



# NEWSLETTER

*Dear Parents and Carers,*

What an incredible year we have had, not only because it was the first entire school year we have completed since 2019 without lockdowns and home schooling, social distancing and cancellation of exams but because we have certainly made the most of our time in school, our newsletter is filled with amazing and wonderful events, trips and other activities that our teachers and pupils have engaged in over the last few months. I would like, however, to point out one particular success this year, our remarkable U13 Girls Netball team. We were invited to the World Netball Games where our pupils competed with some very prestigious and incredibly resourced, independent schools from the UK and across the world. The full details are on page 2 of this newsletter, however, I would like to share one detail with you - a slight spoiler alert here, we beat every UK school in the competition and came 3rd in the world.

*An extraordinary result, well done to the girls and Mrs Elliot their coach.*

We said farewell to our lovely Year 11 pupils a couple of weeks ago, they enjoyed their Prom on Friday 1st July at Weston Hall. We wish them every success with their results this Summer and their lives in the future.

During our June half term the Queen celebrated her Platinum Jubilee, many of you would have celebrated yourselves, in order to commemorate the occasion we had badges made for every student and member of staff to keep, and yesterday we held a Jubilee Picnic on the field during lunchtime and Period 5, giving everyone some much needed time to socialise, have fun and enjoy the sunshine. We finished the afternoon by gathering together to sing the National Anthem.



We will be saying a fond farewell to Mrs Murphy, who helped to build up our amazing netball teams over the last 20 years. She has dedicated most of her working life to Saint Martin's, not only providing sporting opportunities to our pupils, but she has led fantastic trips across the world from Italy to the USA. Trips that our pupils will remember for a lifetime. I would like to thank her for her years of service and dedication to our school. We are also really sad to lose our Dance and Art teacher, Miss North. She has been a person who has brought life and energy to her role, supporting great productions through to sharing her artistic abilities with our pupils. She is moving back to Lincolnshire to be closer to her family after her wedding during the Summer.

Next year we also welcome Miss Bates who will be our new PE teacher replacing Mrs Murphy. Ms Simpson will be our new Art teacher from September.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a very happy, sociable and relaxed summer.

God bless,

  
**C Wright**  
**Principal**

***We have a number of pre-loved blazers and other uniform items, still in very good condition, that have been donated to the school by past students. We are selling these items for a nominal charge. If you have any queries please contact Mrs Davies via the school office on 01455 212386. Thank you***



## Netball

If you don't already know Saint Martin's Year 8 girls recently came 3rd in the World Netball Games held at Loughborough University, being the highest ranked England team!



On Thursday June 30th the girls attended the Opening Ceremony of the annual World Games. The girls were invited to play here after becoming County Champions earlier on in March.

Their first matches were on Friday morning. The team started strong, winning their first 2 matches against Denstone College 24-4 and Sandringham 14-12. We knew the afternoon was going to be difficult and our 2 toughest games. Both matches were against Dubai schools who start playing netball as early as 7 years old. We fought hard in both matches never once giving in but with the Dubai teams very high standards we lost to Dubai College 29-10 and Jess Dubai 22-9. At the end of day 1 we were in 5th place.

Start of day 2 we knew that we had to win our first 2 matches as we would then be in the play off against Grammar School at Leeds. We were tired after our tough matches the day before but we pulled off 2 wins 21-14 against Ecclesbourne School and 38-0 against Tudor Grange. This now meant we were in the play-offs for 3rd/4th position against Leeds.

The game was filmed live. The girls started well matching each other goal for goal, the match was very even however at half time we were 2 goals in front. In the second half the girls never stopped working and the final score was 22-19 to Saint Martin's. This meant we were the top England school. This was a fantastic end to the season for the Year 8 girls and we couldn't be prouder of them!

Well done Girls – Velvet G, Jasmine H, Megan L, Aimee B, Ava C, Maria P, Jess M, Gabriella A/O and Freya P. If you would like to re-watch the match the link is

<https://web.wsgevents.com/share/7143600/i5bu8g3toqu3fic360ls/iG8yp7IAArYx2QqP>

(match starts at about 6.1)



**THE WORLD SCHOOLS  
NETBALL CUP 2022**

LOUGHBOROUGH UNIVERSITY



# Term Dates 2022 / 23

## ADVENT

Schools open:	Friday 26 August 2022 <u>Year 7 only</u>
August Bank Holiday:	Monday 29 August 2022
School open:	Tuesday 30 August 2022 <u>Year 7 and Year 11 only</u>
	Wednesday 31 August 2022 <u>ALL YEARS RETURN</u>
Half term break:	Monday 17 October to Friday 21 October 2022
INSET:	Friday 18 November 2022
Schools closes:	Friday 16 December 2022

## LENTEN

New Year Bank Holiday:	Monday 2 January 2023
INSET:	Tuesday 3 January 2023
Schools open:	Wednesday 4 January 2023
Half term break:	Monday 20 February to Friday 24 February 2023
Schools closes:	Friday 31 March 2023

## PENTACOST

Schools open:	Monday 17 April 2023
May Day Bank Holiday:	Monday 1 May 2023
Bank Holiday:	Monday 29 May 2023
Half term break:	Tuesday 30 May to Friday 2 June 2023
Schools closes:	Thursday 13 July 2023
INSET:	Friday 14 July 2023

## Please Note

Saint Martin's Catholic Academy is committed to providing a working and learning environment that is free from abuse. Please respect all of our staff members.

