimboldo in their art lessons for the last few weeks. Giuseppe Arcimboldo was an Italian painter best known for creating imaginative portrait heads made entirely of objects such as fruits, vegetables, flowers, fish, and books. The artwork by the pupils below shows off impressive handling of the watercolour medium, especially as it is their first time using it. Well done to the following for exceptional effort - Sian-Ria Pindoria, Siena Abbott-Bailey and Max Barrett.



YEAR 13 LEAVERS DAY

This past term has seen the sixth form library full to bursting. The attitude and atmosphere round the sixth form is very focussed indeed, but finally the time to say goodbye arrived again... The clouds cleared for what was a memorable Year 13 leavers' day on the 24 May 2018. Students have spent weeks perfecting their yearbook profiles, placing their hoodoo orders and participating in the outstanding leavers' video (expertly directed by the brilliant media student Chloe Jackson!) all in preparation for our celebratory assembly and farewell brunch.

We were treated to some incredible musical performances from Year 13 students including: Georgina Fisher, Aamer Abdelrazzak, Tia Stack and Dan Pugh. After the formalities were over and we had congratulated and thanked all the students and staff involved, it was time to give out hoodies, pose for our traditional leavers' photograph and say our farewells for now. The bonds between students and staff are evident at moments like this when it becomes clear how much hard work and effort has gone in on both sides over the two years. Tears, tans and

Instagram worthy moments were captured and shared.

Thank you to all the sixth form team, staff and students for what has been another extremely successful leavers' day. Special thanks to the catering team for a lovely brunch, Chloe Jackson, Mrs Wallis and the Music Department for going over and above as always.

With all the very best to a wonderful year group.

See you all at the sixth form ball!

Ms Rogers, Head of Year 13



YOUTH PRODUCTION WINNERS

Bossy's, Brentwood Operatic Society Youth, successfully won best Youth production at this year's NODA's presentation ceremony in April, for their November production of Les Miserable.

Pictured are the under 18 winners. Tia Stack who won the district award for her portrayal as Eponine, together with Billie Wilson who recently won a Brent, (Brentwood Theatre Award) for her portrayal as young Cosette, along side Rosie Griffiths for her portrayal as Madame Thernardier.

Pictured together are some of the St Martin's School winner's including Tia Stack, Dan Pugh, Michael Percival and Sam Johnson, who has not only been successful as a member of the prestigious National Youth Theatre, but has also won a coveted place in this year's NYT production. Congratulations to all involved.

Mrs Wilson, SEAL Coordinator and Director of Bossy





MADE IN DAGENHAM

This year's production of Made in Dagenham was based on a true story. Rita O'Grady, performed by Tia Stack and Jess Folley, leads the 1968 Ford sewing machinist's strike at the Ford Dagenham plant, the story unfolds showing how the female workers walked out in protest against gender discrimination; demanding equal pay. Eddie O'Grady, performed by Daniel Pugh and Benjamin Page, struggles to keep his marriage together after being laid off from the Ford factory due to the women's strike.

A performance of this scale can only be a success with the support

and dedication of both students and teachers. This year Miss Devine-Smith skillfully led the orchestra of St Martin's students, ably assisted by Mr Banks. Miss Barnes choreographed all dance routines with the assistance of our Year 10 student Milly White.

The cast and band had been rehearsing since October, giving up so much of their personal time but their hard work and dedication paid off to produce a quality performance which, once again, received a standing ovation every night.

Mrs Page, Director





YEAR 11 LEAVERS FAIR



ART & TECHNOLOGY SUMMER EXHIBITION



ACTIVITIES TRIP TO BUDE



This year at Bude I had a great time. My favourite activity was surfing, it was great fun and on top of that I was with all my friends, which made it more fun! Mr Smith came surfing too and he was actually good at it!

We also went body boarding, climbing, kayaking and other amazing activities. One of the best evening activities was fancy dress. It was hilarious as Ben was dressed as Harley Quinn! We also had a lot of fun at the disco on the last day, we were given certificates for challenging ourselves through the week.

I really recommend going to Bude it is the best trip I have been on, especially because we did all the boys' make up!

Robyn Hodgton



YEAR 10 & 12 MFL TRIP TO MUNICH



For our GCSE and A Level students this year, the MFL department decided to change our destination from Berlin to Munich, Germany's third largest city famous for its Beerhalls and Oktoberfest.

After an incredibly early departure from school, myself, Miss de-Pol and Mrs Mercer arrived in Munich and started off our trip with some fantastic 360° views of the city from the top of the Olympiaturm followed by a walk around the Olympic Park. Afterwards we ventured through the Viktualienmarkt for a delicious lunch.

