

3rd July 2026

Dear Parent Carers,

Weekly Update: 03/07/26

I hope this update finds you well. It was great to see so many families at Sports Day on Wednesday – students had a great time taking part in the events and impressed us with their attitudes in trying their best.

With England's World Cup match taking place at 1am on Sunday, we understand that some families may choose to stay up to watch this. Students are expected to attend school as usual on Monday, however if your child/young person is running late, please get in touch with the School Office. We are not able to make any changes to School Transport.

The weather is expected to be warmer again next week, so please consider sending your child to school in cooler clothes such as their PE kit. Please keep sending in sunhats and labelled suncream too so that students can go outside when appropriate.

Project SEARCH Celebration

Please read the latest news from Project SEARCH further in the update – the interns continue to secure meaningful employment, and there's some news from former interns too!

MartinFest

To continue the preparations for MartinFest, we have collated more information for Parent Carers about what is taking place.

If you are able to attend, you are welcome to take your child/young person home in the afternoon from 1:15pm. If you plan to do this, please let us know in advance by completing a consent slip – **this will be sent out on a paper copy at the start of next week**. This information is essential to help us plan staffing and ensure all students can be safely accounted for throughout the day.

Any student leaving early must be signed out with a member of staff at the school gate to support with safeguarding procedures.

Although students may leave early with a Parent or Carer, we encourage everyone to stay until the end of MartinFest so they can enjoy the full day with their friends.

Toni Beardmore Headteacher

St Martins School, The Derwent Campus, Bracknell Drive, Alvaston, Derby, DE24 0BT
Tel: 01332 571151 **Email:** admin@stmartins.set.org **Online:** www.stmartinsschoolderby.co.uk

If you attend MartinFest with your child/young person, we kindly ask that you remain with them throughout your visit, as responsibility for their supervision passes to you while you are together at the event.

If you are unable to attend, your child will spend the day enjoying MartinFest with their pastoral group and staff. They will have the opportunity to take part in all of the planned activities and will return home via their usual transport arrangements at the normal time.

To support the festival vibe by getting dressed up, there will be stalls to support this including:

- Face and hair glitter – Free
- Face painting – £2
- Hair plaiting/feathers – £2

Wristbands are available to purchase via ParentPay. If you do not have a ParentPay account, please contact the school office.

Wristbands cost £3 each, or 2 for £5, with up to 2 Parent Carers/Family Members per family able to attend – pre-school age siblings are able to attend too and won't require a wristband. Students do not need to purchase a wristband for this day.

Wristbands will be available online only ahead of the festival – these will not be available on the day. Please do not turn up without a wristband as you will not be able to take part.

Derby City Council – ROOTS Fest

ROOTS Fest is a free festival for young people aged 15–18 who are preparing for, or have recently completed, their GCSEs or A Levels and are starting to think about their next steps. Whether they're considering college, university, apprenticeships, employment or simply exploring what's out there, ROOTS Fest is a chance to discover local opportunities in a fun, relaxed and informal setting.

When: Thursday 16th July 5-8pm

Where: Electric Daisy, 1 Bold Lane, Derby DE1 3NT

Free to attend

Young people can:

- Meet local employers, colleges, universities and training providers.
- Explore career and education pathways in an informal setting.
- Take part in hands-on creative workshops, including DJing, graphic printing and gardening.
- Get practical careers advice.

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- Chat to professionals and ask questions about different careers.
- Enjoy live music and entertainment throughout the event.

As an added bonus:

- The first **50** people to book and attend will receive a **free pizza**.
- The first **100** attendees will receive a **free drink**.

To book a free place, simply follow the link below:

[Tickets: Derby Promise presents ROOTS: School's out, What's next? | Electric Daisy Derby Thu 16 July 2026](#)

Places are limited, so we'd encourage young people and their families to book as soon as possible.

Derby SEND Voice – Cuppa & Chat

Take a look at the poster for details of Derby SEND Voice's latest event – 'Cuppa & Chat' hosted at Friar Gate Studios on Wednesday 8th July.

Welcome!

I would like to extend a warm welcome to two new members of staff – Jess Kearney has joined us as a Classroom Assistant, and Di Lakin as a Teaching Assistant. We are so pleased that they have joined us at St Martins!

With best wishes,



Toni Beardmore
Headteacher

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Project SEARCH

Royal Derby Hospital

EXCITING NEWS

We want to share our exciting outcomes - we are entering the final few weeks of the course with 7 interns in full time employment. All 8 of our interns have destinations for next year, with one of the team taking on further learning at Derby College.

Nicholas: Further Studies

Edward: Waste Porter

Junior: Waste Porter

Luke: Cleaner

Jacob: Pharmacy Porter

Alex: Cleaner

Libby: Imaging Assistant

Charlie: Cleaner

UPDATES FROM US

Next month marks the end of this year's programme.

On the 16th July, we will gather Interns, their families, Mentors and teams together to celebrate the completion of their course.

Interns will officially 'Graduate' and have entered the next step in their lives.

Our newly employed interns are looking forward to spending their hard earned cash on exploring new places, treating themselves to nice things and planning their time off during the year.

Some interns have already been earning for a while and have saved over £5,000!