Verbal abuse of staff by parents or visitors will not be tolerated and action will be taken if this occurs. For the protection of our staff, phone calls may be recorded.

## **Attendance**

At Saint Martin's Catholic Academy our ethos is one of commitment to the improvement of attendance within the school. There is clear evidence that students whose attendance is higher have a greater opportunity to secure their full potential, in terms of both their emotional and academic progress. A clear link has been established between good attendance, progress and the best exam results for future choices whether they are applying for university, apprenticeships or work.

As with every aspect of Saint Martin's we have the highest expectations of our students and therefore we expect all to strive for 100% attendance. We review the attendance of all our students weekly and will provide you with attendance letters if your child's attendance becomes a cause for concern. Consequently, we like to work closely with parents/carers, knowing your continued support will enable your child to ensure that they have the best opportunity to attend and to achieve.

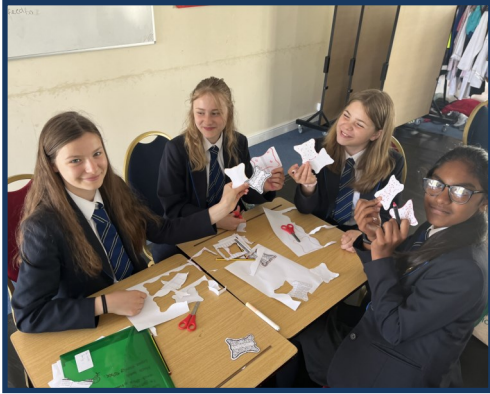
There are a number of ways that parents/carers can assist in this:

- Where possible, make all appointments after school hours. Your child's attendance is crucial during morning and afternoon registration.
- Refrain from taking your child out for holidays in term time, in line with Government legislation
- In the case of illness, send your child to school unless it is contagious. If you are in doubt, please contact our attendance officer (option 1). After the third consecutive day of illness you will need to provide medical evidence.

Parents / Carers are welcome to contact the school at any time. In the first instance you should speak to your child's Form Tutor if you have any questions or concerns. **Please be considerate of the fact that, in most cases, our Form Tutors are members of teaching staff and will be in lessons for most of the school day as well as having break or lunchtime duty, or be responsible for bus duty after school.**

Therefore we kindly ask that you give at least 24 hours for staff to return your call. If the matter requires an urgent response please inform our office staff who will be happy to ensure that your enquiry is dealt with at the earliest opportunity.

# Catholic life



On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May, Year 7, 8 and 9 Chaplaincy students had the opportunity to take part in a Climate Action game. This game

introduced the connection between climate and the impact this has on the lives of vulnerable people around the world. It was fantastic to see so many students showing enthusiasm and reflecting on how we can all help to solve the climate emergency. Thank you to Tom Shannon, Kieran and James for leading this session at Saint Martins.

Vocare is the Latin word for 'to call' - and as a Catholic school we believe the biggest calling we hear is from God. We are called to be holy, called to follow God in our lives, called to use our gifts at work. A huge thank you to all our wonderful guests who supported year 8 with their Vocation retreat day on Thursday 12th May.

Eve, Esther, Lucie, Tom, Landon and Emma- you were amazing such wonderful faith ambassadors.



During May 200 rose prayers were offered up in hope for the people of Mariupol and our families. The 200 roses were significant for those trapped underground in the steel works in Mariupol.

Thank you to students in Year 7 who have brought in flowers or emailed pictures of flowers or taken photographs from their gardens to be placed in front of the statue of Mary with their prayers. Saint Martin's is following the example of Lourdes where pilgrims are asked to dedicate a white flower in the month of May in gratitude to Our Lady for graces received or to ask her to take our prayers to God on our behalf.

We have been kindly gifted enough sets of rosary beads and prayer cards for every student and staff member in our school community. On Wednesday 11th May our whole school community gathered together virtually and we prayed the Rosary together. A big thank you to the Catenians for their kind donation. Thank you to Fr Simon, Jonah, Greg, Euan, Mr Adcock and Gabriel for leading us in prayer.

## **Pentecost Party 2022**

Thank you to all involved, we raised £327.00

"They saw tongues of fire...all were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues... pilgrims from every nation came under heaven and heard their own languages"

A huge thank you to Julian from the Malawi trust who spent the afternoon with us.





## News from the Divinity Department



Dear young people, do not bury your talents, the gifts that God has given you! Do not be afraid to dream of great things!

5:26 PM · Apr 26, 2013 · TweetDeck

What a successful year it has been from the Divinity Department. We are grateful to all our students and their families for sharing their God-given talents in our School Community.

Working with Lucy and Alex our Lay Chaplains along with our Divinity Department, we are delighted to have won the Vocations Competition July 2021 for Nottingham Diocese for our CMAT. Our winning video and poster can be found on the following link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=khz47up7uzs&feature=youtu.be>

based on a zoom conference for Vocation organised by Lucy. Susan Kambalu, Cafod Secondary Co-ordinator responded to our Vocation media clip on twitter by saying this is what Vocation in a school should be.

