

12<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Dear Parent Carers,

**Weekly Update: 12/05/2023**

I hope this update finds you well. It was wonderful to see so many of you at the Coronation event hosted at school last Friday. Having families join in with activities with their child / young person is great to see; it also helps us to get to know you, and work more closely and effectively with families. A special thanks to Kobi and Emily who worked so hard to arrange the event – their enthusiasm is inspiring to see.

**Parent Carer Coffee Morning Feedback**

On Thursday, we hosted a Coffee Morning where Parent Carers had the chance to interact with school and pastoral teams. The focus was on behaviour and the supportive structures offered within the school, sharing information and strategies that can also be used at home. The dialog between school and Parent Carers was positive and showed a strong desire to work collaboratively across all aspects of school to support our community of young people.

We discussed behaviour as a communication tool, how to open the lines of communication with children along with some proactive, active, and reactive management strategies that can be used at both home and school. We also heard from Sam, an ex-student who spoke with us about his journey through St Martins. Sam identified how the foundations established in our school have helped lead him on to a successful future where he is confidently accessing college and all transport independently. Sam is also involved in numerous coaching activities with other vulnerable young people. Sam's story left Parent Carers feeling inspired. It is important to remember that this is one of many success stories we have as a school.

The morning also provided an opportunity for our new Assistant Headteacher Dave Burrows to meet Parent Carers and listen to valuable feedback. It also enabled a stage to share his vision around the importance of pastoral and home support. He was also able to share how he hopes to enhance pastoral support further across the school, incorporating a developmental focus around Parent Carer engagement and clear lines of communication.

Dave discussed the exciting arrival of a new system Class Charts, planned to be launched in the Autumn Term, and celebrated the good practice he has already seen in such a short space of time since his arrival just after Easter. He also shared strategies and methodologies of how we support our young people throughout the

Sabrina Hobbs **Principal**

St Martins School, The Derwent Campus, Bracknell Drive, Alvaston, Derby, DE24 0BT  
**Tel:** 01332 571151 **Email:** [admin@stmartins.derby.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stmartins.derby.sch.uk) **Online:** [www.stmartinsschoolderby.co.uk](http://www.stmartinsschoolderby.co.uk)

school day. A specific topic of conversation was around improving home school communication across a number of different platforms but also the quality of that communication. The school looks forward to acting on this feedback and enhancing the Parent Carer experience.

We are hoping to put on more of these events throughout the year and encourage as many Parent Carers to attend as possible.

### **Mental Health Awareness Week**

Next week is Mental Health Awareness Week. To raise awareness for Mental Health Awareness Week at St Martins, we will be taking part in a range of well being activities. There will be a 'Wear it Green Day' on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May, where students and staff will be encouraged to wear green to raise awareness of mental health. Please see the poster for more information.

### **Horizons Open Day**

Horizons 6<sup>th</sup> Form are hosting an open day for Parent Carers on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May from 10am-2pm. This is a great opportunity to find out about what Horizons have to offer for your young person's next steps in Post-16. For more information, please get in touch with Mel at Horizons on 01332 571151 – option 2.

Wishing you a great weekend,



**Sabrina Hobbs**  
**Principal**

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15 to 21 May 2023

# Mental Health Awareness Week



#ToHelpMyAnxiety

To raise awareness for Mental Health Awareness Week at St Martins, we will be taking part in the following activities:

- ♦ KS3 & KS4 Assemblies will focus on the theme #ToHelpMyAnxiety
- ♦ Wear it Green Day on **Friday 19th May**. All students & staff to wear green items of clothing to raise awareness.
- ♦ The Wellbeing Team will be running daily activities for students every break time & lunch time outside. Activities include; meditation, physical wellbeing, breathing & crafts.
  - ♦ KS3 reading sessions will be about the theme 'anxiety'.



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### **Term Dates for Academic Year 2022/2023**

#### **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

#### **\*INSET Day Dates for 2023-2024\***

Monday 4th September

Tuesday 5th September

Friday 16th February

Monday 15th April

Monday 1st July

Term Dates for the next academic year can be found on our website:

<https://www.stmartinsschoolderby.co.uk/termdates>

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