

DECEMBER 2020

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ST. MARTIN'S SCHOOL



SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY WITH FOOD HAMPERS



On the last of term, each form donated items for over 30 Christmas hampers, which went out on Monday via our contact, Mrs Owen to vulnerable members of the community. Thank you parents and pupils for your donations. We are truly grateful for your help!

Our site team and staff put together hampers to support some of our school families. Big thank you to our site manager Tina, our site team, Gillian Francis, Asda, Tesco, Peter's Pies, Bidfoods, Pronto Van Hire and JR Industries for the generosity and help to make this possible.

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Here is a little Christmas carol emoji quiz for you to have a go at.

Mr Lombard has posted a short Christmas chorus on our Twitter platform, featuring many of our learners. We may not have our usual Christmas celebrations we have at St Martin's this year, but hopefully we can look forward to those again next year.



Given the very difficult climate we are in at the moment we wanted to share some festive cheer and ideas for your well-being. A big thank you to our Cardiff Metropolitan PGCE students Mr Evans and Miss Slye for putting this together.



Staff took part in a 'Reverse Advent Calendar' this year. Instead of receiving a gift they brought one into school. A huge thank you to all staff who contributed. The items were gratefully received at Connect Life Church Food bank.

WORKING WITH THE HOLOCAUST EDUCATIONAL TRUST BY MAX YEAR 12

After the Virtual Ambassador Conference concluded, I have been involved in Ambassador study sessions throughout the Autumn, allowing me to expand my knowledge and understanding of the Holocaust and its contemporary relevance.

Sophie and I recently received feedback on our Next Steps Project, and I am pleased to say that as we met all aspects of the project criteria, we each earned 3 ASDAN credits. I have mentioned my involvement with the Lessons from Auschwitz project extensively in my personal statement.

Thank you to the school for allowing me to take part in the LFA Project, despite not studying A-Level History. I have really benefited from the invaluable experience, and take great pride in my role as an Ambassador.

In fact, last week I was selected to recite a speech over Zoom to a number of Holocaust survivors, including Eva Clarke (whom I met in Cardiff as part of the LFA Project), at a Survivor Celebratory Event, marking the achievements of the Trust over the last year.

It was truly an utmost privilege to have spoken to the Holocaust survivors and tell them personally just how much their survivor testimony means to me as an Ambassador, but also in commemorating the Holocaust and refuting Holocaust denial.

I am delighted to tell you that Eva even reached out to me with a message of thanks for my speech over Zoom:

"Dear Max,

Just wanted to say how impressed I was with your input to the Survivors' meeting on zoom yesterday. It's heartwarming to learn of the impact that HET has had on you since that first occasion when I spoke in Cardiff to you & other students at the Lessons from Auschwitz briefing session & all the subsequent times when you have met other Survivors & learnt their powerful & moving stories.

Your commitment as a HET Student Ambassador promoting the history of the Holocaust & its lessons for our society nowadays is so appreciated by us all & especially, if you have experienced any negative feedback during the process.

Knowing that Caerphilly has been in lockdown for some time, I do hope that neither you, nor any member of your family has been affected by Covid 19. Are you at present at home or confined to barracks at university? Wherever you are, I do hope you're coping & keeping cheerful under these difficult circumstances.

Many thanks once again for your kind words.

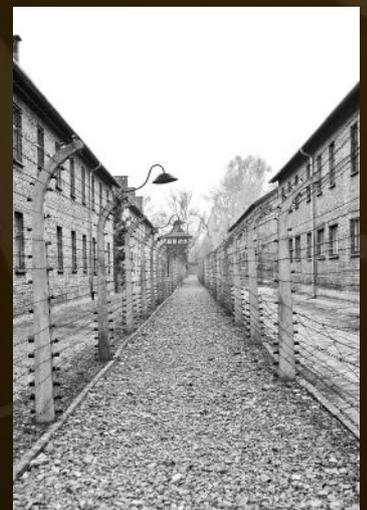
My warmest good wishes for you & your future studies.

Eva"

It truly made my day to have been contacted by one of the survivors with a message of gratitude.

Max, Year 12

**HOLOCAUST
EDUCATIONAL
TRUST**



POLY TUNNEL UPDATE PICTURES



YOUNG ENTERPRISE AWARDS CEREMONY



Mid November saw the 2020 Young Enterprise Awards Ceremony, and, like everything else it seems, it went virtual to huge success!

