



3rd February 2023

Dear Parent Carers,

Weekly Update: 02/02/23

I hope this update finds you well. Thank you for your support on Wednesday with the industrial action that took place in school. We apologise for the disruption this may have caused you and your family, but hope that this has further raised awareness of the ongoing issues with government currently faced by schools across the country.

This week's update has a focus on Safeguarding and Family Support. I hope you find it useful.

Best wishes,

Sabrina Hobbs Principal

Safeguarding Update

At St Martins we recognise and understand that for a lot of our students they feel more confident in interacting with peers online. With evolving risks in the online world, it's important we work together to teach our students that it is important to build on confidence and continue to teach about online dangers and how to act safely when using the internet. At St Martins, we work hard to ensure that all of our learners are safe in their use of technology. Safer Internet Day is on Tuesday 7th February with the theme 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations online'. In school there will be special assembly and lessons delivered.

Parent Carers often tell us how challenging it is keeping up with current social media trends and gaming platforms, so on Thursday this week we also held a Coffee Morning with an online safety focus. Specialist came in to speak about vulnerabilities online. Thank you to all who came along. If you missed the session, but would like information on this, please get in touch with me.

Next week is also Children's Mental Health Week, the focus being 'let's connect', encouraging young people to connect with others. When we have healthy connections to family, friends and others this can help our mental health and sense of wellbeing. In school, we will have support wellbeing stations set up at break times

Sabrina Hobbs Principal

 St Martins School, The Derwent Campus, Bracknell Drive, Alvaston, Derby, DE24 0BT

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The Shaw Education Trust Limited is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England (no 09067175) Registered address: Shaw Education Trust, Kidsgrove Secondary School, Gloucester Road, Kidsgrove, ST7 4DL. The details of our academies registered as business names can be found at <u>www.shaweducation.org.uk</u>.





with mindfulness activities. Mental Health will be a focus throughout the week in lessons.

We will also be holding a **dress to express day** on Friday 10th February, where students can come into school on Friday dressed in a way that expresses who they are. Please note that appropriate dress is required for school – items that are revealing i.e. crop tops are not suitable.

Links to some useful websites for Mental Health:

- <u>https://www.kooth.com</u>
- <u>https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/your-feelings/mental-health</u>
- <u>https://www.youngminds.org.uk</u>

Please contact school if you are concerned about your child's mental health.

Many thanks,

Jess Longhurst – Designated Safeguarding Lead – <u>j.longhurst@stmartins.derby.sch.uk</u>

Family Support Team

Over December, we provided support for some of our families in the form of food parcels and some wonderful gifts kindly donated by St Peter's Church and Gem FM.

We are all too aware of the impact of the ever increasing cost of living; if you find yourselves struggling with the cost of food, please do contact the Family Support Team, as we have access to a variety of food banks across Derby.

In school, we also run a uniform recycling scheme, so if your child/young person needs anything, please let us know. We have shoes, tops, and jumpers.

If you haven't had a home visit with the Family Support Team, and would like to learn more about their wide ranging offer; from routines to benefits, visuals and family days out, then please give the team a call to arrange a visit.

Monika: 07922574363 Marie: 07841871516

Many thanks,

Family Support Team

Sabrina Hobbs Principal

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Term Dates for Academic Year 2022/2023

Spring Term

School Starts Back – Monday 9th January 2023 School Breaks up for Half Term – Thursday 16th February INSET Day – Friday 17th February School Starts Back – Monday 27th February School Breaks up for Easter – Friday 31st March

Summer Term

INSET Day – Monday 17th April School Starts Back – Tuesday 18th April Bank Holiday – Monday 1st May Bank Holiday – Monday 8th May School Breaks up for Half Term - Friday 26th May School Starts Back – Monday 5th June INSET Day – Monday 26th June School Breaks up for Summer – Friday 21st July

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