We are looking forward to welcoming our new interns to the team! We have transition sessions beginning this week and we can't wait to watch our new team's Project SEARCH journeys start.

The new cohort will attend three afternoons to get to know each other, our on-site staff, get used to the site itself and learn core expectations. We will ensure we fit in some fun too - with orienteering activities and teambuilding games planned, involving current interns.



Project SEARCH

Royal Derby Hospital

WHERE ARE THEY
NOW?

LET'S CATCH UP
WITH SOME
GRADUATES...

Matt

Matt has been working in the hospital as a General Porter for 4 years. Matt often catches up with the team and enjoys joining us for Alumni meet-ups. He regularly meets with a friend for a cheeky Wetherspoons too!

Harry

Harry is loving his Porter role at the hospital. He has been in full time employment for one year. You can hear his cheerful nature in his corridors. He is enjoying visiting historical places in his spare time and has been a fantastic mentor for interns this year too.

Sam

Sam is enjoying work as an apprentice in the hospital library, just over a year in. He has recently been on his first holiday abroad and likes to book annual leave to visit his favourite place, Skegness! He also regularly attends Table Tennis at the hospital and is a key member of the Alumni too!

Lily

Lily has worked at the University of Derby for nearly a year. She makes a mean Frappuccino, but still prefers 7 pumps of caramel in hers! Lily pops into the hospital, driving her very own car to say "hi" and has kept in touch. She looks after her horse, Jeremy and is looking to grow the horse collection soon... between her hair and nail appointments.

Jack

Jack was one of the first Project SEARCH interns. Six years on and he still enjoys his full time role in Receipts and Distribution at the Royal Derby. We often see his smiley face and he is a great advocate for the programme. Jack attends our Alumni events and is always willing to help the project grow.

Hamza

Hamza has worked at Florence Nightingale Hospital for just under a year. He is employed as a cleaner and loves his job.

He has popped in to catch-up with the crew and regularly attends a Table Tennis club at the hospital too with Kofi and Sam.

Kofi

Kofi has been employed as a Mattress Porter since 2023. He is the master of socialising - a very busy man and often makes us jealous with his trips to London and abroad. Kofi works part time and also volunteers at a local charity shop.





DERBY SEND VOICE

YOU'RE NOT ALONE.
WE'RE HERE.

CUPPA & CHAT

UNDERSTANDING EBSNA

If school attendance has become a source of stress, worry or exhaustion for your child and family, **you're not alone.**



Join us for an informal Cuppa & Chat with the STEP's team (Specialist Teaching & Educational Psychology Service), including Assistant Psychologists.

TOGETHER WE'LL EXPLORE:

- What **EBSNA** (Emotionally Based School Non-Attendance) is and the push & pull factors involved.
- The EBSNA pathway and some of the **support available.**
- Practical ways to **support your child**, including understanding triggers, working with school around reasonable adjustments, and what can help when emotions are running high.



FREE DRINK
FOR MEMBERS



As your Parent Carer Forum, we know these conversations matter. This is a chance to hear from professionals, connect with other parents who "get it", and share your experiences so that parent voices continue to shape services and support.

NO JUDGEMENT. NO EXPECTATIONS.

Just a welcoming space, a cuppa, and honest conversation.



WEDNESDAY
8TH JULY



10AM –
12PM



GLOW & GROW CAFÉ
FRIAR GATE STUDIOS
DERBY



WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOU THERE!



derbysendvoice@gmail.com



www.derbysendvoice.com

Find us on



Dates for your diaries:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Information</u>
Tuesday 7 th , Wednesday 8 th and Thursday 9 th July	'Moving-up' and city- wide transition	Students spend time in their September pastoral groups, and the new Year 7 students will be in school.
Tuesday 14 th July	Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 Parent Carer Evening	Parent Carers invited – information has been sent home.
Friday 17 th July	Martinfest!	Parent Carers invited – information has been shared.
Tuesday 21 st July	Prize Day	Parent Carers of winners invited. Information will be sent home.
Wednesday 22 nd July	Students break up for Summer.	

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Term Dates 2025/2026

Summer Term 2026

School Breaks up for Summer – Wednesday 22nd July

INSET Day – Thursday 23rd July

Term Dates for Academic Year 2026/2027

Autumn Term 2026

INSET Day – Friday 4th September

School Starts for the new Academic Year – Monday 7th September

School Breaks up for Half Term – Friday 23rd October

INSET Day – Monday 2nd November

School Starts Back – Tuesday 3rd November

INSET Day – Friday 27th November

School Breaks up for Christmas – Friday 18th December

Spring Term 2027

School Starts Back – Monday 4th January 2027

School Breaks up for Half Term – Friday 12th February

School Starts Back – Monday 22nd February

School Breaks up for Easter – Thursday 25th March

Summer Term 2027

School Starts Back – Monday 12th April

Bank Holiday – Monday 3rd May

INSET Day – Tuesday 4th May

School Breaks up for Half Term – Friday 28th May

School Starts Back – Monday 7th June

School Breaks up for Summer – Friday 23rd July

INSET Day – Monday 26th 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/#>

Social Media Links

Facebook - [St. Martins School Facebook](#)

Instagram - [St. Martins School Instagram](#)

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