



# NEWS & VIEWS

*Be The Best You Can Be*

Headteacher: Mr I Smyrk



## Headteacher's Comments



Hello, you will see by the photograph that the new larger COVID-19 test centre is up and running in the boys' gym and has been very busy already. Students in Years 11, 12 and 13 have now all gone through their first tests so they can return to school as normal on Monday.

I must take this opportunity to say a massive well done and thank you to all those involved in the testing so far and the staff behind the scenes setting it up and doing all the administration side. It has been a huge job over a number of weeks and is running extremely well which is a credit to all involved.

I am sure you are all keen to get back to St Martin's and return to a more normal way of life. I am looking forward to welcoming everyone back over the coming week so please take care and have a very good weekend.



## SEND Department

The Year 10 and 11 Prince's Trust groups have been working incredibly hard throughout the last half-term on a number of projects towards their Achieve Award. Year 11 impressed us with digital skills presentations on a variety of topics including: 'Being a Woman in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century' and 'What I Learned Through Work Experience'. Year 10 are mid-way through their personal projects where they are focusing on developing their individual passions and skills as well as impacting and educating others. We have had some great ideas for projects so far including a cookbook, writing an original song and accompanying music as well as a photography portfolio.

We also want to raise awareness of Neurodiversity Celebration Week on 15-21 March. We have many students in our school with ASD, ADHD, dyslexia and dyspraxia so it is important to discuss these conditions to highlight the many positives which people may not be aware of. Please find below a list of books with strong, neurodiverse characters:

- **The Rosie Project** – Graeme Simsion
- **The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time** – Mark Haddon
- **Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine** – Gail Honeyman
- **The Rest of Us Just Live Here** – Patrick Ness
- **Finding Audrey** – Sophie Kinsella
- **Am I Normal Yet?** – Holly Bourne
- **Marcelo in the Real World** – Francisco X.Stork
- **Fish in a Tree** – Lynda Mullaly Hunt
- **The Goldfish Boy** – Lisa Thompson



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EDUCATIONAL TRUST

**Executive Headteacher: Mr R Duff**

St Martin's School is proud to be part of the Discovery Educational Trust

