

St Martins School



NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 4

Welcome to issue 4 of the St Martins newsletter

Welcome back all, in this brilliant issue of the St Martins newspaper we will cover a range of different topics including an interview with Ms. Weaver, Mr. Machin in the London marathon, transgen-

der in rugby and revision tips from teachers.

I also want to give a mention to our amazing librarian, Ms. Lane!

Ms. Lane has been one of the best librarians the school

could ask for and she has helped make this school newspaper possible.

Wonderful

Without her I would not have been able to have this won-

derful opportunity to become an editor and spread the love of writing!

Thank you, Ms. Lane, we will all miss you – and good luck in your new role!

MOLLY ROBERTS, YEAR 9

The cost of living crisis and school meals

Over the last school year, many students have noticed an increase of prices in our food. With the added extra stress put onto parents – due to inflation – some students have been eating packed lunch more often than using our school canteen.

Parents are often cautious about how much their children are spending at lunchtimes.

Personally, my parents are becoming more cautious on the amount that I am spending and are frequently asking me to find any cheaper alternatives and, with the prices going up, people will struggle, and will have to rely on packed lunches.

Many students believe that the rise in prices is “unfair” and “A lot of families are struggling with the cost-of-living crisis, and now parents/caregivers have another financial worry.” It would be a shame for me, personally, and many other students to have to give up the delicious food from our canteen.

LIZZIE GONZALES-BIRKILL, YEAR 8



Mr Machin runs the London marathon

On the 23 of April Mr. Machin – one of our beloved humanities teachers – ran the London marathon. He completed it in just under 4 hours and was one of 50,000 other people running in this huge event.

When we asked him what the hardest part was, he said from “Miles 18-23” he “hit the wall”. He said: “It was difficult but rewarding, the best sporting event in which I have ever participated.”

He raised over £3,600 and around £1,500 coming from the money students raised for their sponsored walk. He has run local half marathons and 10ks before but had never done a full marathon. His goal is to do the

Chester marathon and he has even entered the ballot to participate in the London marathon again next year. Well done Mr. Machin!

SEREN SMITH YEAR 7

Teachers’ top hints and tips for revision

Exam time has come around again. So, for some extra help, I have asked some teachers for their revision hints and tips:

Ms. Smith: “When revising make sure you recap the things you like and enjoy but spend a little more time on the areas you do not like and find difficult. Watch video clips, make mind maps, use flash cards, complete exam questions, attend revision sessions, find what works for you.”

Ms. Weaver: “I love post it notes and revision clocks, where you break a topic down in 12 sections and spend 5 minutes on each section over an hour.”

Mr. McKinnon: “When teachers say, ‘this is good for revision, you should use it’ e.g., for notes, websites, or anything else, USE IT, they know what they’re talking about, and reward yourself, after revising treat yourself to a snack or doing something you enjoy.”

While exams are important it is also important to look after yourself, best of luck to everyone.

EWAN MOTTRAM, YEAR 10

TRANSGENDER RIGHTS IN RUGBY

On the 29th of July 2022, the RFU (Rugby Football Union) council voted to change the gender participation policy so that transgender women would ‘no longer be able to participate in the female category for contact rugby’. Their reasoning behind this was because rugby is a ‘gender affected sport’ meaning that the biology for men and women could differ the outcome of a game because of differenc-

es in strength, speed, stamina and other areas of fitness.

The RFU decided on this policy as research found that most injuries in the game take place during tackles, rucks, scrums, and mauls where there is the most bodily contact.

So, to prevent further injuries in the game the RFU have banned transgender women from playing in women’s contact games, because of the ‘developmental changes brought about

by male puberty’ which brings the argument back to the unfair advantage male players have against female players and the risk of injuries.

Recently this year there was an incident at Tiyan High School where a transgender woman was playing on Guam High School’s team. This resulted in the injuring of three opposition players. This incident led to their coach demand a ban on transgender women playing against

biological women, exactly what the RFU has done back in England.

However, many people are upset and disappointed by the RFU’s decision. Some people are even worried that this will drive transgender athletes away from the sport altogether, others are saying that the law was simply made because of discriminatory views.

BY ANNABELLE SMITH YEAR 9