Many Zoom calls have taken place as a result of collaboration between Divinity and Chaplaincy. To enrich our Curriculum and Faith we have continued the success of zoom calls from the previous year and were delighted that the Dominican Sisters provided a zoom call on who St Martin de Porres was as well as the importance of following Dominican Virtues and looking at the symbolism of our blazer badge.

As part of interfaith week we collected food for Hinckley food bank and the students work was recognised by the yearly video produced by the Jewish Community for the celebration of Mitzvah Day where they work with communities to support their fellow neighbours, please see our students at 6 minutes.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QAKwOZnMzo0&t=12s>

As a result of students responding to Pope Francis' Rosary Marathon May 2021 to end the pandemic, our students collaborated with Missio, (Pope Francis' overseas charity) for Pentecost our students provided videos of the Hail Mary in different languages. Please see link below

<https://missio.org.uk/the-hail-mary-in-ten-languages/>

We have also produce a media clip to coincide with prayers for Ukraine by Pope Francis produced by our Year 8 students who signed the Hail Mary and Our Father using BSL.

In August last year we were privileged to have been runners for Catholic Writer of the Year. Well Done to Karla, Iris and Joshua for their outstanding entries. In the run up to COP26 Eve in Year 9 signed a message to our PM based on Cafod's Eyes of the World Assembly and Earth Day and was subsequently interviewed by Leicester radio about this. Our students work was sent to Alok Sharman MP and this appeared for the Feast of The Immaculate Conception Assembly in Cafod's National Advent Calendar. Please see powerpoint slides 23 and 24 attached from Cafod's website link below.

<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Secondary-and-youth-resources/Young-people-s-Advent-calendar>

With our support of Red Wednesday for persecuted Christians our students entered their Art Competition on 'What Peace means to you?' November 2021 and we are delighted that Zuzanna in Year 8 won 2nd prize in this national competition.

For our Careers Week our Chaplain got in touch with Tom Shannon lead Chaplain for St Thomas Aquinas CMAT to record a 10 minute video for our students on the importance of his faith and vocation. Our students signed our CMAT prayer for a Live video link for the Feast of St Thomas Aquinas January 28th 2022 and many students led part of the liturgy for the day. Articles on how St Thomas Aquinas inspires us today as well as how we live out the virtues of Prudence, Justice, Fortitude and Temperance were presented to our CEO Neil Lockyear and Ruth Hurcombe the Director of Performance and Standards.

Our students work in Divinity on the Synod in collaboration with Chaplaincy Department was presented on Sunday 6th March 2022 to the Papal Nuncio of Great Britain, His Excellency Archbishop Claudio Gugerotti, Along with Bishop Patrick he assured us that our students work would be looked at by Pope Francis and would see if a Vatican official would take part in a zoom call with our students. A photo of this appears on Nottingham Diocese website <https://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/news/nuncio-visits-nottingham>

Our students have reflected on the dream for the Church for the future, they have created plans for a Synodal path in school, instrumental music for liturgies has been produced as well as a BSL song for the Synod which we would like to take to our feeder schools next year as well as design for banners, altar/lectern cloths.

This week we received the following email from the Vatican.

*Dear brothers and sisters,*

*We would like to inform you that the correspondence you addressed to the Holy See regarding the current Synod has also reached the General Secretariat of the Synod and will be included in the material for the synodal process.*

*We thank you for your contribution on the journey of the Church in listening to the Holy Spirit.*

### The General Secretariat of Synod

#### Segreteria Generale del Sinodo

Via della Conciliazione 34

00120 Città del Vaticano

More recently with the crisis in Ukraine over 100 students and their families have lit candles at home to pray for an end to this conflict and throughout the month of May white flowers were placed in the Chapel from our students and their families. We created our own mini Lourdes in our Chapel offering up white flowers for Our Lady. Over 252 prayer roses were offered up those held in captivity in the steel works in Mariupol. It has been lovely to welcome our Ukraine students and their families in to our School Community. We will continue to pray for peace in Ukraine.

Our students have also reflected on how Imago Dei and Catholic Social Teaching are at the heart of our subjects in school.

We wish you and all your families a happy and safe holiday and look forward to continuing our work with you in September.

**God Bless  
Divinity Department.**

# LIBRARYevents!

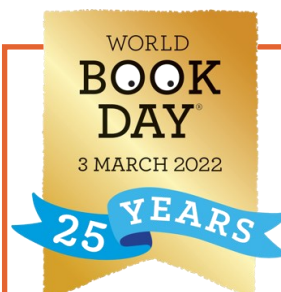
World Book Day this year overlapped with so many other events at Saint Martin's Catholic Academy that they decided to hold our own Alternative World Book Day on the last day of term, 8<sup>th</sup> April. On the day, the author, Seth Burkett made a real impact with his assemblies to years 7 – 10. He has written 10 books varying from his successful fiction series Tekkers, to his autobiographical account of playing football professionally in Sri Lanka, Titan's of the Teardrop Isle. He talked about his career as an author and writer, stressing the importance of resilience and hard work.

He then ran some writing workshops where he demonstrated how he uses his writing skills working for companies such as Land Rover and Nike – developing advertising material for new products. These were really eye-opening sessions that helped to develop an understanding of building a brand and persuasive writing.



