



OCTOBER 2018 NEWSLETTER



Nurture Macmillan Coffee Morning

We had the pleasure of hosting a Macmillan Coffee Morning on 28th September 2018 and invited our Nurture parents to join us.

What can we say – the support was amazing, the atmosphere was lovely, the cakes were scrumptious, we were very proud of our pupils and we raised an incredible **£344** for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Thank you to everyone for their very kind donations, help and support in making this morning so successful.

*What a
fantastic
morning!*



@StMartins_PE

Canada 2018 Rugby Tour Report

The tour was a great success for our year 11 rugby side, winning 3 games out of 3 and not conceding a single point. The first game was played in the countryside team of Barrie which was well away from the city of Toronto.

They were a tough, physical side with a great team spirit despite our clear superiority. They fought right up until the end of an enthralling game which ultimately ended up in a 50-0 victory in our favour. They were a very hospitable side and we enjoyed pizza and unlimited amounts of Gatorade after the game.

Once again we played a team far away from the centre of Toronto. We came up against the revered Oakland crusaders which we were told were the "best team in the whole of North America". Much to their English coaches dismay we once again triumphed in a testing game which finished 57-0. We were again treated with great hospitality after the match with singing and a great variety of food at the club's buffet.

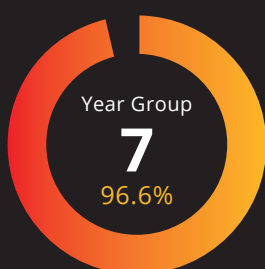
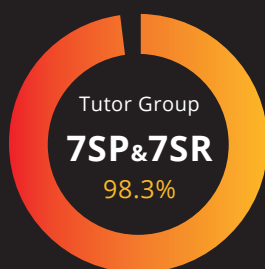
After a long journey to Ottawa we then faced the Ottawa Ospreys who were perhaps our weakest opposition on the tour. In a far simpler game than the previous two, we once again came out on top without conceding a point yet again with the final score 67-0 which we considered a great victory.

The tour as a whole was a very entertaining week of singing, cheering and playing rugby. Of the many trips we have been on, this was by far the best experience we have had in St Martin's and we have many happy memories of the tour. On behalf of the year group we would like to thank Mr Faulds and the rest of the teachers for organising a truly unforgettable experience.



Attendance figures 4th Sept - 15th Oct

Highest Attendance



Showing Most Improvement





PE Department News

[@StMartins_PE](#)

The PE Department has had a colourful first term with an array of boys' rugby and football matches.

Our 6th form BTEC went to USW to participate in sports science activities to compliment their learning and course content and were fortunate enough to experience VO2 max testing with specialist Douglas bags, and hydro weighing equipment to bring their learning to life. Big mention to Niall Reed in year 12 for a very impressive VO2 max score.

GIRLS

Clubs this year have been busy with dance, hockey, Netball and football all up and running. The girls department have managed to field their first football teams this year and have been playing competitively against other schools and we hope to develop this in the future. Netball has seen its highest ever attendance numbers with a record of 63 girls in training. Netball training will intensify after February half term and squads will be announced next half term in readiness for our tour to Holland.

We also attended the rookie rugby competition, with over 300 girls taking part to improve confidence and skills in rugby and help to empower girls through rugby. It was great to see some of our ex pupils delivering 'tis sessions while studying at the University of South Wales. We will be looking to develop this in school with the arrival of some new faces and ex pupils in the new term.

New clubs for after half term will be tumble club, swimming, dance, rugby, football and hockey (days to be confirmed). Please ensure you follow the school twitter at [stmartins_pe](#) for all the details.

Both boys and girls are competing in the cross country event at the end of October. Results to follow!

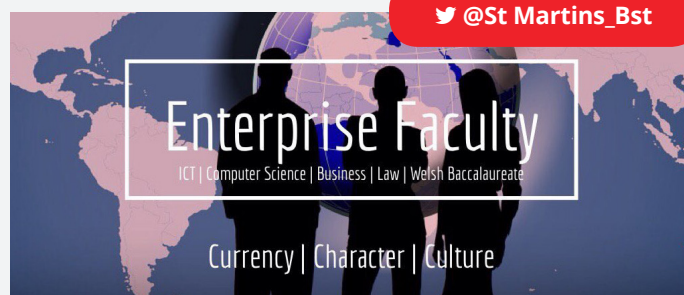


Enterprise Faculty

This year we were very pleased to announce the launch of the Enterprise Faculty here at St Martin's School! Our Faculty consists of ICT, Computer Science, Business, Criminology and the Welsh Baccalaureate!

