



NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we conclude another successful year at Saint Martin's, our Newsletter reflects on the many achievements of our pupils and staff, especially during a term marked by two major inspections.

In the Catholic Life Inspection, the school was praised for its strong sense of mission and values. Pupils were described as "shining lights" – confident, respectful, and morally grounded. Inspectors highlighted the vibrant Catholic ethos, outstanding religious education, and excellent outcomes well above national averages. Chaplaincy was noted as a particular strength, with over 80 pupils involved in leadership roles, service projects, and spiritual life. The chapel continues to be a focal point for worship and reflection, with collective worship deeply embedded in school life.

Although the Ofsted report is yet to be published, early feedback was extremely positive. Inspectors commended the school's culture of ambition, mutual respect, and care. They praised pupils' excellent behaviour, their love of learning, and the strength of relationships between students and staff. The school's provision for SEND students, its emphasis on reading, and the robust careers programme also received strong recognition.

As well as these inspections, our staff and students have been exceptionally busy this term with visits, trips, events, voting and even our school leaver Prom, all of which you can read about on the following pages. We have also hosted our year transition days for your new cohort of year 7's starting with us after the summer, and we welcomed the year 5 class from Saint Margarets, in Stoke Golding, last week, they came to join our Science departments and take part in experiments using bunsen burners.

I must congratulate our new student leadership team, after a round of speeches by 10 candidates and voting by our entire cohort and staff, our new Head Boy and Girl have been elected, very well done to Isacc and Lucy.



They will all take on a number of responsibilities around school when they return in September for their final year with us. They will work along side their deputies and senior prefects.

Deputy Head Girl: Esther

Deputy Head Boy: Stirling

Senior Prefects: Aimee, Ionela, Grace, Isla, Lewis, Zubair

Can I thank our parents for their ongoing support (Especially those who have helped set up the PTFA this year), and special good wishes and good luck are extended to Year 11 pupils ahead of GCSE results day.

Wishing all our families a restful and happy summer break. We look forward to seeing you all in the next Academic year.

God bless,

C Wright
Principal

SUMMER HOLIDAYS 2025

The summer holidays are nearly upon us and we wanted to send our usual information sheet out to you with some ideas to keep costs down.

Discounted meals

There are lots of places offering free or very discounted meals for children. At Yo! Sushi children eat free with a full-paying adult, Monday to Friday.

See more restaurants, cafes and pub offers by clicking on the sushi!



Things to do

Looking for school holiday ideas that won't break the bank? Click on the picnic basket below for 30 ideas at low cost! Ideas include making your own time capsule, fancy dress days and camping out!



More things to do

Hinckley and Bosworth Council have produced a document with things to do around the local area. Click on the star (and then download the document) to see what's on offer!



Trip abroad?

If you are flying from London Heathrow on a getaway, children 12 and under eat free with the purchase of an adult main meal at a variety of restaurants across the airport. Click on the plane to see the participating eateries.



Leicester Museums

As ever, Leicester Museums have a wide range of activities at a free/low cost. Activities include Elmer and Friends, Railway Days, Roman Activity Days, Meet the Police and Pirates fun day. Click on the museum to see all the activities and events running!



Looking After Wellbeing Over the Summer

As we approach the summer holidays, we encourage families to be mindful of the impact excessive screen time and social media use can have on young people's mental health. Research by psychologist Jonathan Haidt highlights growing concerns around the link between screen use and anxiety, low mood, and social isolation in teenagers.

We strongly recommend taking time over the break to enjoy the outdoors, meet up with friends and family face-to-face, and take a break from constant online engagement. Encouraging children to read, pursue hobbies, or simply be bored can help reset their attention and support positive mental wellbeing.

For further guidance and resources, please visit the e-safety section of our website:
👉 www.saint-martins.net/parents/e-safety

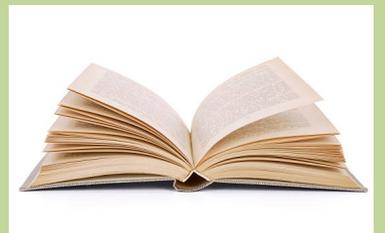


The Power of Reading Over the Holidays

Summer is the perfect time for students to unwind with a good book. Just 20 minutes of reading a day can have a significant impact on vocabulary, comprehension, creativity, and overall academic success.

