



NEWS & VIEWS

Be the best you can be.

Executive Headteacher: Mr Jamie Foster

Headteacher's Comment:

This week, our World Book Day celebrations showcased a true love for reading, with creative competitions, engaging activities, and a school-wide focus on literature. It was fantastic to see so many pupils participating and sharing their passion for books.

A huge thank you to Mr. Hallahan and the staff team for organising such a successful half-term ski trip. This incredible opportunity allowed pupils to challenge themselves and create lasting memories.

A special mention to our Pancake Day competitors! Whether flipping pancakes in the SEND department or racing in the Year 7 relay, it was a brilliant display of fun and house spirit.

As we approach the final weeks of term, let's continue to embrace every opportunity for learning, leadership, and enjoyment. Thank you to all staff, pupils, and parents for your continued support.

This week's Headteacher's Gallery features Adam Sewell, Dylan Hodges, and Harry Rayner in Year 10 for being model pupils on the recent Geography field trip—a true credit to our school. Not only did they diligently complete their fieldwork, but they also ensured inclusivity by supporting a pupil with special educational needs, demonstrating kindness and leadership throughout the trip.

Our Make a Difference award this week goes to Mrs A. McCorrell for the support she provides the pastoral team and our pupils.



World Book Day

A whole week has been devoted to World Book day, with a number of events and activities taking place. Teachers in the English department took part in Drop Everything and Listen, reading to their classes each day. There were also author alphabet and alphabet book title competitions in the library, our word of the week, 'bibliophile' during form time and a guess the author or character challenge.

Katie Cox (English teacher) organised a competition encouraging students and teachers to photograph themselves reading in unusual places. Some of the entries are below. There is still time to send in your competition entries to Miss Cox. Winners will be announced in the next couple of weeks.





Italy Skiing Trip 2025

We are delighted to share that our recent ski trip Folgradia, Italy was a fantastic success! The pupils had an incredible experience on the slopes, enjoying excellent skiing conditions and making the most of the beautiful weather and breathtaking views.



Our more experienced skiers refined their skills and took on new challenges. It was great to see all pupils pushing themselves and supporting each other throughout the trip.

Evenings were just as enjoyable, with a variety of activities keeping everyone entertained and engaged, from witnessing Ethan's fine karaoke skills to Miss Woolley and Mr Oyewobi's ice skating talents.

Other social events included quizzes (some dodgy marking occurring for the winners!!) and swimming. Not forgetting the legendary Pizza night where the freshly baked pizza was exceptional and even gave us a chance to celebrate Lyra's birthday. The pupils made the most of every opportunity to bond and create lasting memories.



We are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm, resilience, and teamwork shown by all participants representing St Martin's School. My thanks go to the staff who accompanied me on the trip who without them the trip would not have been possible. Keep an eye out for the next ski trip. Mr Hallahan, Trip organizer.



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Model United Nations Conference

Last weekend, nine Year 12 students joined together with delegates from 20 other schools to attend a Model United Nations conference at Felsted School.

The concept was simple: we were allocated the countries of Denmark and Iraq. Our students researched these countries and went to the conference ready to represent their views in a series of debates on important international issues related to disarmament, health, ecology, security and more.

Alfred P, represented the delegation of Iraq on the Ecology and Environment committee, presenting his fast-track resolution on the topic of reducing air pollution in overpopulated areas.

The Economic and Social committee, Rebecca C and George S, gathered the support of like-minded nations through the messaging service and in Human Rights Artemis was lobbying.

On the second day, students came together in larger groups, and debated a range of ad hoc resolutions. A One highlight of the conference was the key-note speaker, Mark Cutts, an Old Felstedian who had worked for the United Nations in places experiencing crisis for most of his long career.

Throughout the conference, our students were a credit to the school, upholding the rules of respect and diplomacy. Particular thanks goes to our two Ambassadors Poppy L and Annie G who did an excellent job of the organizational job. **L Robertson, Lead Practitioner MFL**



Essex County Council
YOUTH SERVICE

Let's talk relationships

Relationships, Sex and Health Education survey

Share what's important to you in confidence.

Please complete this short survey to help us best support young people.

Scan me



March Shortages

Tinned Chicken in Sauce

Tinned Chilli-Con-Carne

Tinned Spaghetti

Bags of Rice (small)

Laundry Gels & Shampoos

Your support makes our work possible



Brentwood Foodbank facilitated by Doddinghurst Road Church
Registered Charity Number 1171227



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★ Year 7 Pancake Race

The Year 7 pupils brought their best skills to the table in this year's Pancake Day House Relay! Four competitors from each house raced against the clock, tossing pancakes in a relay of speed, precision (well, mostly!), and a *little batter* luck. Winners to be announced in assembly on Monday.