The evening finished off with a visit to the Hofbräuhaus (Germany's most famous beerhall), where the students tried out some traditional German cuisine, with live music from an Oompah band, which encouraged many of us to get up and dance along!

On day two, we gained more understanding into Munich's history through a guided walking tour, which took us along Munich's many churches, views of the cathedral and an insight into its history. We were able to enjoy some shopping before making our way to the concentration camp at Dachau, where we had another guided tour.

On day three after a traditional German breakfast, we ventured to Salzburg in neighbouring Austria, home of 'The Sound of Music' and birthplace of Mozart. We visited the Hohensalzburg fortress and enjoyed some more shopping time in this

beautiful city. The day was made complete by a relaxing visit to a bowling alley where we all enjoyed some light-hearted competitiveness together.

Overall, the trip was a great success and an excellent way for all the students to practise their German skills and to gain an introduction into German life, history and culture. Both Year 10 and Year 12 students were an asset to St Martin's School during this visit and it was a pleasure to accompany them to my favourite German city.

Mr Bourton, Teacher of MFL



MARLE HALL

During the Easter Holidays, 65 Year 7 students visited Marle Hall Outdoor Activity Centre in North Wales, for three days of fun in the outdoors. We had some rain and even some snow but they all had a great time canoeing, learning bushcraft skills, exploring slate mines, gorge walking and facing their fears on the high ropes course. They were a pleasure to spend time with.

Miss Stannard, Teacher of PRE



NOAH JAMESON NEAL



Noah's swimming achievements over the spring and summer:

In April Noah competed at the London Swimming Championships at Crystal Palace and at the London Aquatics Centre in Stratford.

Noah's swimming achievement was unbelievable, he won gold and is now London Champion in the 200 meter freestyle, silver in the 400 and 800 meter freestyle (he missed out on gold in both of these events by a fraction of a second) and two bronze medals in the 200 butterfly and 1500 meter freestyle.

In addition to this, Noah has been working hard at swimming galas over the last two months, to improve his times in an attempt to qualify for the British and English championships. We are very pleased to say that he has succeeded, proving hard work and determination really does pay off. He will be competing at the British championships in two events at the end of July and in the English Championships in two events at the start of August.

Noah's family, friends and school are so proud of him. The amount of work he has put in to reach this point is tremendous. He trains between two and four hours, six days a week as well as taking part in multi day swimming galas, and somehow still manages to squeeze school in!

Go Noah we are all behind you.



YEAR 7 ATHLETICS

This is a photo of the Year 7 pupils who took part in an Indoor Athletics competition at Lee Valley Athletics Centre in London. Saints got A & B teams, for both boys and girls, to the Semi-Final competition. This was their first athletics competition, against various schools throughout Essex.



BASKETBALL MARCH 2018

The U16 Basketball Team won their National Cup quarter-final in Liverpool so went into the semi-final and last four in the country.



ESSEX CUP BASKETBALL

On Tuesday 20 March 2018, St Martin's U14 boys basketball team beat Woodlands School in the final of the Essex Cup. Despite a good height advantage, Woodlands were never able to cope with the skill and accuracy of the St Martin's boys. No matter what combination of players went on court, the game was well dominated by the Saints boys, from the start to finish. The team maintained at least a comfortable 10 point lead throughout the whole match, with Reuben Potter and Cameron Poulley scoring easily from behind the 3-point line. A solid performance from all the squad throughout the whole season has reaped its reward. The team has dominated their Essex age group for a couple of years and will really be looking forward to another competitive season next year. Mr Garrard, the team manager said "congratulations to all the boys for an outstanding effort and especially to their Year 12 coach, El Potter, who masterminded the win with some careful planning and tactical decisions."

The team

consists of:

Reuben Potter, Cameron Poulley, Christian Simmons, Henry Hunwick, Harry Blundell, Titi Mlotshwa, Ola Adeniji, Owen Adams, Matty Cranwell, Joe Batson and George Barnes.



BRITISH SCHOOLS BRONZE MEDALIST CHAMPION 2018

Winning my medal was the result of a long journey with many hours training and commitment.

I had to attend the school's Judo qualifier in my region, in which I won silver.

I then completed and qualified to enter the championships. The competition was open to the whole of Britain, so there were thousands of competitors. There were 16 in my group and I had five fights, in which I won four of them. Because I lost

my second fight the maximum medal I could win was bronze.

Many competitors left with nothing. Within the whole competition only the top five were listed and only the first four got medals. The competition was really tough and each fight was three minutes long. I sustained an injury on my fourth fight, but carried on to fight and win my fifth fight. I was representing St Martin's School and won becoming a bronze medalist champion.

I started Judo when I was four years old. I belong to the British Judo Association and began fighting in competitions from the age of nine. I have fought all over the country, including Scotland and Wales. I have had many fights. To date I have won 18 medals and 2 trophies - of which I am very proud.