For those who were brave enough to dress-up as book character, there was a chance to win book prizes and Easter eggs. There were so many fantastic entries, students had made a real effort with their costumes. Seth chose the winners with Trafford, Grace and Emma taking the top three.

A Redesign a Book Cover competition, allowed the budding artists and designers to show-off their talents. An amazing book sleeve for Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban beautifully painted by Poppy, the winner. With amazing runners-up entries from Katherine, Isaac, Sandra and Millie. The care and attention to detail of all the entries was really amazing.



**Thank you to everyone who took part in one of the library games during the last week of term. We raised £32 for the World Book Day Charity, who provide books for disadvantaged children.**

## Saint Martin's Book Club (SMBC) Podcast

We continue to grow our Podcast series with episodes featuring our own Mrs Aguilar and visiting author Seth Burket. <https://www.facebook.com/stmartins.stokegolding/videos/283402673901884>



# CAREER *days*

This term has been another exciting one for Careers at Saint Martin's. During May, we put together an evaluation group made up of staff, students, parents, employers and governors who met to discuss the future of our careers program. Part of this session was to re-brand the program and the new name was decided to be 'Bright Futures'. The group will meet once a term to discuss the program and talk about what is working well, any improvements that can be made and ideas for future activities. I will also be asking some of our art students to help design a new logo for 'Bright Futures' so, watch this space! Having the voices of all of these people will ensure that our careers programme is fully inclusive for all students.



UNIVERSITY OF  
LEICESTER

On June 15th we took a group of year 9 & 10 students to the University of Leicester where they took part in the 'Your Future in Medicine: Spotlight on GP' event. The event was for students who had a keen interest in studying medicine or wanted to learn more about it. The day started with a lecture from Dr Sam Adcock who told us all about his journey into medicine and gave us lots of useful information on the different routes that you can take as a medical student. After a tour of the campus, our students got involved in a workshop where they had to deal with scenario's that they may be presented with as a real GP. They demonstrated valuable skills such as teamwork, prioritising, empathy and working well under pressure. As always, the students were a credit to Saint Martin's.

As part of the Year 8 pastoral day, we had an exciting new visitor in school – Harsh Patel. Harsh graduated with a First Class Honours in Physics with Space Science Bsci from the University of Leicester and has worked with BBC Future, BBC Leicester, BBC News and as a presenter on the National Space Centre. Now, at only age 23, Harsh has decided to step into the tech world and is now the CEO and founder of ApnaKey. ApnaKey is a social media platform

focusing on booking activities and events within your city. Since its release in November 2021, ApnaKey has won the Smart Leicester Award from Leicester City Council and the Santander Award from the Innovation Hub. Harsh ran 3 sessions with the whole of Year 8 explaining his journey from being at secondary school right through to his new venture. He also got the students to use their imaginations and work in groups to think of an invention/company/product and then to allocate job roles to whoever they thought would be most suited by looking at their personal strengths and qualities. Some examples of the ideas were: A Revision Timetable App, Jet Propelled Trainers and A Virtual Personal Trainer.



Being such a rural school, many parents/carers need to pick up their sons or daughters by car. The logistics of getting so many cars on and off site within 20 minutes or so is a challenge. Although we have significantly expanded the parking facilities, we are still tight on space. We rely on the patience and politeness of drivers, so your co-operation is greatly appreciated. For drivers who park in the surrounding roads, please be aware of local residents who need constant access to Convent Drive and the other side roads. We are continuing to look at ways to create more space as the school expands. Once you have dropped off your child please leave the school site as quickly as you are able to allow other parents / carers access to the carpark. We operate a one-way system for driving around the school carpark, please use the image below to guide you.