Research shows that students who read regularly over the holidays are more likely to return to school with stronger literacy skills and greater confidence across all subjects. Reading also offers a healthy escape from screens, reduces stress, and improves focus and imagination.

Whether it's fiction, non-fiction, graphic novels, or audiobooks, encouraging your child to read for pleasure this summer is one of the simplest and most effective ways to support their education and wellbeing.



This is a reminder that All PE kit MUST have initials on, this MUST be done at Hole in the Wall, which can take up to a week at busy times.

We have a new kit, due to our supplier discontinuing the current kit.

This new kit is mandatory for Year 7 intake 2025 and expected when replacing kit in other year groups.



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:

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



You spend,
brands donate.

Sign up to easyfundraising and see your favourite brands donate to the cause you care about whenever you shop with them.

Sign up and get started



You many have seen in recent communications that we have enlisted the support of Parents, Teachers and Friends of Saint Martin's by setting up a new PTFA, to assist with fundraising in school. The PTFA are supporting community that will raise money to fund planned projects around school, support with curriculum resources, enhance facilities, trips and enhance the experience of the students.

In the new year details will be sent out about PTFA hosted events, which you may be interested in attending, these will include car boot sales, quiz nights, BBQs and selling refreshments at planned school events such as Open Evening.

The PTFA is open to new members, you are welcome to come along to any of the meeting, the next one is on the school calendar for Tuesday 9th September, 6pm—7.30pm.

Our first projects was to sign the school up to [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) to start raising money for our school. This platform turns your daily shopping into cash for our school. Easyfundraising partners with over 8,000 brands who will donate part of what you spend to Saint Martin's. It won't cost you any extra. The cost is covered by the brand. You can help by signing up at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/>, selecting Saint Martin's Catholic Academy as your chosen cause, and shop online through their website or app. It takes less than a minute to sign up, and we get money for each new supporter.

Every online purchase, however big or small, will help with our fundraising goals!

Thank you

Sports Day 2025 was an exciting and energetic event that brought all the students together for a full day of fun and friendly competition. In the morning, everyone took part in various team games, such as football, netball, tag rugby, softball, volleyball and curling. Across all of these mini tournaments, the students truly showed our fantastic school spirit.

In the afternoon, the focus shifted to track and field events, with all of the traditional athletics events plus skipping races and tug-of-war. In every event our students showed fantastic enthusiasm and sportsmanship. Each child gave their best effort, cheered on by their classmates from the sidelines. Their behaviour throughout the day was excellent, with everyone showing respect for one another. The smooth running of the event, the hot weather and the joyful atmosphere made Sports Day a memorable occasion for all involved.

Well done to each of the winning tutor groups from each year group! Huge congratulations to Anna of the Angels for winning the lower school competition and Francis Fernandez for winning for upper school.

The final standings were as follows:

<u>Year 7</u>	<u>Year 8</u>	<u>Year 9</u>	<u>Year 10</u>	<u>Lower School Year 7&8</u>	<u>Upper School Year 9&10</u>
1 st AA 211 pts	1 st AA 198 pts	1 st FF 175 pts	1 st FF 173 pts	1 st AA 409 pts	1 st FF 348 pts
2 nd GG 167 pts	2 nd CR 168 pts	2 nd AN 170 pts	2 nd AN 147 pts	2 nd GG 296 pts	2 nd AN 317 pts
3 rd FF 116 pts	3 rd FF 144 pts	Joint 3 rd AA & CR	3 rd GG 144 pts	3 rd CR 278 pts	3 rd AA 296 pts
4 th AN 115 pts	4 th MH 130 pts	160 pts	4 th AA 136 pts	4 th FF 260 pts	4 th CR 288 pts
5 th CR 110 pts	5 th GG 129 pts	5 th GG 119 pts	5 th CR 128 pts	5 th MH 239 pts	5 th GG 263 pts
6 th MH 109 pts	6 th AN 91 pts	6 th MH 90 pts	6 th MH 124 pts	6 th AN 206 pts	6 th MH 214 pts

