



Busy Eco Gardeners

The Horticultural team have had a very busy start to the new term with numerous sites around the school being maintained and developed. The Eco garden has had to be managed after a long summer of growth with weeding, clearing and planting of new wild flower beds and display containers. Several of the boys have also been taking part in a community project at Morgan Jones' park where they have helped volunteers and families build green houses, raised beds and carried out an array of seasonal planting. All boys are on target to gain a Level 1 BTEC qualification in Land Use studies.

Students Contribute to Community Allotments

Five students have assisted at Morgan Jones Community Allotments over the past few months. The project offers the local community the chance to learn how to grow vegetables and run a garden while looking after wildlife, all in a casual and friendly environment.

The five students involved have included: **Liam Stone, Liam Davies, Jack Pittard, Kieran Clarke, Ian Jones**

Since taking part, they have achieved the following tasks, either independently or supporting other volunteers:

- Constructing a tool rack from reclaimed pallet wood to better organise the shed (done independently)
- Building a new large growing bed, including excavating turf and assembling wooden edging using power tools (independently)
- Moving compost using wheelbarrows to top up our supplies (independently)
- Gathering leaves (and clearing public pathways at the same time) to make leaf mould compost for next year
- Laying a weed barrier in the greenhouse and arranging planters inside for next year's produce (independently)
- Sowing peas and beans for next year
- Meeting and representing themselves and St. Martin's School during Hefin David AM's visit in October
- Learning and practising safe and effective fire-lighting and cooking popcorn over the fire
- Helping in the creation of the project sign

I'm pleased to say that they've been wonderful members of the project. Their attitude to getting stuck in and producing something of their own while keeping in mind the ongoing direction of the allotments as a community resource has really inspired me. I value their dedication and willingness to learn. They've embraced 100% while with the group, even attending during half-term on one occasion.

Save the Children - Christmas Jumper day



Our students looked dashing and very festive in their Christmas jumpers this year! Christmas jumper day at St Martin's was to raise money for Save the Children charity. The charity is an international charity that promotes children's rights, provides relief and helps support children in developing countries. Its aim is to improve the lives of children through better education, health care, and economic opportunities, as well as providing emergency aid in natural disasters, war, and other conflicts. £634.75 was raised for this worthwhile cause!



Sixth form fundraisers

Sixth form students have raised lots of money for Macmillan and Wild Hearts charity this term. They have organised two very successful cake sales and held a Sixth Form non uniform day. There are many more charity events being planned this year as part of the Deloitte Mycro-Tyco challenge, where students are provided with £1 and have to use that to raise money for charity. There are four teams entered this year! Good luck and keep up the hard work!

Staff Buffet

The year 10 catering group produced this fantastic staff buffet on 14th December.

Students raised £60 which will be sent to the Newport and Cardiff branch of SANDS who do such fantastic work.





Showtime!

Pupils performed at the Ty Penrhos Care home, Caerphilly on Monday 12th December. They were very well received by both the residents and staff. The pupils were absolutely fantastic and have already been booked up for next year!



St Martin's School Christmas Concert 8th December 2017

St Martin's School Christmas Concert was spectacular this year! We have such a wealth of talented pupils and they all performed to an excellent standard. A big thank you to the St Martin's PTA for supplying and selling such lovely refreshments. It was a special moment when all the staff joined the pupils in the final item.



Polo Shirts for Kenya

Thank you to parents and pupils for donating school polo tops to the charity 'Kenya Children's Home'. Nearly 500 tops have recently been collected and the charity has assured us that the donation will make a huge difference to the lives of hundreds of orphaned and destitute Kenyan children.

A special thank you to parent, Mrs Turner, for liaising with the charity on our behalf and to Year 10 pupils and staff for collecting and organising the tops ready for transportation.



"We are Micro-Tyco's"

This year St. Martin's sixth form were proud to be able to participate in the 2016 global MICRO-TYCO challenge, run by Deloitte. MICRO-TYCO took our pupils on a journey to become not only dynamic wealth creators but also global ethical investors, in the knowledge that the funds they created through Micro-Tyco would then be invested to transform lives both at home and abroad. Almost £200 later and our teams had collectively raised enough to hopefully support two people across the developing world! Well done to all involved!



Shoe box appeal

Photo of some pupils in year 7 and 9 who collected (as form groups) items to send for the operation Christmas child - shoe box appeal. Over the two year groups a total of 48 boxes were collected and myself and Charlotte will be delivering the boxes later this evening.