

2nd May 2025

Dear Parent Carers,

Weekly Update: 02/05/25

I hope this update finds you well. It has been great to welcome some warmer weather this week ahead of the Bank Holiday weekend. Fingers crossed that we are able to make the most of this extra day off. This week's update has information on PE Kit for summer, a uniform reminder, a request for support for the school's PTFA and a fantastic update from our Supported Internship programme.

PE Kit for Summer

To support students in their PE lessons when it is warm and sunny, please see the PE kit list below:

- Plain black or white shorts / jogging bottoms
- Plain or St Martins logoed black or white t-shirt (NO FOOTBALL SHIRTS)
- Comfortable footwear
- Sunglasses (optional)

Students are expected to come to school dressed in their uniforms, and will change before and after PE. Bespoke arrangements can of course be made via your class teacher to accommodate individual needs, however, as a school, we are grateful for your support in encouraging good routines in the development of your child's health and hygiene. Additionally, making sure that your child has a water bottle in school will support them as they can have water breaks during their PE lesson and throughout the school day.

School Uniform Reminder

As we have shared about PE kit, I thought it would also be helpful to remind our community about our school uniform policy. At St Martins School, we do our utmost to ensure all students are dressed correctly as we believe that it promotes pride, self-confidence, and a feeling of belonging within the student body. We are always happy to work with parents and families to ensure our approach is accessible to all (e.g. sensory needs).

Boys:

- White or black polo shirt or round neck shirt
- Plain black round necked sweat shirt or a St Martins logoed hoodie, no embroidered sweatshirts e.g. Nike/Adidas
- Plain black trousers/jogging bottoms or plain black shorts – No jeans
- All black shoes/trainers – No other colours to be on the shoes/trainers

Sabrina Hobbs **Principal**

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Girls:

- White or black polo shirt or round neck shirt
- Plain black round necked sweatshirt or a St Martins logoed hoodie - No embroidered sweatshirts e.g. Nike/Adidas
- Plain black trousers/jogging bottoms, black/grey skirt or black knee length shorts – No jeans
- Plain black or grey tights/leggings
- All black shoes/trainers – No other colours to be on the shoes/trainers

More details regarding uniform, including our stockist, Uniform Direct, can be found here on our website: <https://www.stmartinsschoolderby.co.uk/parents/uniform-and-pe-kit> If you are planning on purchasing more uniform from Uniform Direct for September, there are some useful dates for when it is best to buy.

PTFA Support Needed

We are reaching out to raise awareness about the important role of the Parent, Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA). The PTFA has been instrumental in providing extracurricular funding for our students, allowing them to access a wide range of activities and opportunities that enrich their school experience. The PTFA has contributed towards resources for our sensory garden, outdoor learning areas and wellbeing sessions in school as well as supporting at school fund raising events. However, the PTFA relies heavily on the support of parent carers to continue its work. Without enough involvement, there is a real risk that the PTFA may no longer be able to operate, and this funding for extracurricular activities would be affected.

We are currently looking for parent carers who are interested in joining the PTFA as trustees. This is a fantastic opportunity to make a positive impact on the school community and help shape the future of extracurricular opportunities for all students. If you are interested or would like more information, please get in touch with Mary Jackson at school to find out more.

Bank Holiday Weekend

School will be closed on Monday 5th May for the Bank Holiday weekend, and will open to students again on Tuesday 6th May.

With best wishes,



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Supported Internship

News



CVs, applications and interviews!

It's time to face the music for our interns...

The future is BRIGHT

We are delighted to share that both Harry and Sam Hanley have secured paid work. Harry will be beginning his employment with ISS as a Patient Porter and Sam will be a Band 2 Apprentice for the UHDB Library. Lily has started completing some shift work at The Dragon in Willington too - how exciting!

Our interns are finding out that it's not as simple as saying yes, though! There are applications to complete, CVs to share, interviews techniques to learn and resilience to be practised. It's a hard process to gain employment, but we can see just how employable individuals have become.

27th
Mar

Supported Internship Day

We celebrated with Project SEARCH for a national 'Supported Internship Day'; celebrating all things SI and sharing amazing outcomes for our amazing interns, nation wide.

While reflecting with the group, it is clear what a huge impact the supported internship has had not only on their employability skills but their confidence, socialisation, identity and sense of belonging.

Derby University lit their tower orange in celebration of the event!

Assessment Day!

23rd
April

We welcomed ten applicants to join us on our Assessment Day this year. Prospective interns completed tasks, had a tour and discussed their commitments to the Project. We were so pleased with the day, we even ran a mini version at Horizons for year 12 students. We saw some great teamwork, communication and problem solving.



26th
March

Pride Park: Jobs Fair

We attended the Jobs Fair event at Pride Park. Our interns were able to introduce themselves to new people, look at job opportunities and network with lots of different, local employers. They attended a talk about CVs and shared their own CVs with employers.

Second / Third Placements

Our interns are coming to the end of their second placements. We cannot believe the progress we are seeing! So many of our interns are feeling more confident, they are gaining core skills needed to be employable and above all, they are enjoying work!

Sky: Back of House Catering
Sarah: DAU / Health Care Assistant
Harry: Patient Porter (Ultrasound)
Hamza: Patient Porter (Theatres)
Sam: Library
Thomas: Mattress Porter
Lily: Aramark (Starbucks)
Brooklyn: Aramark
Sam: Printing Services
Corey: Post Room

Some of our interns are now beginning their third placements in the Post Room, Electrics, Widening Access, Aramark and the University of Derby Library.



Term Dates for Academic Year 2024/2025

Spring Term 2025

School Starts Back – Monday 6th January 2025

School Breaks up for Half Term – Thursday 13th February

INSET Day – Friday 14th February

School Starts Back – Monday 24th February

School Breaks up for Easter – Friday 4th April

Summer Term 2025

Bank Holiday – Monday 21st April

INSET Day – Tuesday 22nd April

School Starts Back – Wednesday 23rd April

Bank Holiday – Monday 5th May

School Breaks up for Half Term – Friday 23rd May

School Starts Back – Monday 2nd June

School Breaks up for Summer – Wednesday 23rd July

INSET Day – Thursday 24th July

St Martins follows Derby City Council's term dates. Dates for next year can be found on their website – please follow the link for these - <https://derby.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-colleges/term-holiday-dates/#>

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