Term Dates 2025 / 26

August 26th & 27th Staff INSET
August 28th Year 7 Only
August 29th Year 7 & 11
September 1st School Opens—All Year Groups
September 9th PTFA meeting, 6pm
September 11th Year 11 Parent information evening
September 18th Year 7 & 11 individual photos
September 22nd Open Evening
September 29th Year 7 tutor evening and Social BBQ (TBC)
October 8th Year 10 Iceland Trip
HALF TERM MONDAY 20TH OCTOBER – FRIDAY 24TH OCTOBER

October 30th Year 9 Individual & All Year sibling photos
November 17th Year 11 Mocks
November 20th Prize Giving
November 21st CMAT INSET—School closed to students
November 24th Year 7 Briars Trip
November 26th & 27th Wreath Making—Festive Fundraising
December 5th Menphys Concert
December 11th Carol Service –St Peters Church
December 15th Christmas Concert
December 16th OAP Christmas Coffee Morning
December 19th School Closes
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY MONDAY 22ND DEC – FRIDAY 2ND JAN 2026

Student Planners

Being organised is a really important habit we like Saint Martin's pupils to develop. Homework is set online on SatcheOne, however, all pupils are expected to have a **Student Planner/Diary** to help them be organised (for notes, meetings or additional Homework information). For your convenience, we have purchased Student Pocket Planners which you can buy for **£2** via Parent Pay / Arbor. Pupils will then be given the planner in school.

Please note that ALL lost property items will be thrown away or donated 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 in reception.

Thank you.

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.

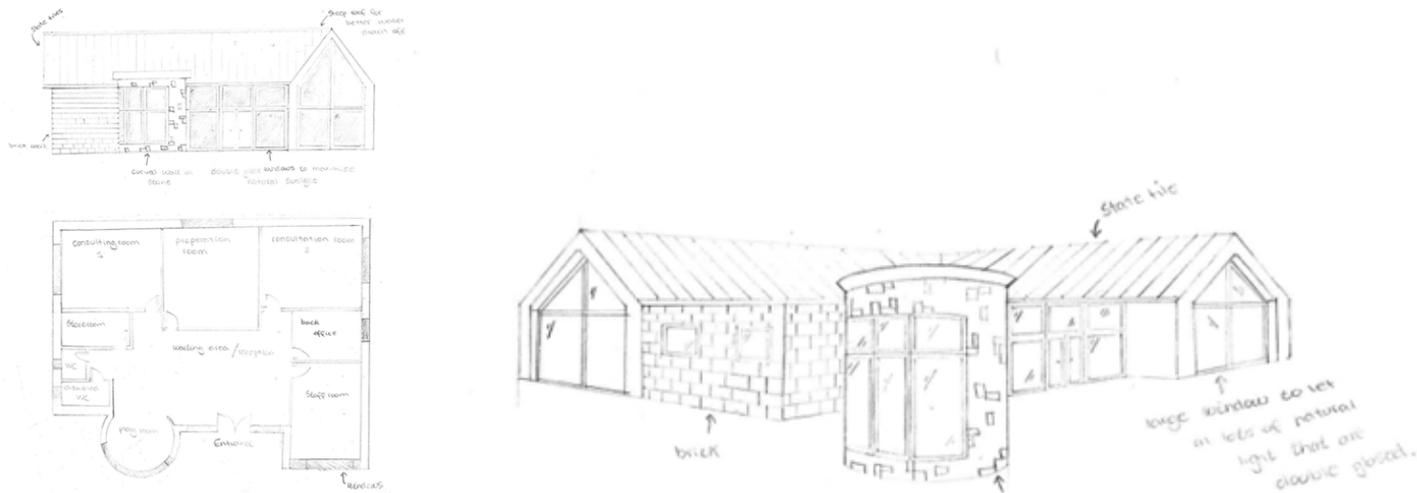
Parents / Carers are welcome to contact the school at any time. In the first instance you should speak to your child's Form Tutor if you have any questions or concerns. **Please be considerate of the fact that, in most cases, our Form Tutors are members of teaching staff and will be in lessons for most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

Construction (KS4)

This BTEC qualification in Construction and the Built Environment is for learners who want to acquire sector-specific applied knowledge and skills through vocational contexts by studying relevant skills used in construction.