The ceremony was hosted by Welsh entrepreneur and TV Personality, Chris Jones, and brought about an hour of celebration to all of the competing teams. In exceptional circumstances, our young entrepreneurs continued to show resilience and determination, and reflected the struggles of businesses in our own communities up and down the country.

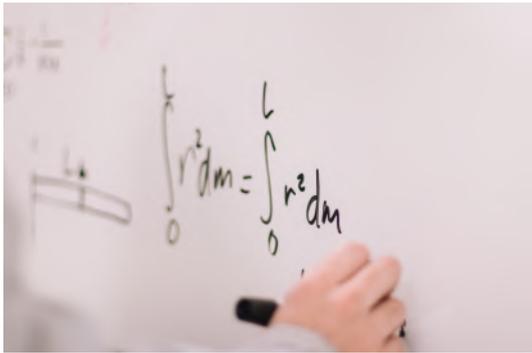
Our young team led by Ella-Paige Hughes maintained momentum right to the end, resulting in them being in the final 5 teams in Wales, and successfully picking up two awards for their efforts: Creativity Award and Teamwork Award. We are all very proud of all your achievements!

TECH TALKS FROM CARDIFF MET



Thank you to Gareth Jones from Cardiff Met for delivering virtual talks to Y11, 12 and 13 recently. The virtual lectures were really informative, which I am sure will give our students lots of think about as they progress in their future careers.

MATHEMATICS UPDATE



KS3 have trialled the online national numeracy reasoning test in preparation for next year's tests.

Year 13 are making excellent progress in further maths. This AS course has been introduced in addition to the normal A level from September 2020.

A reminder for all students sitting their exams this summer the mocks will take place after Christmas. All students should continue to revise over the Christmas holidays to retain their mathematical knowledge in preparation for their mock examinations. Here are some useful resources.

revisegcsemaths.co.uk
Hegarty Maths
MathsDIY
Jonesthesum



Miss Owen will be starting a virtual musical theatre club in January 2021.

You will have the chance to take part in the new year via google classroom. Code: **3jvqvxf**

ENGLISH UPDATE

The English team would like to pass on their congratulations to pupils in Y 11 as they have completed the Individual Researched Presentations in what has been a challenging half-term!

Subjects covered include: gender equality in dance; the rise (and fall?) of technology; and why we should celebrate Pride. The commitment and passion demonstrated by every pupil was really quite overwhelming to their teachers. Da iawn, Year 11, we are so proud of you.

THANK YOU FROM LLAMAU



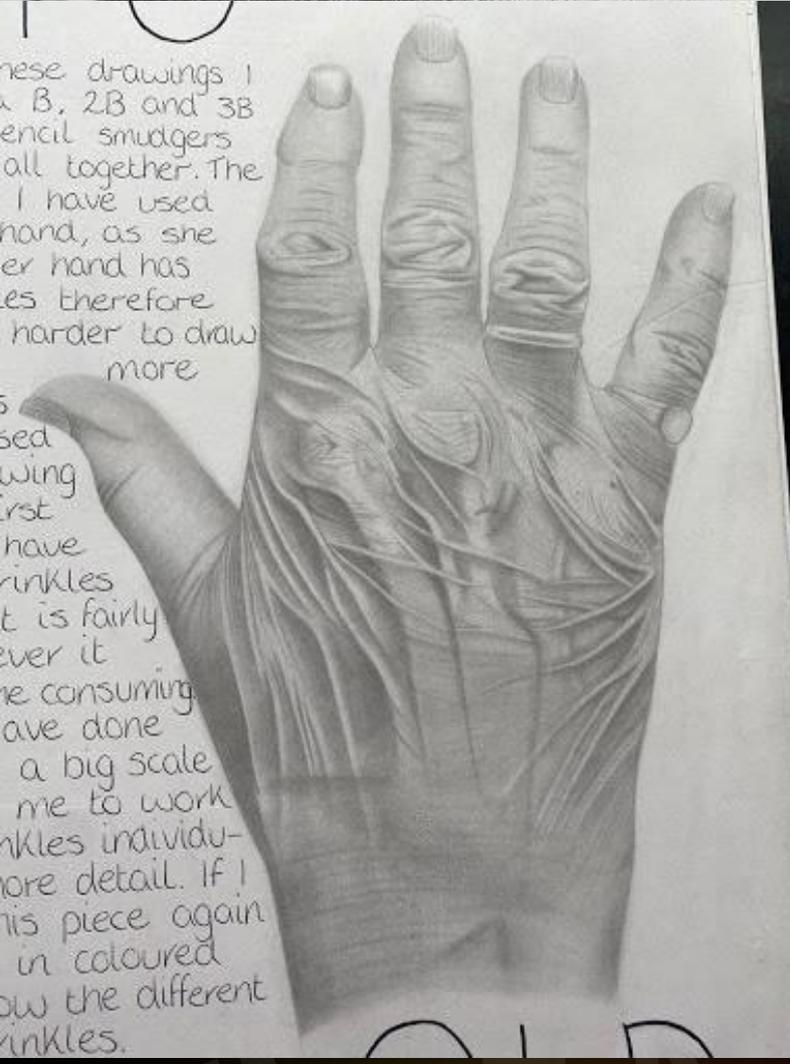
Last year a group of year 9s and sixth form braved the cold, wind and rain and slept outside on the school grounds to show their support for homeless people. The students made their own beds for the evening using cardboard boxes, ate soup with a bread roll in line with a typical meal a homeless person might receive and walked the average distance a homeless person walks in a day in order to get food and shelter. Students watched a documentary on teenage and hidden homelessness and wrote a reflection on their experiences throughout the night.

