



NEWS & VIEWS

Be the best you can be.

Executive Headteacher: Mr Jamie Foster

♥ Headteacher's Comment:

As we approach the midpoint of this term, it's wonderful to see our pupils embrace so many enriching experiences. The Year 12 visit to Emmanuel College ignited new aspirations, while the Year 9 Girls STEM event showcased the creativity and talent of our future engineers. Our Year 13 Art and Photography students also drew inspiration from their visits to Tate Britain and the National Portrait Gallery.

Congratulations to Bonnie Chadwick, Rose Van Der Goot, and Charlie King, our RI Coronation Award winners, on their remarkable achievements.

This week's Headteacher's Gallery goes to the following pupils in Year 8 for their incredible beatboxing piece in music, their performance and technique were at a professional level. Well done Harry Hicks, Archie Giles, Dylan Duran, Immanuel Alencon, and Benjamin Sterry.

I am incredibly proud of our pupils' enthusiasm, dedication and courage, as showcased in the fantastic and much anticipated Upper School Production of Hairspray, which I enjoyed watching on Tuesday evening. Let's continue to support each other as we look forward to the rest of this term.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable half-term break.



♥ Emmanuel College Visit

Last Thursday, Year 12 students visited Cambridge University, where they toured Emmanuel College, gaining insight into its history and student life. They then took part in a personal statement workshop, and learned how to make their applications stand out and the importance of engaging in super-curricular activities. The trip concluded with a Q&A with current students and alumni who now have careers at the university. This inspiring visit left students feeling more confident and motivated as they prepare for their next steps in higher education.

"Today has given me renewed motivation to explore further areas of study beyond the curriculum." Jamie Streeter, Year 12.



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Upper School Production *Hairspray*

This week we had our Upper school production of *Hairspray*. *Hairspray* focuses on the theme of acceptance where outcasts come together to fight for what is right, a message that is still as important today as it was in the 60's when the show is set. This year we finally were able to reflect the diversity of the show and bring to you 1960's Baltimore. The phenomenal cast has proved it was worth waiting for, and it was a pleasure to see just how talented and professional our pupils performed. The show itself was filled with positivity and energy and the cast matched that tenfold, including some exciting new faces who joined us for their first ever school production!



We always feel so lucky when we are able to double-cast our shows to give more pupils the opportunity to play such iconic roles; Tracy Turnblad (Erika Jones, Year 13 and Casey Lord, Year 11), Corny Collins (Ethan Perry, Year 10), Seaweed (Kwesi Djokoto, Year 10), Link Larkin (James Webb, Year 12), Amber (Charlotte Larter, Year 13 and Ariane Noon, Year 11), Velma (Elvie Squire, Year 13 and Alexis Came, Year 11), Penny (Hannah Percival, Year 13 and Ava Moyes, Year 11), Wilbur (Benji Copping, Year 13 and Charlie McCartney, Year 10) Motormouth Maybelle (Yevai Benyure, Year 13 and Samantha Aluebhosele, Year 11) and last but by no means least, Edna Turnblad (Nick Morris, Year 10).

As always, the success of this show would not have been possible without the support of the wider team and for them, myself and the cast are extremely grateful. Mr Williams, our Musical Director, Miss McLintock, vocal coach, Mrs Page producer and assistant director, Mrs Wilkinson, wardrobe, Miss Gray, wigs and we welcome our new AV Technician, Miss Elliott, who has stepped into her new role with ease and supported further, helping with set and props.



A special thank you to Mr Squire for making the amazing camera and **Bethan Young**, Year 13, in her role as Stage Manager. Finally, a massive thank you to **Jack Liddicott** (Year 13) our lighting designer for his 10th school production. Not only has he designed the lighting for the show and allowed us to use his high-level equipment, he has also gone above and beyond creating mic lists, supporting sound and giving up mammoth amounts of his time to ensure the show is to the highest quality. Jack has continually been an integral part of our school shows and as sad as we are that he will be moving on to his next steps, we cannot wait to see all his success in the future.



As always, we would like to thank all of our parents for their continued support.

Miss L Barnes
Director



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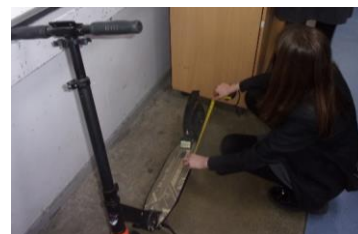
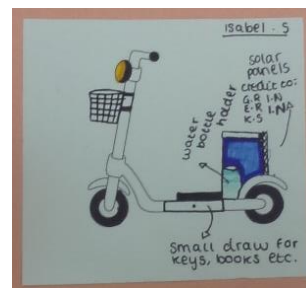
♥ Year 9 Girls STEM event

On 27 January, the Year 9 female pupils were given a unique insight into the aerospace industry during an inspiring STEM event featuring women who work for Gardner Aerospace in Basildon. The interactive session, designed to encourage more girls to pursue careers in design and technology and STEM subjects, combined hands-on practical activities with valuable industry insights.

Pupils worked on a problem solving and prototyping exercise featuring a real-world design context, created in conjunction with industry partners by the Design and Technology Association, as part of their 'Inspired by Industry' series, addressing the ever-changing needs of the Design and Technology curriculum.

During the 1-hour practical workshop session, pupils created prototype cargo carriers for users of E-Scooters, applying skills in user centred design, mathematics, card modelling and gaining an understanding of why cities are looking at these new forms of environmental travel.

In keeping with modern developments in the field of design, pupils will now be able to opt for Product Design rather than previous traditional options of graphics and resistant materials. This will widen pupils' choices when selecting contexts for the 50% non-examined element of the two-year GCSE and enhance transition to A Level Product Design, also offered by the department.



♥ Year 13 Trip to Tate Britain & National Portrait Gallery

On Friday 7 February, our Year 13 A Level Art and Photography students visited Tate Britain and the National Portrait Gallery in London as part of their exam unit prep. Students were inspired by many of the greats along with a range of art spanning from the 1500s to modern day.



♥ RI Coronation Award Update

Great news St Martin's School had 3 merit winners: Bonnie Chadwick in Year 13, Charlie King who left in 2024, Rose Van Der Goot in Year 13.



📅 Dates for the Diary

- 10.02.25 – P-16 Trip to Health Tech Roadshow
- 11.02.25 – 13.02.25 Upper School Production South Hall
- 13.02.25 – SENDCO Forum
- 17.02.25 – 21.02.25 ½ Term

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

Word of the Week

Week 20 riveting



adjective: completely engrossing, compelling

Sentence: The latest TEDx talk was riveting.



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