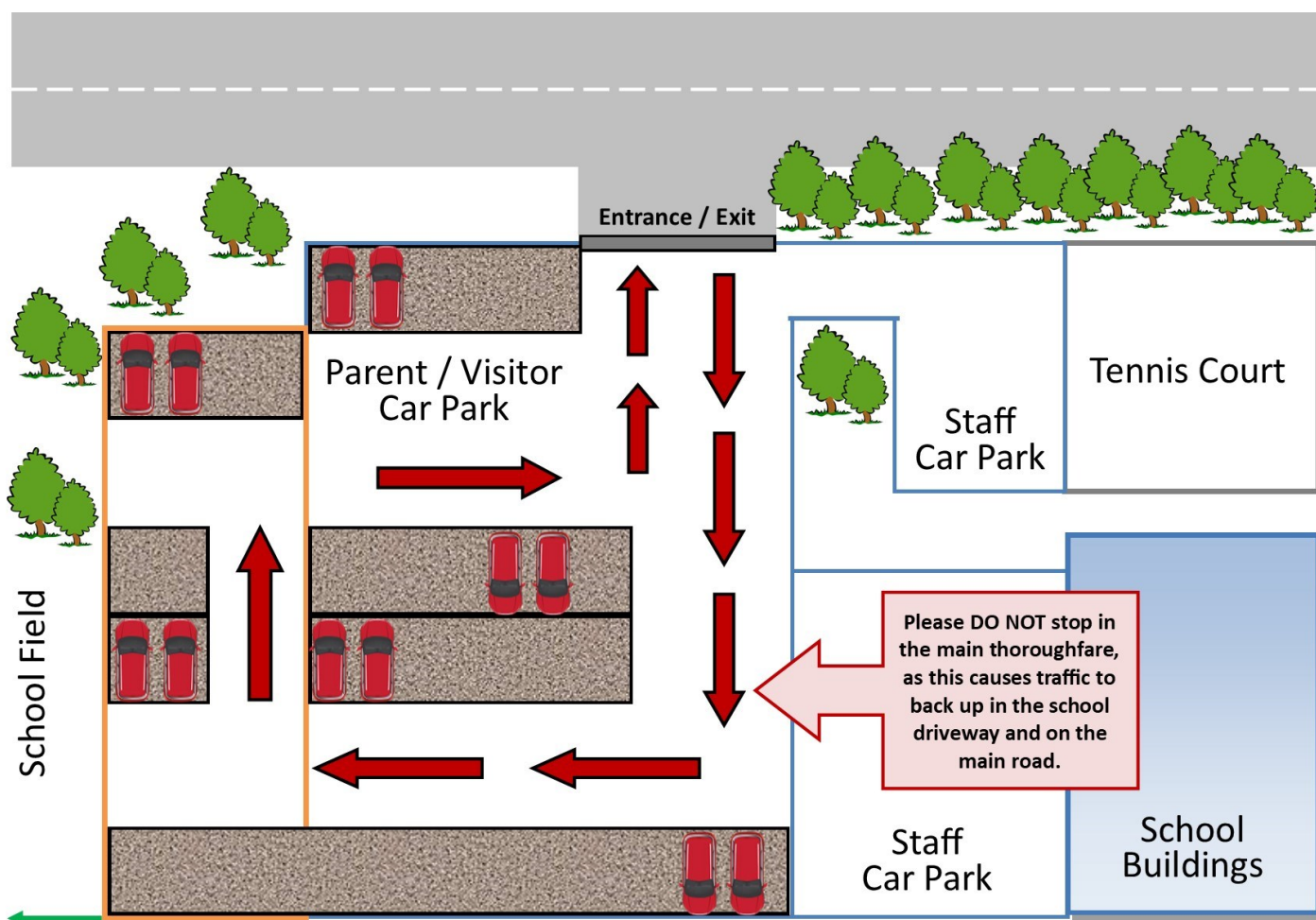
The gates will close automatically at 9.00am each morning and re-open at 3.00pm (2pm on Mondays) ready for you to collect your child. If for any reason you do need to visit the school during the day, you can use the intercom which connects you with the School Office staff who can then let you in. **We would appreciate your co-operation with not trying to gain access to the car park before 3.00pm when collecting your child, to maintain security and ensure the safety of our students.**

## Homework Club

Homework club will **be available until 4:35pm**, Monday to Friday It will only be available for students who want to study, complete homework or read. It will be a silent study area.

Students will need to reserve their place with the library staff by the end of lunch each day. If parents/carers know that a slot will be needed on a regular basis for a term, this can be booked in advance by emailing:

[library@saint-martins.net](mailto:library@saint-martins.net)





## Hinckley Garden of Remembrance Centenary Celebrations

We were honoured to be asked to take part in the Centenary celebration of the Garden of Remembrance in Hinckley's Argent Mead on Friday 20th May.

The students took part in a service honouring those who were killed in all conflicts since the First World War. It was a lovely service where we learnt a lot of the history of the site and how women of the town raised the funds to build it after the First World War.

At the end of the ceremony the Mayor, Councillor Dawn Glenville, introduced herself to the group. The students were a credit to the school.



# Things to remember

## Equipment for lessons

All students should be equipped to work every day with a pencil case containing black/blue pens, pencils, a pencil sharpener, an eraser, a ruler, a green pen. A scientific calculator may also be required for certain lessons. If a student does not have these basic items then they may receive a behaviour point. Replacement items can be bought during the school day from the Library.

## Coursework

It is extremely important that students meet coursework deadlines set by the school and also be prepared for whatever the conditions of the coursework are. These are set out by the exam board including the tasks involved in the course. Provision of all coursework materials will also need to be provided by parents, your support with this is vital. If the course requires a text book, it will need to be purchased to support in class learning. This isn't optional as those without will be at a disadvantage.

## Drop off and Pick up Arrangements

We have received a lot of messages this year regarding changes to pick up routines which can be a timely task. Could we ask that where possible, arrangements are made before the school day with your child.

## Contact details

Please ensure your child writes up to date contact numbers in their planner so that if they need to contact home this can be done quickly.

Can we ask that should your address or contact details change that you notify the school immediately as it can be a safeguarding matter if we need to get hold of you.

## Pastoral care

Pastoral care is part of every pupil's entitlement in their school life. It can be defined as the promotion of pupils' personal and social development and the fostering of positive attitudes to school, learning, other members of the community and oneself. Pastoral care is central to academic achievement. A child who is emotionally and physically healthy is better able to reach their full potential.

The school is a community in which each person is valued as an individual.

The form tutor has prime duty of care for the members of their form, being the first port of call for concerns relating to your child. If you have specific questions relating to a certain department then the form tutor will be able to direct you.



# Saint Martin's

'This term, a project that we have been working on for the last year finally became a reality: our angel is here. In the beautiful school grounds, among the trees near Saint Catherine, now stands our towering willow sculpture. Chaz, our sculptor, from small local business Wayside Willow, has supported us through the whole process, from initial designs, to constructing the two metre steel armature, and concluding by teaching us how to weave willow on to the large figure.