This week a new generation of architects, designers, and construction planners is emerging at Saint Martin's. The exam board assessment and brief required students to design a dental surgery for a client. The students were required to sift through the client brief and work to the constraints applied to the project. Photos of the proposed site were also provided, and students were expected to show their understanding by designing a suitable building for the client. The work they produced was in response to the brief but they also needed to demonstrate their knowledge and skills of renewable energy, sustainable resources, and innovative, future-proof designs for the construction industry. Excellent results achieved throughout.

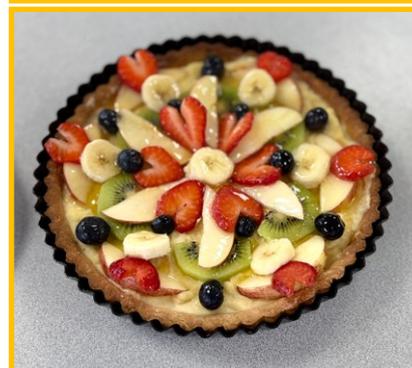


Year 7 started their culinary journey by learning how to hold and use paring knives. After creating Fruit Salads and Salad in Jars they moved on to using the electric hobs and the ovens. Sauce making skills, dough making (Pizza), Carbonara, and Bolognese are just a few of the dishes produced this year.

Year 8 have produced some fabulous food throughout the year. New skills included baking, oriental cooking, sauce making, piping skills, and the pièce de résistance to prepare, cook, and present a high skilled dish of their own choice. Year 8 did not let Saint Martin's down, food was prepared, cooked, and presented to GCSE standard all within an hour, inclusive of cleaning up!

After school club has been extremely popular this year. Working with a chilled-out vibe but never too cool that we can't follow Mrs Boulton's 'Clean as you Go' motto.

Chocolate Eclairs, Thai Fish Curry, and Fruit Tart are just a few of the dishes made. Students enjoy giving their parent/guardians, an evening off while they cook dinner at the club.



Year 8 Plas Gwynant trip

In May, 45 year 8's attended a trip to Plas Gwynant in North Wales. The trip was a weeklong adventure in the hills of Eryri. Students had a fun packed week doing all sorts of activities, including abseiling, rock weaselling, canoeing, gorge walking, mountain walking, river swimming as well as being responsible for jobs around the centre and keeping their own living space clean and tidy.

We had the chance to have a look around the town of Llangollen on the way and enjoy some of the lovely cakes, pasties and ice creams available in the picturesque Welsh town centre.

Each group had the chance to walk to the summit of a mountain called Yr Aran, which has spectacular views across to Yr Wyddfa, given the beautiful weather we had the views were truly stunning. The red team leader, Kevin, said he's never had a group complete the walk in such a fast time, he rewarded the students with a chance to relax and swim in a stream to cool off on the way back to the centre.

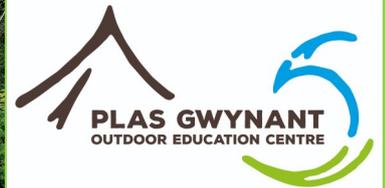
During the canoeing session we had the opportunity to paddle across Llyn Gwynant across to a famous landmark called elephants rock (aptly named because it looks like an elephant), upon arrival pupils then had the chance to leap off the rock into the lake.

After a fun packed week we ventured home and returned safely to Saint Martin's on the Friday afternoon.

All having had a truly memorable experience.

I'd just like to say a big thank you to staff and students who attended for making the week such a fantastic experience.

Mr Bevan (Visit Leader)



Over half the year 8 cohort attended the Big Bang Fair in Birmingham back in June. They got to fly drones, plant an oak tree, investigate owl diets, get a picture of their eye taken, talk to staff and experts from industry and education providers as well as bag lots of free goodies from pens to bags and yoyos from Specsavers.

Every pupil we saw throughout the event was excited and happily describing what they had seen and done. We hope some of them were inspired to consider a future career in the field of STEM.

Thanks to all the staff that supported this visit and to our pupils for being polite and excellent ambassadors for the school as always!

The Big Bang UK Young Scientists and Engineers Fair took place on **Tuesday 17 to Thursday 19 June 2025** at the NEC in Birmingham. Thousands of young people joined us to discover hands-on workshops, activities and exciting live shows.