Harvey Carr, Year 7 student



YEAR 10 CRICKET

In July 2018, the Year 10 boys were crowned Mid Essex Cricket champions! They faced a strong team from Great Baddow School who had been the champions for the last three years. The Saints team batted first posting a score of 125 for 6 from 20 overs. Successful innings from Scott Allison, Sam Newton, Luke Willett and Freddie Foster set the stage for a dramatic and high-pressure final.

Great Baddow came into bat and fought hard to chase the St Martin's score. Despite two of their batsmen hitting over 50 runs between them, the combination of strong accurate bowling and tight fielding, meant that they were always behind the required run rate. Outstanding performances from Ben Rutland, Freddie Orwell and Oliver Bailey, all gaining two wickets each, ensured that the pressure was always on Great Baddow to chase the runs needed. A tense finish followed with



Baddow needing 14 off the last over to win the match. The captain, Luke Willett, carefully selected one of his strong bowlers (Sam Newton), to finish the game. With two balls to go, Baddow needed 10 runs to win, but once again the quality of bowling and fielding shone through only allowing Baddow to score 3 more runs.

The St Martin's team were elated,

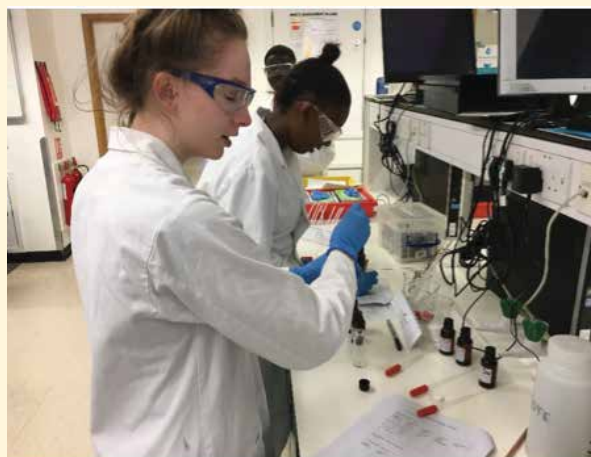
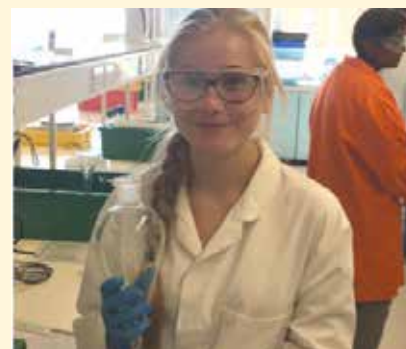
the team's first ever cricket trophy in four years. On a sad note however, it would also be their last game together at St Martin's School, but what a way to finish their cricket experience! Mr Garrard, the team manager said "I am incredibly proud of the boys and all the effort they have put in over the year. The win today is well and truly deserved!"

YEAR 12 BRISTOL UNIVERSITY CHEMISTRY TRIP

Students spent two days at Bristol University's Chemistry Department. A busy two days consisting of perfume making, determining the concentration of copper sulphate solution by UV spectroscopy, synthesis of benzocaine and extracting caffeine from tea. Students also enjoyed a fun lecture on atmospheric chemistry and a talk from two current postgraduates about their PhD research.

Great fun was had using the state of the art facilities and equipment. Students also enjoyed a visit to Zaza Bazaar, one of the largest all you can eat buffets in the country.

Mr Peacock and Miss Burgess



CHEMISTRY COMPETITION

On 16 May 2018, Elijah Bello, Toby Beeson, Emily Willson (Year 8) and Isaac Loffredo (Year 7) attended the Salters' Festival of Chemistry competition hosted at the University of East London; competing against 13 other schools. These students were selected as being the most-able at chemistry in Key Stage 3 following a selection quiz.

The day was split into a morning and afternoon session. The morning session focused on techniques that the students have learnt in science lessons and science club in order to solve a fictitious crime, whilst the afternoon session required them to work out the correct ratio of chemicals to achieve a specific drop in temperature after exactly one minute.

The students worked extremely well as a team, safely and efficiently, as well as displaying how eloquently they were able to discuss their work when questioned by university staff. As a result of their meticulous attention to detail and perseverance, Elijah, Toby, Emily, and Isaac were awarded 3rd Place "University Prize", making them the highest ranking non-selective school. This is an incredible achievement and we are extremely proud of all of them.

Miss Owen, Teacher of Science

YEAR 13 GERMAN & FRENCH CONFERENCE DAY

In February and March, Year 13 German and French students attended the A level German and French Literature and Film Student Conference Day in London. The day included student workshops and seminars in German and French and offered the students the opportunity to develop their critical understanding of the film and literature studies, as well as speaking to experienced examiners and working with fellow students from different schools.

