



NEWS & VIEWS

Be the best you can be.

Executive Headteacher: Mr Jamie Foster

Headteacher's Comment:

Thank you, to all of our pupils that have helped with the morning tours for our prospective parents. Our tour guides have been a real credit to the school, their families and we are very proud of them.

I am looking forward to welcoming our Year 11 pupils and their parents and carers on Thursday 17 October, for our Curriculum Evening, followed by the Sixth Form Open Evening. We will be able to talk through what subjects are on offer, possible combinations of A Levels and BTECS and the entry requirements needed. Our careers team will also be available during the evening should you wish to speak with them, regarding alternative options to A level courses.

Parents and carers will be receiving a letter next week from our partners at Intrepid Adventures, regarding a three-day activity camp at the school during the second week of the half term. Bookings can be made directly through their website and the details will be included in the letter.

Prices with our catering supplier Pabulum, have recently increased slightly. We work closely with our catering company to keep costs down wherever possible, to reduce the impact on our families. All details can be found [here](#).

Finally, I would like to congratulate this week's Headteacher's Gallery nominations for the following pupils: Jonathan Cap in Year 11, for being an outstanding role model in the KS3 Science Club and Jack Newman in Year 9, for receiving a Jack Petchey award for his work in Scouts.



Year 8 and 9 Futbol Lingo



Last Wednesday, St Martin's School welcomed Jake and Pierce from Futbol Lingo. They worked with some of our incredible Year 8 and Year 9 pupils on the importance of learning another language, particularly in the world of professional football.

Pupils heard how languages can offer a wider range of opportunities later in life and in a variety of careers. Jake and Pierce then worked with the pupils in the classroom and on the football field to practise both their language skills and their football skills.

The pupils had a great time. We hope to welcome Futbol Lingo back to the school in the future.

A huge well done to all who took part.



Chief Executive Officer: Mr R Duff
St Martin's School is proud to be part of the Discovery Educational Trust

★ Pixie Lott in Concert

Last Friday we had the fantastic opportunity to have Pixie Lott come to St Martin's and give an exclusive concert to our pupils. Pixie performed songs from her new album and spoke to pupils about her experience in the

entertainment industry. She also provided a Q & A session for our pupils, answering questions relating to the entertainment industry. Pixie was a judge on 'The Voice Kids' mentoring an



ex-St Martin's pupil Jess Folley who then went on to win the show.

Head Girl Elviene Squire said "It was an honour to be part of such a personal experience and hear first-hand Pixie's story and advice on making the journey into the industry." Pupils had a fantastic time, dancing and singing along with Pixie and were able to experience a live concert that many may never have the opportunity to attend.

Mrs Jennifer Page Head of Year 12 & 13.

★ Girls' PE Football Trials

It's been a busy start to the season for girls' football. It was brilliant to see so many girls attending our school football trials and representing the school in recent fixtures.

Special congratulations to four of our Year 7 girls who have all been successfully selected at the recent Mid Essex Football Trials. We wish **Mimi Thurston, Nell Cockerell, Neha Uddin and Lily Hanson** the best of luck this season playing for the Mid Essex District team.



★ Essex Activate, October Half Term Clubs

Essex ActivAte club offers opportunities for school-aged children (4-16 years) during the upcoming October half term. We offer a range of engaging and enriching activities for children, aiming to provide a stimulating environment where participants can enjoy physical activities, enrichment sessions, and food education.

To book a place at a local club families contact the club directly - <https://www.activeessex.org/children-young-people/essex-activate/halfterm-club/>



Dates for the Diary

- 14.10.24 - Year 12 & 13 Parliament Trip
- 16.10.24 - Year 12 Careers Talk with Matt Smith
- 17.10.24 - Year 11 Curriculum Evening
- 17.10.24 - Sixth Form Open Evening

Word of the Week Week 5 Guardianship



Noun: Noun: a person who protects or defends something.