DofE is offered to Year 9 and 10 in October each year. Letters will be sent out with details in the new term. Thanks Mrs Abela



Photo from the weekend of the Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh bronze group completing their expedition.

Year 10 History/Divinity trip to Krakow and Berlin

A group of 33 Year 10 students recently visited Krakow and Berlin, accompanied by 4 members of staff. We had 2 full days in each city with one day of travelling, so it was a jam-packed itinerary.

In Poland we visited Auschwitz. Whilst this was a sensitive and emotional site, the students gained a full insight as to what it was like to live through the horrors of the Holocaust. Next was a visit to Oskar Schindler's factory. Schindler was a German businessman who helped hundreds of Jews at a time of extreme persecution. We were all amazed at how much he risked helping others. After a visit to the Pope John Paul II Museum, we rounded off our stay in Krakow with the highlight of our trip: the incredible Salt Mines. Students were advised not to lick the walls, but did they listen... Of course not! To finish the evening off, there was a couple of games of bowling. A lot of fun was had by all.

Then it was off to Berlin and another full schedule. We had a wonderful stroll through Sanssouci Park, followed by some free time in the delightful town of Potsdam. Later in the day we took a leisurely walk along the Berlin Wall, the iconic graffiti making it a perfect photo opportunity and a chance to reflect on how it divided a city. The final day of our trip took us to Checkpoint Charlie. Another iconic site and an opportunity for a group photo which you can see on Facebook. Students were able to look around the museum and learn about heroic acts of escape from East to West Berlin. Before heading home we visited the Topography of Terror Exhibition, another reminder of how brutal the Nazi Regime was.

This was a fabulous trip. We crammed in a lot, so it was full on. The temperatures were high and there was a heck of a lot of walking. But it must be said that our students were a credit to the school, and on more than one occasion we were complimented on their impeccable behaviour and respectful attitude.

The students all agree it was a great trip and they came back with some wonderful memories, even if it was just licking a salt wall!



“Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.” Rom5:5

Throughout this Year in Divinity, we have celebrated the message that we are ‘Pilgrims of Hope in the Jubilee Year’. Please see our student’ inspiring messages of hope on the following link

[PowerPoint Presentation](#)

As “ordinary people called to be Saints,” the motto of our CMAT for the feast Day of St Thomas Aquinas our students have listened to various Podcasts on the meaning of the Jubilee from Bishop Patrick.

Our messages of hope for Holocaust Memorial Day can be found on the following link [HMD-prayers-2025-For-a-better-Future.pdf](#)

Throughout the year our staff and students have visited many Churches and places of worship to light candles for each other [Visiting-Churches-lighting-Candles-and-saying-Prayers-from-Staff-and-Students-in-the-Year-of-Prayer-b.pdf](#) As St Francis of Assisi said, “All the darkness in the world cannot be extinguished by the flame of a single candle.”

With the sad passing of Pope Francis our students reflected on the life of Pope Francis and welcomed Pope Leo XIV.

Our students in Divinity were excited to reflect on the process of the conclave, please read Evie’s article below.

These last few days at Saint Martins, we have been on ‘conclave watch.’ We have prayed for all the cardinals in the vote, who are hoping to enter the room of tears and become our new Pope. Every day we have prayed the conclave prayer and the line that really stood out to me is ‘be a builder of bridges.’ This is important to me because I believe in God’s plans. When you are chosen to be the next Pope, you enter the room of tears; this is a metaphor where the man dies and the new Vicar of Christ is born. As Pilgrims of Hope in the Jubilee Year, we strengthen our relationship with our Lord and ask for forgiveness. God sent his only son to die for us so we could have eternal life. We must have gratitude and show all the virtues that we practice at Saint Martins. We must stand in solidarity and show all the CST teachings for example, Common

Good and Social Justice. May our new Pope lead us with love, hope and patience.

Our students have written reviews of their work in Divinity on our website as further messages to inspire. Finally, we cannot leave the year without saying a special ‘Goodbye’ and ‘Thank you’ to our Mrs Gray.

The following Irish Blessing goes with you to your new school family. We will keep you in our prayers and ask that you keep us in your prayers. Thank you from our hearts, for all your inspiration.

On behalf of the Department, we would like to thank you for all your continued support and wish you and your families a lovely summer holiday.