Mrs Mercer, Teacher of MFL

STUDENTS' FEEDBACK:

Attending the German literature and film study day was a brilliant opportunity to explore both the novel and the film in greater depth, improving my grasp of themes and techniques. It also enhanced my exam techniques significantly. (Lauren Parker)



On the German Literature day, I found the lecturer speaking to us about "Das Leben der Anderen" was very insightful and gave me ideas for my



essay that I would not have otherwise considered. (James Frain)

The German Literature and Film Day was very insightful and both professional speakers were excellent at communicating their points, ideas and line of argument. The information given was very useful and gave me many more ideas to use in my essays. Overall it was a very useful day and boosted my knowledge. (Morrison Wilson)

I found the day extremely useful as not only did I have the opportunity to improve my knowledge of the literature text, but was also taught how to improve my exam techniques. (Thomas Meadows)

I thoroughly enjoyed the German Literature and Film day; I learnt a lot about both my film and novel, and also essay techniques which I hadn't explored before. The lectures

were thoroughly engaging and easy to understand and I would definitely recommend the day to future students. (Morgan Farnham)

I found the German Literature and Film day very useful and thought that it was very beneficial, as it allowed me to improve my knowledge on both the book and film. It also improved my confidence because I was able to understand the German lectures. (Bethany Wilkins)

The German conference day was a very insightful and intuitive experience that I found very beneficial in extending my field of knowledge in both the film and book. The accomplished speakers covered a range of ideas, including themes, techniques and characters and they expressed how to perform the perfect exam techniques. This day definitely helped me to improve my overall knowledge and exam technique. (Tonie Abbott)



PARIS TRIP REPORT

On the 21 of May, 40 Year 8 students went on a language trip to Paris. The journey there took six hours altogether; by Euro Tunnel. When we arrived at the youth hostel we ate dinner and reviewed our work booklets for the week. The booklets contained different activities that we were asked to complete during our time in Paris at different monuments. In the booklet there was a journal, French and English translations and typical French things.

The next day we visited Sacre-Coeur, Montmartre, we went on the Seine River Cruise and finished with the Eiffel Tower. Throughout the day we completed more of the booklet. The river cruise

was an amazing experience and got to see all the sights around Paris. When we went up the Eiffel Tower it started to hail storm. Later that day, we went back to the youth hostel, ate dinner and did some diary writing. As it was Sophie Story's birthday we had some cake and wished her happy birthday. Bon Anniversaire Sophie!

On the third day we went to Parc Asterix, a French theme park based on the cartoon character Asterix and his friends. We all had an amazing time going on the attraction rides, family rides and water rides. Our personal favourite ride was a family water ride. We went on it seven times! There were many carnival

games where people won big stuffed animals. Afterwards we went back to the youth hostel, had dinner and went to bed we were exhausted.

On the final day we woke up early and went to the Stade de France. It was very interesting and we got to see the changing rooms that the footballers used and had a tour of the stadium. Then we started our journey back home and arrived back at 6:00pm.

Overall, we really enjoyed the trip and completing the booklets. Thank you to the teachers for organising and making it so enjoyable and exciting.

Juliette Lofty, Emily Willson, Claudia Burgess

SCHOOL COMPUTING TRIP



On Thursday 21 June the Year 10 computer science class went to Queen Mary University in London for a workshop day about the uses of computing in marketing. The day began with a talk on the use of social media in marketing including the publicity gained from the John Lewis Christmas advertisement campaign that used television, Youtube and Instagram platforms. These platforms are widely used enabling a very successful campaign.



Over lunchtime we were shown around the university campus and gained an idea of student life.



Our group of five then had to use this knowledge to design our own campaign, to raise awareness of a topic of our choice. We chose to raise awareness of mental health issues, using the struggles faced by the rapper XXXTentacion who was recently shot dead in Florida. We suggested a campaign using the hashtag #nopluse (his latest album) on Instagram, Twitter and Snapchat. We then had to give a presentation on our campaign and answer questions from a university lecturer and three current university students. There were five groups competing and we were delighted that our group won.



Katie Martin 10H2



THE ROYAL SOCIETY ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TALK - MAY 18

As an A level computer science student, we were offered the opportunity to attend a series of highly engaging lectures at the Royal Society London. It has been a great opportunity to attend these lectures; they have been insightful and inspiring as well as greatly contributing to my understanding of advances in AI. This is an ever growing subject with a number of developing jobs that will soon become very important in the future.

It was very interesting to listen to the first speaker Demis Hassabis, the co-creator of Alpha Go. He proposed his theories and opinions on how artificial intelligence will affect us in the future. It has opened up new insights into future prospects for everyone that attended.

Aimee Burns