They were excellent ambassadors for the school and raised a huge £801.33 for the local homelessness charity Llamau!

We are already looking at ways we can raise awareness and money for such an important cause this year and are looking forward to working with Llamau again.

Llamau rewarded the students with a certificate and letter of thanks where they stated ' On behalf of the young people and vulnerable women in Wales we support, thank you for your wonderful fundraising donation of £801.33 raised from your Welsh Baccalaureate, Year 9 students who held their own Sleepout challenge for Llamau.'

ELERI YEAR 12



EMILY YEAR 12



ALISHA YEAR 12



As there's no trips at the moment, Miss Hopkins and Mrs James have selected some virtual museum tours that you can attend in your own time.

- Google Arts & Culture
- Online Tours: The Louvre
- The Museum of the World
- Guggenheim Online
- Collection - Moma Learning



TWITTER HIGHLIGHTS @STMARTINSINFO

St. Martin's School @StMartinsInfo · Dec 11

A wonderful two course meal produced by a year 9 student as part of their mock catering coursework task. Da iawn. #blendedlearning 🍴👍

EAS Professional Learning @EAS_ProfLearn

Some great contributions from @sewaleseas schools in this report from @EstynHMI 'preparing for the curriculum for Wales' bit.ly/3nYQGMb. Da iwan @KingHenrySchool @StMartinsInfo @YGTredeggarCS @BassalegSchool1 @CrownbridgeSch2 @ebbwfawr 🙌

St. Martin's School @StMartinsInfo · Nov 12

Our beautiful bees getting Winter ready! Glucose syrup served and mouse guard put on... there will be no mice allowed in our 'bee bubble' Stay safe little ones, see you in the New Year! 🐝❤️

St. Martin's School @StMartinsInfo · Nov 1

Thank you so much for sharing. Well done, girls. We are so proud of you giving back to your local community.

Beverley A Holdcroft @HoldcroftA · Nov 1

Iris Jones & Darcey Holdcroft helping local food bank through Fire Break @StMartinsInfo

Over the Lockdown period this amazing community has helped support over 5000 people by helping us offer food parcels, medicine collections, shopping collections and pastoral care to those that are struggling during this tricky time.

St. Martin's School @StMartinsInfo · Oct 16

Some excellent cooks this week! Chillies, bolognese, chicken goujons, scotch eggs, hot cross buns and amazing pitta breads! Well done everyone! 🍴👍

St. Martin's School @StMartinsInfo

Thanks to our governor, @colin_elsbury, 100 pupils received a selection box this week for lots of different reasons determined by our Heads of Learning. Yum!

St. Martin's School @StMartinsInfo · Nov 9

#RemembranceSunday #RemembranceDay

St. Martin's School @StMartinsInfo · Oct 22

caerphilly.observer/news/995897/we... Great to share successes of former students. Well done, Mikey!

Caerphilly weightlifter Michael Farmer preparing for virtual Welsh Open
Weightlifter Michael Farmer, 21, will be competing in the Welsh Open through video link.
caerphilly.observer

Michele Govier (CW) @CWCardiffBEA3 · Oct 13

I'm looking for employers to support @StMartinsInfo @NewbridgeSch @Cwmrhymini @HeoldduCS @IDS3to18 @LSP_Wales @IslwynHigh @fields_trinity I'm looking for digital activities: pre-recorded, live/interactive sessions. Interested? Please contact me: michele.govier@careerswales.com 🙌