Mrs Mulcrow.

MAY THE ROAD
RISE TO MEET
MAY THE YOU
WIND BE ALWAYS AT
YOUR BACK
MAY THE SUN SHINE WARM
UPON YOUR FACE
THE RAINS FALL UPON YOUR
SOFT FIELDS
AND, UNTIL
WE MEET AGAIN
MAY GOD HOLD YOU
IN THE PALM OF HIS HAND





SAINT MARTIN'S *Eco Club*



Eco Fair 2025: A Green Success at Our School!

This year's Eco Fair at our school was a fantastic success, filled with sunshine, smiles, and a strong sense of community. Students and staff came together to raise awareness for our planet, with a wide range of stalls and activities that were both fun and informative.

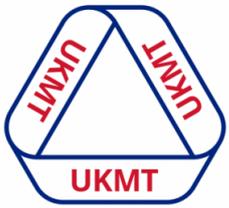
Our students did an outstanding job running the various stalls, showing initiative and teamwork throughout the day. The second hand book stall and clothes stall were busy from the start, giving pre-loved items a second life. The tombola and "Guess How Many Sweets in the Jar" stall were big hits, with eager participants lining up for a chance to win. The plant stall offered a beautiful variety of greenery for visitors to take home, and the eco coffee shop was buzzing.

A special thank you goes to Ms Lalo, our enthusiastic teacher trainee, who gave an engaging talk to students about the importance of bees. We also welcomed a local litter-picking charity Wombles, who delivered a lively assembly and hosted an interactive stall that inspired many students to get involved in caring for their environment.

Our Year 7 students proudly displayed their research projects on animals, plants, and fungi. Visitors could walk around and read their eye-catching and informative posters, learning all sorts of fascinating facts about the natural world.

With lovely weather on our side and a fantastic turnout, the Eco Fair was not only enjoyable but also a meaningful reminder of what we can do to protect our planet. Well done to everyone involved – it truly was a day to remember!





**United Kingdom
Mathematics Trust**

JUNIOR MATHS CHALLENGE SUCCESS AT SAINT MARTIN'S

Recently Year 7's and Year 8's took part in the annual UKMT Junior Maths Challenge. This is a 60 minute, 25 multiple choice paper which encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought and fluency to make students think.

We entered nearly 60 students, and they earned between them 27 Bronze certificates, 11 Silver and 5 Gold!

Fantastic results!

The top four results were good enough to automatically enter the students for the Kangaroo follow-on round.

Special congratulations to all these students, and well done to Imogen R for getting a Bronze in the kangaroo, and Charlie R for getting a Silver!



SPARX SUCCESS

This is our first year using Sparx Maths for homework and prep, and the results and impact have been very pleasing.

Since we started using the site in October, students have answered over 800,000 questions correctly, completing 13,208 hours of personalised Maths practice between them. Particular mention though, must go out to the students who have earned the most "XP" points on Sparx over the year: Bella, Jasmine, Alfie, Jacob, Connie, Hermione, Katelyn, Somtochi, Summer and Adiena.

Congratulations to all of you for your hard work this year.



Our Year 11s celebrated the conclusion of their formal time with us with their Prom. It was held at Bosworth Hall Hotel, which provides a stunning backdrop for their red-carpet moment. The hotel actually does put a red-carpet out on the steps leading up to the hotel which really gives a glittering awards night feel as the students exit their chosen vehicles.

As always there was a wonderful mix of expensive sports cars, tractors, motorbikes and other assorted vehicles. This year the highlights were a military vehicle, an 'armoured' golf-cart, the school minibus and one student who 'raced' round the turning circle in their own racing cart.

The majority of the students are unrecognisable from the little Year 7s who joined us 5 years ago. They looked beautiful and handsome and very grown-up in their dresses and suits and made their parents, carers and teachers very proud (in some cases tearful!).

After we had taken photos of all the staff and students on the red-carpet (see over page), we were whisked through the hotel to enjoy a night of food, dancing and celebration in our own suite. The students spent much of the evening dancing away to the playlist they had created. Although, we did find time to do "the most likely to..." awards, which the students enjoyed. These included categories such as most likely to; break a world record, appear on reality TV and get a doctorate.