★ Pancake Day in SEND

This week the SEND Department held their fun pancake day activity. Pupils enjoyed learning how to create and flip their pancakes.

Charlie Browne managed to toss his pancake the highest and catch it!

Well done to all the pupils who took part including: **Poppy Summerhayes, Priyanishi Visana, Jack Woodhams, Roby Stevart, Pippa Rogan and Dylan Browne.**



📅 Dates for the Diary

- 10.03.25 – 14.03.25 Year 12 PPEs
- 10.03.25 Year 9 Mrs Doubtfire the Musical Trip
A Level Drama Candidate Lighting Component
PIPs training South Hall
- 11.03.25 – 12.03.25 Year 11 Music Controlled Assessments
- 11.03.25 Year 13 PPE release North Hall
Production Rehearsal
- 12.03.25 Year 13 Scripted group performances exam (Visiting Examiner)
- 13.03.25 Year 13 C2 Scripted Monologues (External Examiner)
- 15.03.25 Magistrates Mock Trial Year 9 Trip

For PE fixtures please follow twitter [@STMartinsSchPE](https://twitter.com/STMartinsSchPE) for further PE updates

Word of the Week Week 22 bibliophile



noun: a person who loves or collects books
Sentence: As a true bibliophile, Emma spent hours exploring the bookstore on World Book Day.



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SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

2025– Issue 1

Be the best you can be.

Executive Headteacher: Mr Jamie Foster

Welcome to the first Safeguarding Letter of 2025! Here we have shared some information about sextortion, Tik Tok (due to some recent concerns that have been raised) along with some support on worry/anxiety. Also included are links to support across Essex and how to keep your child safe. Do please contact your Year Team should you have any concerns in relation to any of the subjects touched on.



Tik Tok

Among children and especially teenagers, TikTok boasts approximately **220 million users**, offering a near-endless stream of short clips designed to entertain, educate, and more. However, with its massive user base comes a significant number of potential risks. **Ofcom has identified TikTok as the app where teen users are most likely to experience harm.**

As the platform continues to reach **astronomical levels of popularity** among young people, it is **crucial** for parents and educators to understand the risks it poses. This free guide highlights the most prominent dangers associated with TikTok and provides expert advice on how to safeguard young users navigating the platform.

[Guide to TikTok](#)

TikTok Privacy and Safety Checklist can be found [here](#)

We have become aware of instances where unkind posts on TikTok may be considered cyberbullying. **If the school becomes aware of any cyberbullying, we will report the matter to the police, as we take this very seriously.**

We strongly encourage you to stay informed about what your child is viewing and accessing online. If you come across upsetting or inappropriate content and the person responsible has not been identified, you should report it directly to the social networking site and request its removal. Such material may violate the service provider's terms and conditions, making it eligible for removal. However, please note that some service providers do not accept complaints from third parties.

In cases of mobile phone abuse, such as malicious calls or messages, the **account holder** must contact the provider directly. Before reaching out to a web service provider, it is important to document the content by taking a screenshot that includes the web address. If the material is not illegal, clearly explain how it violates the site's terms and conditions when submitting your request for removal.



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Childline's new 'Behind the Screen' campaign aims to raise awareness of the sexual extortion and coercion of boys and young men. In particular, it addresses the blackmail-driven extortion of nude images, where perpetrators save and exploit these images.

All young people should feel safe seeking support for any issue they face. Childline provides a confidential space for advice and guidance, ensuring that help is always available. This campaign is specifically designed to encourage boys and young men to reach out and reassure them that support is available at Childline.

As part of this initiative, Childline has produced a supporting guide to accompany the 'Behind the Screen' campaign. If you are interested, please follow this [link](#)

Read the press release: [Childline data reveals boys are most vulnerable to 'sextortion'](#)

Watch the campaign video: [Can The Charvas work out who is REAL and who is FAKE?](#)



Anxiety/Worry

At times, growing up can be a stressful experience. It's not unheard of for young people to fret about things that could potentially go wrong in their lives – and what implications this would have for their life. In some situations, this can go beyond feeling uneasy about the future and become full-blown anxiety, which affects their mental, emotional and even physical wellbeing.

While worry and anxiety can originate from many different places, it's immensely important for parents and educators to understand the effect this can have on youngsters – and how best to support them if they're going through a difficult time. This guide provides insight into the ramifications of worry and anxiety, and how you can help children manage – and hopefully overcome – these challenges.

[what parents need to know about worry and anxiety](#)

Finally, if you feel that you may need more help and support, there are lots of services available for you to access here: [find local and national support services for children, young people and their families.](#)

There is also plenty of advice and guidance about keeping your child safe here:

[Essex Safeguarding Children Board website](#)

St Martin's Safeguarding



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