

St Martins School

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1



A CHAT WITH THE HEADTEACHER...

Talking newspapers, revision, favourite books and much, much more with Ms Lovecy

by Amy Elliott, 11CED

Today I was given the opportunity to interview the fabulous Ms Lovecy.

I first thought I would ask what she thought of the newspaper and this was her answer. "fantastic idea. Mrs Evans used to run a newspaper. It is great training and it is nice to hear from a student perspective". Brilliant, I am glad to hear it.

I thought I would pick her brain on some revision tips and her response was to "plan revision in advance and not do too much at one time". She added: "I am a very visual learner so I used mind maps and things like that". Great idea, and I am sure year 10 and 11 will take that on board.

I asked if there were any subjects she would consider introducing, and she followed with this. "The government has made the curriculum very educational and I would like to be more vocational" she mentioned perhaps introducing Farming and Land Studies. A wonderful idea for such a beautiful rural area and if she were to go back to teaching it would be in backstage technology such as lighting and the other important elements involving theatre.

I asked about her favourite book and she said Water for Elephants by Sara Gruen. She



Headteacher Ms Lovecy gets in the World Cup spirit with pupils during the England versus Iran game

described it as "about justice and the triumph of good over evil as we often don't think about animal's welfare" she said it was nice because the elephant "won". I'm sure our more mature readers are thinking of delving into this book.

I jumped at the opportunity to ask her about any improvements she is considering for the near future. I am delighted to inform you that there are many. They include the introduction of a new sports centre, including a 3g football pitch, which I am sure

all the avid football fans who are reading this just got very excited about. Alongside some desperately needed refurbishing of the 7 and 8 toilets, she also was keen to "get back to the extracurricular" opportunities that were previously available.

Welcome to the first issue of your new newspaper

by Harry Wright

Hello and welcome to the first edition of the St Martins student newspaper.

This isn't like a normal newsletter because this is one that we, the students, are making.

That means the stories are about subjects that students are interested in – we hope that the

parents will like them too. This issue was a bit of a rush because we only had one week to do it from start to finish. I would like to thank all of those students that have helped and contributed articles – and the comic strip of course! – for this edition.

We have got a wide variety of things in this newspaper, including a couple of interviews with members of staff, plus much more. I hope you enjoy it!

Have a great Christmas and a happy New Year.

The great St Martins 2022 Extravaganza is full of fun

By Molly Roberts, 9LAT

The extravaganza this year was jam-packed full of exciting acts and Christmas fun.

The event was held on the 14th of December at 6:30pm in the arts hall.

Tickets were sold for £2 per person and there was a brilliant turn out.

The extravaganza included an amazing adaptation of Aladdin

by members of staff, which kept everyone entertained, and the Primary and Secondary band also performing.

There was a raffle and all the proceeds from this will go towards our playground equipment.

Enjoyed

The Primary school also put on some performances.

We hope that everyone who came along enjoyed this year's fantastic extravaganza!

A school trip to Birmingham, all about books

by Dylan Arias

The school trip to Birmingham was an enjoyable way to learn about the history of books while also having fun.

It took around an hour and a half to get there but the teachers made it feel like 45 minutes. Once we got there Mrs Lane and Mr Edwards directed us to the library where we got to pick books for our school. We wrote down what books we wanted and Mrs Lane made sure we would get them for the school as soon as possible. We spent around two hours looking at the books. There was a Shakespeare section with some Shakespeare poems. Once we finished in the library, we made our way to the massive Christmas market where there was lots of food and souvenirs. We made our way back at around 1.30pm and got to school to attend the final lesson. The rewards trip was a delightful experience.

Take part in the festive reading challenge...

By Emma, 11CED

Are you struggling to find motivation to read? Are you struggling to find the right books for you? Have you lost your enthusiasm for reading?

No problem!

Mrs Lane has come up with a fun reading challenge to read 12 books by the end of December.