A symbolic design, the archangel Gabriel 'Strength of God', is often described as a guardian angel, here to bring us strength and protect us. With his wings formed into the shape of a love heart, Gabriel pictures part of our school vision, to teach our students that they are loved by God. On his back, he carries Saint Paul's sword of the spirit, representing truth, Veritas, our school badge and moto.

With thanks to Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council and the Thomas Barton Charity, who have helped bring our project to life.'





We are always conscious that we ask for a lot of support from our Parents and Carers throughout the school year when it comes to fundraising, whether it be for school or to donate to our nominated charities. Your support is always greatly appreciated. We understand that sometimes money is tight, so being able to plan ahead is helpful in most cases.

This year we have decided to trial a 'Pay up Front' for the 5 of the non uniform days that we have throughout the year to raise money. We would ask for a £10 payment from every student during September, which can be paid in instalments or in one go, potentially raising over £7000 for our nominated causes. This money could then be used throughout the school year as and when needed. The money would be split between the **Library** for resources and to support World Book Day fundraising, **Chaplaincy**—to be split between our nominated Catholic charities and to support the students fundraising to attend the Lourdes Pilgrimage, and **the PE department** which will support them with new equipment and taking students to fixtures.

These non –uniform days are on the Calendar as follows:  
**14th October, 9th February, 2nd March, 21st April and 25th May.**

There will be other times during the year when we would appreciate your support by donating towards our foodbank collections during December and March, and also for our annual Christmas Fayre which is our biggest fundraiser each year—this will include one additional non uniform day on **2nd December**, as in previous years we will be asking for donations of Bottles of drinks, wrapped gifts and chocolate in exchange, more details about this will follow in the new school year.

We are hoping that it will be 3rd time lucky for our Christmas Fayre this year. In 2020 we organised all of our seasonal fundraising efforts to be completely online as we were still in the midst of the Pandemic. We were more hopeful in 2021, we had planned on holding our Christmas Fayre as normal, however the decision was made to cancel the event to continue to keep our school community safe.

This year our Christmas Fayre will be on **Friday 9th December**.

Taking part in the Prize Draw and games for the Christmas Fayre is optional, as always, but the additional money raised will support our students and a number of local charities.

Thank you

### Year 7 and 8 Food Studies

Students were asked to produce a baked item in the shape of an insect of their choice to link with the project work of the Eco Club and National Insect Week. Their efforts were absolutely fantastic!

Well done KS3!



**Year 10 GCSE Food and Nutrition** pupils prepared, cooked, and presented Ballotines of Poultry and Beef in a one-hour lesson







# SAINT MARTIN'S *Eco Club*

I was excited when I heard that Eco lead position was available at our school. I knew straight away I want to get involved. I'm sharing the role with Mr Blissett.

At the beginning of the September we advertised for our students to apply to become members of Eco club. We were overwhelmed with the responses. We have 30 members.

Since the Eco Club began we have undertaken many projects, including:

- Taking part in Less Litter & Bin It activities
- Arranging recycling bins to be installed in the school grounds and classrooms
- Our Eco club was doing litter picking in school and in nearby local areas.
- Collecting non-recyclable items (crisps packets, stationary, oral care products) for the Gog youth charity
- Planted wheelbarrows around the school grounds with fruit and vegetables as part of Mealbarrow Extravaganza competition.

We are growing pumpkin and squash seedlings for our south facing border. Another competition run by Sustainable Schools Leicester. This will run into next academic year. In October there will be a judging of best design and best crop.

Our Eco club took part in the Rural Conference run by Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council. The delegates were impressed by activities and with what our students have done. This led to a donation of timber by one of the delegates to our Pizza Oven project.

We also took part in a celebration of Less Litter project run by Sustainable School Leicester and met with inner cities school Eco clubs.

Our end of the year Eco club trip was to The Butterfly farm in Stratford upon Avon, where we learned about the life cycle and importance of butterfly and insects. This linked to our Insect week. We took part in an Insect week run by Royal Entomologist Society. We informed our school

about the importance of insect and collaborated with food tech and art department on projects inspired by insects.

We have had quite a few visitors to our school to support our Eco club, we had Mr Tench from Sustainable Schools Leicester delivering a Litter assembly to Y9 and talking to our Eco members. He was very impressed with the Eco clubs achievements.

We had Ms Bark from Sustainable School Leicester help us plant vegetables and fruits and she enjoyed herself so much that she stayed till afternoon and joined us to do litter picking around the local area.

*Mrs Cox*





# REUSE REDUCE RECYCLE



At Saint Martin's we are committed to recycling and helping to reduce plastic on the planet. We will therefore no longer be selling bottles of water from the office. We have water fountains around school for students to use to refill bottles, these water stations can be used during break and lunchtime. Please encourage your child to bring a reusable bottle into school to ensure they stay hydrated, especially in warmer weather.



Infinity rags (UK) Ltd is one of the fastest growing companies in the recycling industry and one that Saint Martin's is happy to work with.

Infinity Rags offer a regular collection of clean and usable clothing, shoes and handbags (not school uniform). These items are then taken to Africa and sold cheaply to help people buy affordable clothing, shoes etc. Infinity will also pay the school for the weight of clothing collected.