Our beautiful students behaved impeccably, as they had throughout their time and Saint Martin's and appeared to thoroughly enjoy themselves. Did they head off to party into the night? We shall never know but they do leave Saint Martin's well set-up for whatever adventures that lie ahead, thanks to their hard work and dedication and that of their teachers and support staff.



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.

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

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.

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 for illness

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.

Sporting Results

Netball

May saw the return of our much-anticipated annual PGL Netball trip to Barton Hall in Devon. This year, we proudly took six teams from Years 7 to 9, with all the girls showing exceptional commitment and skill across the weekend. The competition was fierce, with an incredible number of schools participating, but our teams rose to the challenge with fantastic results:

Year 7A – 2nd Place

Year 8A – 1st Place

Year 8B – 2nd Place

Year 9 – 1st Place

Four of our six teams made it to the finals, a testament to the high standard of netball played. Every girl gave 100% in every match – what a brilliant achievement!

In June, 14 of our talented Year 9 and 10 players attended an invitational netball camp in Nottingham, led by England netball star Paige Reed. The day offered a valuable insight into life as a student-athlete at an elite university, followed by intensive sessions focusing on attacking, defending, and competitive match play. The girls gained a real taste of what high-level university netball looks like and performed brilliantly throughout the day.

To round off the month, our U13 and U15 teams competed in the prestigious World School Games at Loughborough University, a highlight of the school netball calendar. Despite a few injuries, both teams fought hard in every match and finished 4th in the Plate Competition, showing outstanding teamwork and resilience. A special mention goes to Esther A/O, who was named Player of the Match – an incredible individual accolade!

A heartfelt thank you to all the parents who have supported our home and away fixtures, often giving up weekends – your encouragement means so much. And finally, well done to all our netball players who have dedicated so much time and energy this year. Now it's time for a well-earned rest!

Rounders

This year's rounders season brought some brilliant results and exciting tournaments.

Year 9 & 10 girls were crowned Hinckley & Bosworth Champions.

Our Year 9 mixed team also took home the trophy.

The Year 7 girls narrowly missed out, finishing a close 2nd place behind Dixie by just half a rounder!

At the end of June, two teams represented the school at the All England Rounders Tournament at Leicester

University – a fantastic day filled with nonstop matches. The Year 9 mixed team finished 2nd in their group, narrowly missing a semi-final spot, while the Year 10 girls placed 4th in theirs.

Rounders remains a much-loved summer sport, and all our students demonstrated passion, sportsmanship, and great competitive spirit.

Athletics

In May, 45 students represented our school at the Area Athletics Championships at The Pingles Stadium in Nuneaton. We had numerous top 3 finishes across various events, and overall, our school placed 4th – a strong team performance!

An impressive 14 students were selected to represent Hinckley & Bosworth at the County Athletics Championships held in June at Loughborough University. Despite challenging weather conditions, our athletes delivered excellent performances, with many achieving top 3 finishes in their events – an outstanding result at such a competitive level.

Year 9/10 Rugby Team – A Season to Remember

The Year 9/10 boys have had an outstanding season on the rugby pitch, showing incredible growth, determination, and team spirit. For many, this was their first experience playing competitive rugby, yet they quickly gelled as a unit and embraced the sport with enthusiasm.

Their commitment extended beyond school, with several players joining local clubs to continue developing their skills. Notably, two of our talented players earned places in the prestigious Leicester Tigers Junior Academy—a testament to their hard work and potential.

The season kicked off with a narrow loss to Loughborough Grammar School, a game that set the tone for the resilience and progress that followed. In the semi-final of the Leicester U15s County Plate, the team travelled to Welland Park and delivered a commanding 50–22 victory.

Their momentum carried into the final, where they faced Lutterworth College. With skill, teamwork, and determination, the boys triumphed 36–19, earning the title of **Leicester U15s County Plate Champions**.

A huge congratulations to all the players for an exceptional season—your dedication and passion have truly paid off.

Well done to every student who competed – your dedication and determination made us all proud.

Here's to a fantastic end of term and a well-deserved summer break for all our athletes!

Sporting Results



WSG NETBALL
PLAYER OF THE MATCH



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

Pentecost Term 2025

Our Chair of Governors can be contacted via admin@saint-martins.net