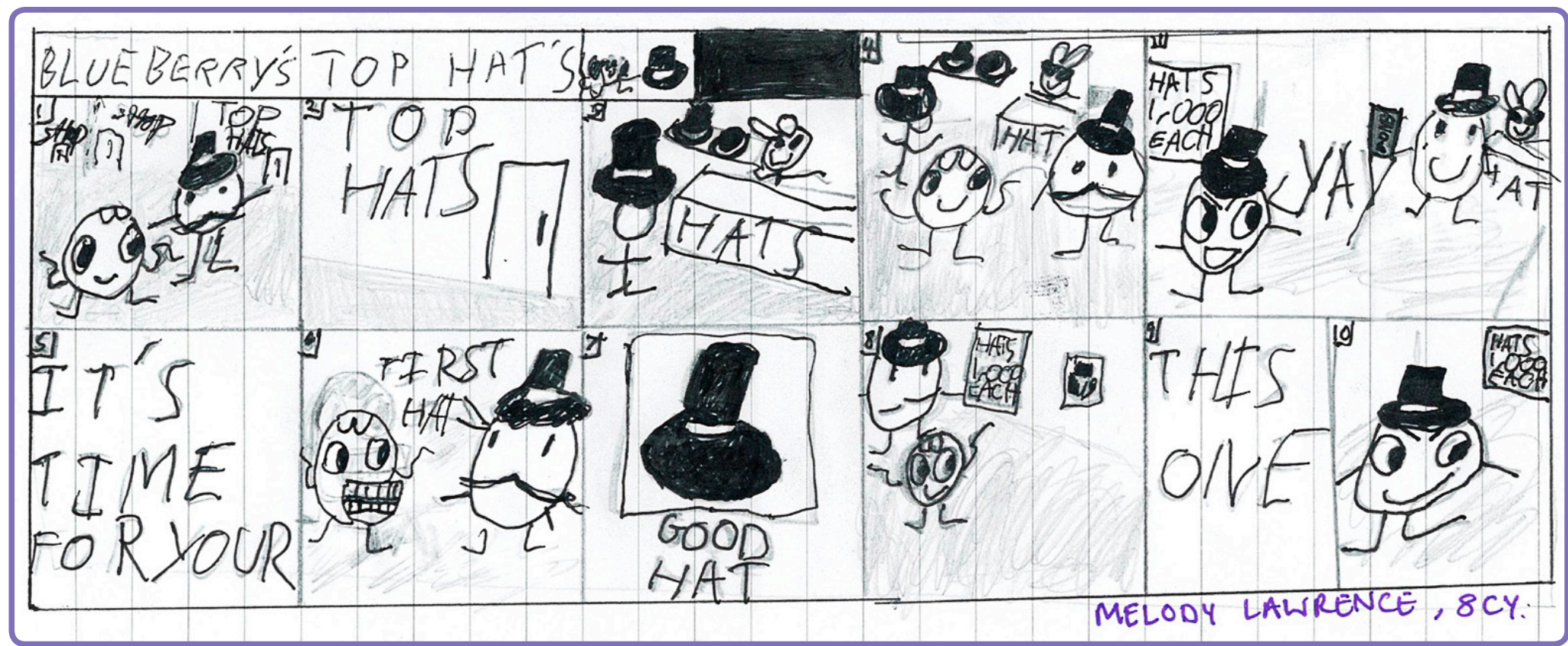
If you want to take part, all you have to do is go along to the library and ask for a sheet to fill out.

Approval

The books can be short or long – although you need to have Mrs Lane's approval before your move on to your next book.

Remember you have limited time to read each book, and please keep the library books in good condition.

Good luck with this fun reading challenge!



A MEETING WITH MISS TOMLEY...

by Amy Elliott, 11CED

Today I had the pleasure of interviewing Miss Tomley.