We hope you will help support both to recycle, whilst also accruing some funds towards our school by dropping off any of the above listed items to the red collection unit supplied in the school car park.

Following on from our textiles collection, as Infinity Rags do not accept school uniforms we are happy to continue to accept any used school uniform items and PE kit at reception. We will re-sell these at a reduced price to any member of or school community. Many of these items are still in excellent condition, as children can grow sporadically, uniform may be needed for a short time, especially close to the end of the school year. We will be displaying these items at future events, or please feel free to ask the office if you are in need of a second hand uniform item. We would be grateful if anyone has a spare hanging rail that we can use to display such items. Thank you in advance for your continued support.

#savingtheplanet #savingmoney #smartStMarts

**Please note that ALL lost property items will be donated to these collections at the end of each term. It is the sole responsibility of your child to take care of their belongings and look for them if they are misplaced.**

**PE Lost property will be with Mr Issitt, all other items will taken to the lost property area next to the Premises Office, opposite 5SD.**

**Thank you.**

## Planned Giving Initiative

To continue our high level of education here at Saint Martin's we have set up a voluntary school fund to help subject departments buy essential resources, which are vital in supporting your child's learning.

Any contribution is entirely voluntary and anything from £1 a month upwards would be gratefully received. We realise that lots of families are also under financial pressures so any contribution, however small, is appreciated and will be used to enhance our curriculum

If you would like to contribute to Saint Martin's on a monthly basis, then please arrange a standing order with your bank using the details below:

<b>Name of Account:</b>	St Thomas Aquinas Multi Academy Trust
<b>Name of Bank:</b>	Lloyds Bank
<b>Account Number:</b>	63927868
<b>Sort Code:</b>	30-96-18
<b>Ref:</b>	Childs Name and Year of birth (eg. Fred Smith 03)
<b>Amount:</b>	What ever you wish to donate per month.

### **Administering Medicines in School**

**Prescribed medicines** may be administered in school (by any of the first aid team) where it is deemed essential. Most prescribed medicines can be taken outside of normal school hours. Wherever possible, the pupil will administer their own medicine, under the supervision of a member of staff. In cases where this is not possible, the staff member will administer the medicine.

If a child refuses to take their medication, staff will accept their decision and inform the parents accordingly.

In all cases, we must have written parental permission outlining the type of medicine, dosage and the time the medicine needs to be given. These forms are available in the school office.

Staff will ensure that records are kept of any medication given.

**Spare Epi Pens and Inhalers** should be kept in the school office. These should be in the original packaging with your child's name on, please ensure that you come in to the school at the start of each term, to check that these are in date and in full working order.

Please note that if your child is due to take part in a school trip or visit and does not have their medication, as listed on the school system (e.g. asthma inhaler) with them, they may not be taken on the trip.

**Non-prescribed medicines (Paracetamol / hay fever tablets) will not be held in the school office.**

**If your child need these type of tablets for cold symptoms, period pain etc they must be responsible for them by keeping them in their blazer or bag. Please ensure they know when to administer their next dose, students will not be supervised by a member of staff when doing this, they should also have water with them .**

Please keep the school office up to date with any changes to your child's medical needs.

## **P=RIODEQUALITY**

We believe that period products should be made available to all those who need them in education, as they are a necessity, not a luxury. No-one should be held back from accessing education due to their period.

Last Year the Department for Education (DfE) launched it's 'Period Equality' scheme to provide free period products to young people in schools and colleges across England.

The scheme offers period products, for all who need them, when they need them, in order to access education. Having periods should not be a barrier to education for any learner especially during these financially challenging times

We are remove the stigma and embarrassment that some girls may feel when asking for sanitary products in school and so far we have had an encouraging response. Both the Reception and Girls PE Office have stocks of sanitary pads, tampons and more environmentally-friendly and reusable products, and can provide these to students with the upmost discretion. Not all students may be aware of the scheme and so we will be placing 'Period Equality' posters in the girls toilets notifying them of where they can collect sanitary products from should they need them.

**If any parents / carers need support in providing sanitary products while students are at home please speak to the school office, we will be happy to help.**

## **Mobile Phone Policy**

### **Phones must be kept in** **Lockers during the** **school day**

Mobile phones are an integral part of the modern world and we know that the majority of students will own a mobile phone. They are brilliant for parents/carers outside of school so that you can keep in touch with your children at all times. As you know, at Saint Martin's students must turn their mobile phones off once they arrive on school premises and ensure they are placed in their lockers until the end of the day. There is zero tolerance on this, phones will be confiscated for a minimum of 24 hours and must be collected by a parent/carer. If a student has forgotten their locker key they can hand their phone into the main reception for safekeeping. The responsibility of not getting a phone confiscated lies solely with the student. If you wish not be inconvenienced by having to collect your child's phone, please ensure that they follow the rules.



# Sporting Results

## Rounders

This term we had some brilliant rounders results in the Hinckley & Bosworth tournaments.

Year 7 – 1st  
Year 8 – 2nd  
Year 9 – 3rd  
Year 10 – 1st

Well done girls



## Football

Our Year 8 and 9 boys football teams travelled to Conover Hall in June, to play in a football tournament at Shrewsbury Town FC. Of the five teams that entered, one year 8 team reached the final, narrowly losing 3-2 in the final moments of the game. The weekend was a huge success though, our students enjoyed all manner of adventurous activities whilst we were there, including kayaking, archery and the aerial trek.

