



21<sup>st</sup> July 2023

Dear Parent Carers,

### **Weekly Update: 21/07/23**

Welcome to the last update of the year! This week has been great as we got through the morning session of Sports Day without it being rained off(!), and celebrated the achievements of 21 students as they won awards at Prize Day on Wednesday – it was heartening to watch the students applaud and cheer for one another as they won awards, as it showed that we truly are like a family here at St Martins.

Well done to the students and staff team for such a successful year, you all deserve a fun filled and restful holiday; and the chance to spend quality time with your loved ones.

### **Arboretum Café**

We have successfully recruited a manager to run our joint café with St Andrew's School in the Arboretum Park! As a result of this, work will take place in the café over the summer holiday to prepare it for business after being closed for the last 3 years. A 'soft' opening is planned to take place during the last week of the holiday, with a full opening after this. We are so excited to have the Arboretum Café, and look forward to students gaining work skills there. We will share more details with you in the new academic year.

### **Transport for Derby City Students**

Derby City Council have a new transport provider from September, Nottingham Transport. Heather Woodward and Sally Walmsley have met with the managers of the transport team to discuss the taxis and student support. A member of the team will be making contact with you over the Summer holiday to arrange a meet and greet with your child at home. If this is not convenient, please let them know and they can arrange another date. We are hoping that with the new contracts in place, the traffic flow on site will ease at the beginning and end of the day. If you have any questions or queries regarding transport in September - please contact Sally in the office.

### **Maternity Leave**

Rani Laurd, a Teaching Assistant at Horizons has recently gone on maternity leave and welcomed a baby boy! We extend our congratulations to Rani and her family.

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Sabrina Hobbs **Principal**

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Bryony Holman, a Teacher at St Martins went on maternity leave last Friday, and is currently awaiting her special arrival. We look forward to hearing from Bryony soon.

### **Goodbyes**

Today, we are sad to say goodbye to two members of our St Martins family.

Firstly, Georgina Lewis, a Teaching Assistant who has been with us since 2021, is moving to a mainstream secondary school to work as a Learning Mentor. We thank Georgina for her commitment and contribution to the school, and wish her success in this exciting new role.

Secondly... Chris Hardwick... Chris has taught at St Martins for 19 years, with only 4 others who have worked at St Martins for longer! Chris is part of the furniture, and will be sorely missed by all in school due to his kind nature, and infectious and fun personality. Chris is moving on from education for now, having earned a break from us all! We wish Chris the very best for this new chapter and hope that he enjoys this next phase.

On that note, I would like to wish you a great summer,

**Sabrina Hobbs**  
**Principal**

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## **Term Dates for Academic Year 2023/2024**

### **Autumn Term**

INSET Day – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September

School Starts for the new Academic Year – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September

School Breaks up for Half Term – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October

School Starts Back – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November

School Breaks up for Christmas – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December

### **Spring Term**

School Starts Back – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024

School Breaks up for Half Term – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February

INSET Day – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February

School Starts Back – Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February

School Breaks up for Easter – Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March

### **Summer Term**

INSET Day – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April

School Starts Back – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April

Bank Holiday – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May

School Breaks up for Half Term - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May

School Starts Back – Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

INSET Day – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July

School Breaks up for Summer – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

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