I first asked her what her favourite Book was and this was her response. "My favourite book is 'The Tell-Tale Heart' by Edgar Allan Poe. This is my favourite book because it's about a madman who murders his butler, dismembers him, buries him under the floorboards...AND STILL insists he isn't mad!"

"It's scary how much I resonate with the butler. I read the story to every class I teach so they know to hand in the homework I set." What an interesting read, I'm sure many are "Edgar" to give it a go.

Next, I asked what character Miss could be if she had the choice. She pondered and came up with this. "I would be Lady Macbeth because the idea of manipulating a man which ultimately leads to his death whilst under the strict rules of patriarchy is very appealing to me."

"Failing that, I'd be Sully from Monsters Inc because the depth of his fur on screen is just tantalising."

"I want to scrunch him." Brilliant



Miss Tomley on a recent school trip

liant answer again, I most definitely agree.

I thought now would be a great time to get some feedback and asked: What do you think of our school having a newspaper? "I love the idea! We have a newsletter that gets sent home but I think the contents are for adults/parents/guardians and our students aren't necessarily interested in that news. If we had one directly aimed at students, we could cater the contents to their

interests. And I would also read it because I am slightly immature," she said, and I personally am thrilled to hear this answer.

My favourite question was what was her favourite memory from school and her answer did not disappoint. "I performed in the Extravaganza in year 11. I'd wanted to do it every year in school but never plucked up the courage until year 11. I wore my best dress, got the words wrong, made eye contact with my best

friend and laughed but I defeated one of my biggest fears... and Bruno Mars can move over because it was a 'helluva' performance." I can just imagine it now.

Finally, to ramp up our Christmas spirit I asked her what was something she was looking forward to. "I am so looking forward to my mum's sweet potatoes on Christmas Day. Genuinely, more than any presents! I swear she is a witch because she is the only person to get sweet potatoes both crunchy and sweet and sticky like honey. She is a wizard of the kitchen." I bet you are all desperate for food now.

Revision

I got her to give a quick revision tip for our year 11 and 10 readers. "Don't listen to music whilst revising!"

"Your brain will obviously register the information it enjoys more (the song) and not what you're reading or revising."

"Dedicate an hour of solid revision and then wind down by listening to music afterwards. Also, MOVE YOUR PHONE AWAY!!!"

You read it here first guys, an in-depth interview with Miss Tomley herself.

Thanks for reading!

Should the toilets be kept locked?

By Harry Wright

I asked for students' views on keeping the toilets locked. These are some of the comments that people told me.

Many thought the toilets shouldn't be locked. Some of the comments included: "We are all human beings and going to the toilet is a basic human right. I hate it because I need the toilet during the day when I'm on my time of the month."

"I think the toilets should not be locked at lesson time because some people have medical problems. Also you wouldn't disturb other people's learning."

"Some people have medical conditions and do not want to share them, so therefore will not have a toilet pass. Children can't hold their bladder and doing so can cause infection."

Problems

"Toilets should not be locked because of many reasons. People have bladder problems so people shouldn't have to spend an extra five minutes to get the key and unlock it."

"Reason two, if someone feels sick and needs to go to the bathroom they also don't want to spend the time to go and get the key because by that point they might have already been sick."

"Toilets shouldn't be locked because people deserve personal space and privacy."

But not everyone agreed that the toilets should be left unlocked all of the time. One student said: "I think toilets should be locked during lessons because people are calling others and vaping."

St Martins Unlimited proves a big hit at the Extravaganza

By Harry Wright

It has been set up with the help of Paul Newman.

The pupils taking part have been working on their businesses at an after school club.

There are two business ideas - a baking business and a fitness business.

The fitness business is still a work in progress, but the baking side is up and running. Our first opportunity to sell was at the school Extravaganza on the 14th, when our stall was a massive hit.

We sold edible reindeers,

chocolate brownie mix and hot chocolate. It was a big success and we sold out of all of our items. We also had a guess how many things are in the jar competition at 50p a go and that was also very popular. We are hoping to sell more in future.