## Softball

Also in June, we entered a Year 7 team into the Key Stage 3 softball tournament at Redmoor. Despite being up against three year 9 teams, our year 7s finished second, only losing first place on the final ball of our last game! They did fantastically well to compete against older students, having only learned to play softball in the weeks leading up to the tournament.

## Netball

*Barton Hall, 13 – 15th May*

Back in May, we took 5 of our netball teams down to Torquay, Devon for the annual Barton Hall netball weekend tournament. This year, there were more teams than ever, all excited to get back to playing after two years of cancellations.

We had a great weekend of netball and PGL activities, with lots of fun and success:

Year 7 B team with Miss Bates, played really well and made so much progress, beating a couple of the A teams along the way.

Year 9 team with Mrs Lowry, played brilliantly and

reached the semi-finals, narrowly missing the final by 1 goal (5-6)

Year 10 team with Mrs King, also played brilliantly to reach the semi-finals. They were drawing at full time (4-4), but were unlucky to narrowly lose by 1 goal in extra time (1-2)

Year 8 team (our County champions) with Mrs Elliot, easily won their semi-final 14-1. In the final, the standard was extremely high and finished a draw 5-5 at the end of full time. However, after extra time, the girls were very unlucky to lose 1-2. Fantastic game!

Year 7 team with Mrs Murphy, played exceptionally well throughout the whole tournament, reaching and easily winning their semi-final 12-5. In the final, there was never any doubt about who the winners were going to be. St. Martin's won 13-3 to become Barton Hall champions, in a fantastic match!

Many congratulations to all of the girls, who played brilliantly throughout the weekend.

After taking netball teams down to Barton Hall since 2002, I would just like to take this opportunity to thank all of the students and staff who have ever accompanied me on any of these trips to Torquay. This has always been one of my favourite trips. I have such fond memories of each one – the laughter, the tears, the camaraderie, the progress made and, of course, of great success for our school every year. This was a lovely way to end my career at Saint Martin's. Thank you all!

**Mrs Murphy**



## Uniform

At Saint Martin's we have the highest expectations regarding school uniform, behaviour and work ethic **and there will be zero tolerance of any non compliance**. Where there is pride in appearance and good behaviour, by implication, there is a positive attitude to learning. If a student chooses not to adhere to our School Uniform Policy then sanctions will apply. Which can include afterschool detentions and inclusions. Our uniform unites all members of the community and therefore must be adhered to by all members of the community.

If you have any queries regarding uniform purchases or choices please contact the school office.

**May we remind all parents/carers and students of the following:**

- Shirts must be tucked in at all times and ALL buttons fully fastened.
- Ties done up properly.
- Skirts must be knee length
- Trousers cannot be skinny fit.
- Blazers are always worn, unless permission is given to remove it.
- Jewellery of any description may not be worn in school, including earrings. This rule applies to girls and boys. Watches may be worn.
- Extremes of hairstyle, including unnatural colours or shaved sides, are not permitted. The Principal will be the final arbiter of what counts as 'extreme'.
- Make-up including thick eye brows and nail varnish must not be worn in school. If make-up or nail varnish is used, students will be asked to remove it. False, acrylic, or gel nails are not allowed for health and safety reasons.

## SHOES

**PLAIN BLACK LEATHER, ACADEMY TYPE. MUST BE POLISHABLE.**

**We expect all pupils to wear school shoes in line with our uniform guidelines.**

**The guidelines on shoes is being strictly enforced. Please see the examples shown if you are unsure about acceptable shoe styles.**

**If you have any queries about the Academy Uniform Policy please see the school website for clarification, or contact the school office.**

## Sanctions

As a parent / carer of a Saint Martin's students we have appreciated your full support in maintaining exceptional standards of behaviour by ensuring your child understands and adheres to all of our school rules and policies. Any sanctions that occur from poor behaviour, lacking equipment, incorrect uniform etc. are the sole

responsibility of the students. There is no option to opt out of after school detentions, whether they be same night or next day, if this sanction is used. Saint Martin's also holds no responsibility for getting students home if we put them in detention as per Section 5 of the 1997 Education Act in choosing a school that uses this form of sanction you are agreeing to support its use when deemed necessary.

## Social media use

The majority of our students equally have social media accounts (despite most having a minimum age of 13) so we must also advise acceptable use of all social media platforms. The school offers lots of advice on E-Safety and we would ask parents/carers to check your child's internet use regularly to ensure that they are not putting themselves at risk. Cyberbullying has become an issue nationally since the emergence of Social Media and the school will not tolerate unpleasant behaviour of any kind towards our students. Whether in school or not, the school can and will impart sanctions if a member of our community is found to be cyberbullying. Please contact a member of staff if you have any concerns.

 Plain black shoes that can be polished.	 No trainer style, canvas, elaborate decoration, Velcro or high heels.
	
	
	
	





SAINT MARTIN'S  
*Catholic Academy*

Trinity Term 2022

Our Chair of Governors can be contacted via [admin@saint-martins.net](mailto:admin@saint-martins.net)