It has been a busy start to the year with so much to celebrate already: introducing new enrichment activities such as code club and Young Enterprise, re-launching our Digital Leadership Team (who have already presented our Digital Journey to our PGCE Student Teachers), Year 10 Enterprise Day, our 'pop-up' stationary shop and the introduction of our "Enterprising Learners" initiative across all faculties.

However, this is just the beginning! Over the course of the year we look forward to bringing you news of our Christmas Festival, enrichment visits for our Criminology students, collaboration with our cluster primaries to promote coding and re-launching our school radio station!



[@StMartins_Bst](#)

All of this would, of course, not be possible without our amazing students. So many of our learners have gone above and beyond to support the faculty in its infancy and lots have helped implement our exciting new initiatives! We are also grateful to the many businesses that continue to support our school and the learning experiences of our pupils. We are always looking to extend our welcome to new teams and companies within our community. If you would like to work with our exceptionally enterprising students, we would love to hear from you!

reception@stmartins.caerphilly.sch.uk

We will continue to document our ongoing journey as faculty using the Twitter hashtag - [#StMartinsEnterprise](#)



Maths is Fun!



Exciting activities were carried out by students in the Maths department during the Open Evening of 2018.

A group of Year 9 students worked extremely hard investigating the work of a great mathematician Pythagoras. They performed a play for our Year 5/6 students and their parents and led workshops creating Pythagorean cups and Magic Squares.

Pictured below are Halle Gomer-Preece, Ffion Edwards, Ciaran Butler, Ffion Barrell and Phoebe Evans.



[@StMartins_Maths](#)



The maths department wish to congratulate all who took part and look forward to the next competition!

Unites Kingdom Maths Trust Maths Miniatures 2018 competition.

Maths Miniatures is a short film competition for schools and colleges across the UK organised jointly by UKMT, MathsWorldUK, and the University of Leeds.

The brief was to produce a film describing Mathematics in the Natural World. The Task was to submit a video lasting 3 minutes or less, in which the students explore mathematics in the natural world. The video needed to include:

- The chosen feature(s) and where it's found in the natural world
- A clear explanation of the mathematics.

Several groups of Year 8 students created short films. The strongest group we entered into the national competition. See photo above. The students chose to discuss the Fibonacci sequence and where it is found in the natural world. The feedback from the competition adjudicators was very positive stating that the video was very interesting and enjoyable.



Shakespeare Schools Workshop

On the 3rd October 2018 pupils were treated to a workshop held at the Riverfront Theatre by the Shakespeare School Festival. Pupils were able to perform a short extract of their work on the main stage and received glowing feedback.

[@St Martins_Drama](#)

The final performance is on the 21st November!

Year 7 visit to

Cadbury WORLD

2nd October 2018

[@St Martins_Y7](#)





School Council News

We are pleased to announce that the School Council has been established this year. Lots of voting has been going on in order to create the new school council with representatives from each Year group.

Your representatives are:

Year 7

Lowri Higgins
Sam McMahon

Year 8

Lara Denyer
Ben Price

Year 9

James Wood
Charlotte Mathieu

Year 10

Rhys Morgan
Jack Morris

Year 11

Jacob Avery
Mali Bounds

6th Form

Jo Vart
Sascha Vaughan
Tomas Davies
Jessica Evans

The first whole school council took place on the 19th October. We were very lucky to be joined by Hefin David AM for Caerphilly and Tony Graham, a School Governor.

The council discussed the 'Food and Fitness Policy'. It was inspiring to listen to you. You did myself, the staff and pupils really proud. Mr Faulds.



[@StMartins_Span](#)



St Gaten School Visit from Tours

On Thursday the 11th of October 42 French students and their teachers came to visit the Languages Department at St Martin's to experience Welsh culture. We provided a variety of enriching activities for the pupils including a 40 minute Welsh lesson, a culture based carousel of activities with our Year 8 pupils and an opportunity to sample a variety of Welsh food. Not only did they thoroughly enjoy the experience, but so did our Year 8s who learnt a lot about French culture and definitely made the most of the tasty French treats that they gifted us. In particular the butter biscuits, saucisson (dried sausage) and salted caramel spread was a hit. It was fascinating to draw comparisons between the French and Welsh education system, learn some new language and make friends with people from a different culture. Thank you to all St Martin's pupils who made this experience with our new friends possible! Merci beaucoup pour tout!

"I liked teaching everyone about the Welsh sports and learning about sport in France. They told us that cricket and running is more popular than rugby!!"

- Josh Williams 8LWe

"I liked learning about the differences between schools. They said they don't have the same facilities like the drama studio, pool and technology rooms."

- Holly Duggan 8LJa



School Council – Year 9

After a series of hustings and votes Charlotte Mathieu and James Wood have been voted in as Year 9 reps on the School Council. Both produced exceptional speeches and answered questions with maturity and consideration for their peers.

[@StMartins_Y9](#)

Well done
both!