Sentence: The Guardians of the Galaxy are a team of intergalactic mercenaries who primarily defend the Andromeda galaxy.

For PE fixtures please follow twitter @STMartinsSchPE for further PE updates



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WHAT IS ESSEX ACTIVATE?

Essex ActivAte is the name for the Holiday Activity and Food programme across Essex, run by Active Essex, Essex County Council and Thurrock Council, on behalf of the Department for Education.

Who is the programme for?

Clubs are suitable for children aged 4-16 years old who are eligible for benefits based free school meals or from 'low income' working families who benefit from this extra support. Some clubs may offer paid spaces that run alongside Essex ActivAte, however these can be limited.

What do the clubs offer?

Essex ActivAte clubs offer mainstream primary and secondary provision across the county, also dedicated mental wellbeing and SEND clubs. Each club delivers a variety of physical and enrichment activities, fun food education and a nutritious meal. Family support is also available alongside the programme.

How can I book my child onto a club?

To book onto a club during February, May/June or October half term, head over to the Essex ActivAte booking page on our website, then select the area you live in or the category you require and follow the steps.

To book onto a club during the easter, summer or winter holidays, use the link on your WONDE e-Voucher to find a club and book on, or contact a club directly.

What is considered 'low income'?


We understand that all families circumstances are different, therefore if you are in employment or on an income which means you are unable to attend a holiday club without our support – you can book on.





HALF-TERM & HOLIDAYS EXPLAINED...




EASTER, SUMMER & WINTER SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

 The HAF programme runs in the easter, summer and winter holidays and is funded by the Department for Education. This is aimed solely at school children who receive benefits based free school meals during term time.

 Limited spaces are available for low income working families and other vulnerable groups who would otherwise not be able to afford holiday clubs. You can book onto our programme self-certifying.

 WONDE e-Voucher codes are sent by schools to all families eligible for benefits based free school meals. This code allows you to book onto local clubs and verify you are eligible for our programme.


SPRING & AUTUMN HALF TERMS

 Funded by Essex County Council, Essex ActivAte run clubs during February, May/June and October half term for children on benefit based free school meals or from 'low income' working families.

 The half term programme is funded to provide spaces to those areas most in need across Essex.



 You will not receive a WONDE e-Voucher code to book onto our clubs during half term.

 You will need to book your child/ren onto a club through the Essex ActivAte website – simply find what clubs are available in your area then book onto a club using the link provided or by contacting the club directly.



SCAN THE QR CODE TO FIND OUT MORE!



BOOK ONTO A FREE HALF TERM CLUB WITH ESSEX ACTIVATE!

Eligible children and young people are invited to book onto **FREE**, fun-filled activity clubs who are run by a network of locally, trusted organisations across Essex, brought to you by Active Essex on behalf of Essex County Council!

IS MY CHILD ELIGIBLE?

Essex ActivAte offer club spaces to primary and secondary school aged children (4-16 years), who are eligible for benefit based free school meals, or from 'low-income' working families, as well as children who may be vulnerable to inactivity or social isolation.

WHERE WILL THE CLUBS BE RUN?

Clubs will run in Braintree, Basildon, Brentwood, Castle Point, Chelmsford, Colchester, Epping, Harlow, Maldon, Rochford, Tendring and Uttlesford! Due to half term programmes being solely funded by Essex County Council, unfortunately there will not be any clubs running in Thurrock.

WHAT DO THE CLUBS PROVIDE?

Clubs provide a range of different physical, enrichment and food activities to support children's physical and mental wellbeing, as well as a delicious, nutritious meal!

HOW DO I BOOK ONTO A CLUB?

To book your child/ren onto one of our half term clubs, you will not receive a Holiday Activities voucher from your school, and you will need to book on through the Essex ActivAte website. Simply select your area, find what clubs are available and book your child on through the link provided. Depending on the club, you may need to book through our website, or contact them directly.

[Find out more about October half term clubs and book on here.](#)

