

26th June 2026

Dear Parent Carers,

Weekly Update: 26/06/26

I hope this update finds you well. On this very warm day in June, we said farewell to our Year 11 students in assembly, before we celebrate together at the Year 11 and Year 13 Leavers' Prom tonight. Every year we experience a vast range of emotions on Leavers' Day as we reflect on the journeys that all of our students have been on during their time at St Martins School and Horizons 6th Form. Thank you to all families for your support over the years. They say that it 'takes a village' to raise a child, and we have been a part of your village over the years – going through the highs and lows together whilst working to Shape Successful Futures for our students who all deserve the very best. We are incredibly proud of all of our students and look forward to hearing about their future successes as they take their next steps to college, training, employment and supported internships.

Hot Weather

This week's hot weather has created a range of challenges for our school community as we try our best to meet the needs of our students. We appreciate that some families felt that it was best to keep their young person at home in order to keep them cooler than in school – thank you for your prompt communications with school regarding absences. To continue to support students, they are able to wear cooler items such as PE kit on warmer days, as well as accessing some cooler areas in school where we are fortunate to have air conditioning. Please provide them with a refillable water bottle, a hat and a labelled bottle of sun cream. Students are encouraged to spend time in the shade if outside. We will continue to monitor the weather ahead of Sports Day next week and will communicate with families if there are any changes.

Water Safety Information from Derby City Council

Whilst it can be appealing to enter water to cool down, it can be very dangerous. To stay safe, please follow the guidance below:

- Swim in supervised locations where there are lifeguards.
- Stop and Think - enter water slowly and carefully
- Stay Together - stay within reach of other people and within a standing depth
- Call 999 - don't enter the water to rescue. Ask for coastguard if you're at the coast.
- Float to Live– if you get into trouble in the water:
 - Tilt your head back with your ears under the water
 - Try to relax and control your breathing
 - Move your arms and legs for stability
 - Don't worry if your legs sink, we all float differently

Toni Beardmore Headteacher

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- Once the initial shock has passed, shout for help or swim to safety if you can.
- If you see someone else in trouble in the water, remember Phone Float Throw:
 - Phone 999 to get help
 - Tell them to stay calm and float on their back
 - Throw them rescue equipment to help until the emergency services arrive.

For more information, please go to: <https://rnli.org/safety/float>

MartinFest Wristbands and further information

Can you believe that MartinFest takes place in 3 weeks?!

Wristbands

Wristbands are now 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.

Workshops

We have arranged a variety of workshops for MartinFest including Animal Encounters, Circus Skills, African Drumming, Dance and Percussion. All students will be able to access workshops during the festival, there is a £5 voluntary contribution that can be made via ParentPay.

What to bring:

To help create a real festival feel, you are welcome to bring camp chairs/blankets so that you can sit and enjoy the music. Please also bring sun cream/hats in preparation for what we hope will be a lovely sunny day.

Food and Drink:

There will be food vendors – including pizza, burgers, toasties and an ice cream van onsite throughout the day where you can purchase refreshments. Families are also welcome to bring their own picnics and drinks onsite to enjoy. The school kitchen will not be open on this day, therefore, students in receipt of Free School Meals will receive a token to purchase their lunch from a food vendor.

Please do not bring any alcoholic drinks. Additionally, smoking of cigarettes and electronic cigarettes or vapes is not permitted anywhere on the school site.

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Mobile Phones

As at all school events, you are welcome to take photographs of your own child/young person. Please try to avoid phone usage so that you're able to fully participate with your family.

We will share additional information regarding arrangements over the next couple of weeks. If you have any specific enquiries, please get in touch with the school office.

National Year of Reading

June's focus is on words, rhythm and sound. Please take a look at the poster further in the update for more information!

Beyond 16 Information Evening

Derby City Council are hosting a special event at Friar Gate Studios on Tuesday 7th July with colleges, support services and universities to showcase the offer for young people with SEND. Please take a look at the poster for more information. Pre-booking is not required.

And finally!

Head student and Deputy Youth Mayor of Derby, Anselmo, has continued to make waves! Anselmo spoke to Headteachers, SENCOs and other school senior leaders at Derby City Council's Inclusion Conference yesterday, where he shared his story and talked about the difference that the support he received at St Martins has made to him. Since his time in school, Anselmo has become a brilliant role model for his peers and younger students, and his positive attitude always shines through. Now in Year 11, Anselmo is moving on from St Martins and will start his Post-16 journey in September. Watch out for the impact Anselmo will continue to make in advocating for young people with SEND!



With best wishes for a cooler weekend,

T. Beardmore

Toni Beardmore
Headteacher

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National Year of Reading 2026

MONDAY 29TH JUNE

JUNE FOCUS: WORDS, RHYTHM AND SOUND

**STUDENTS WILL EXPLORE HOW
STORIES CAN BE LINKED TO MUSIC,
RHYTHM, RHYME AND SOUND.**

On Monday 29th June, students will explore Words, Rhythm and Sound through stories, poems, music and interactive activities 📚🎵. They will take part in clapping games, sound storytelling 📢, rhyming challenges and performances 🤖🎭 to build listening, speaking and literacy skills in a fun, engaging way.



BEYOND 16

WHAT'S NEXT?

PATHWAYS, POSSIBILITIES AND SUPPORT

YOUR
FUTURE
STARTS
HERE



SPECIFICALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE
WITH AN **EHCP**, YEAR 9 PLUS

**Not sure what comes
after school? Start here.**

Come and meet colleges, universities
and support services that can help
you explore your options for life
after Year 11.



EXPLORE:



College and
training opportunities



Supported internships



Travel training and
independence skills



Money and
benefits advice



Housing and
support services



Meet real people
who can help



SHORT TALKS THROUGHOUT THE EVENING

Hear from experts on topics like:

- ✓ Supported Internships
- ✓ College Pathways
- ✓ Employment Support & Benefits Advice
- ✓ Health Services
- ✓ Social Care & Preparing for Adulthood



SIGN UP ON ARRIVAL!



GLOW & GROW CAFE

Enjoy free drinks and cakes
made and served by young
people with support from
Transition2.



**TUESDAY
7 JULY**



DROP IN BETWEEN
4:30PM - 7:30PM



**FRIAR GATE
STUDIOS, DERBY**

Dates for your diaries:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Information</u>
Wednesday 1 st July	Sports Day	Parent Carers invited – information has been sent home.
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 will be 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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