



St Martin-in-the-Fields High School for Girls

11-19 Church of England Academy Founded 1699

Service Compassion Justice Perseverance

Monday 23 March 2020

Dear Year 13 Students

A few weeks ago you were thinking about the last push to reach the summit of that mountain you were climbing. Taking your exams and celebrating the results in August, that was the summit! I can imagine how you felt when you closed your eyes on Tuesday night and woke up on Wednesday morning to the news that you would no longer be taking the exams you were working so hard for.

You were all working toward your personal goals and I can only imagine how each and every one of you must have felt on Thursday and Friday, the last two days, which culminated in a sudden and abrupt end to your school career.

As your Headteacher, I feel disappointed that after all your hard work and progress this year, you have been denied the opportunity to demonstrate your academic progress in the summer written examinations. However, I have said to you many times that 'education is not all about tests and exams'. It's about you, having a good character with a strong moral code, an inquiring mind and the ability to never give up. You have grown and developed into strong, mature, positive, loving young adults, fully demonstrating our values of service, compassion, justice and perseverance. I want to pay tribute to you, alongside the staff and governors to the hardworking ambitious young adults you have become.

I know Friday must have felt very strange and not all of you were in school. It was hard for me to talk, I had tears in my eyes. However, you have a portfolio of excellent work, some positive on going assessment grades, PPE results and teacher assessment, all of this will now be used to determine your final outcome grade.

The Government has shared some initial information about how this will happen, you can read more at: [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): cancellation of GCSEs, AS and A levels in 2020](#) However, they have not yet clarified all the details of this so please do not worry. Ms Rennalls and Ms Kenison will contact you and support you with applications to university.

I will inform you of any updates we get regarding exams and results. Any coursework still needs completing so please liaise via email with your teachers. We will keep our website up to date so please check on a regular basis. If you have any further queries or concerns, please email Ms Rennalls or Ms Kenison.

Headteacher Mrs Beverley Stanislaus B.Ed. NPQH

155 Tulse Hill London SW2 3UP T 020 8674 5594 F 020 8674 1379 www.stmartins.academy

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WITH LOVE AND LEARNING



We will not let you leave St Martin's without having a 'send off'. When the time is right, I will invite you back to school for a proper farewell! You now have a few months to continue your studies to prepare yourself for the next stage of your educational journey at university. Think about how you are going to use your time to begin to read around the subjects you want to study to get a head start. You will not be able to go to museums or use the public library so you will be relying on the internet. Set yourself a strict routine and a timetable to manage your time effectively.

- read a little every day, particularly online newspapers
- complete any coursework - this still has to be completed and submitted
- continue to develop your cultural capital and follow current affairs - Worldly Wednesday!
- exercise
- keep a journal of reflections, your school career at St Martin's your ambitions for the next five years
- stay safe

Should you be finding the current world affairs situation worrying, please speak to an adult. You can also visit informative websites such as Young Minds, [Talking to your child about coronavirus](#) ChildLine [Coronavirus](#)

We are in unprecedented times, but you will look back on this period in your later life and remember how it shaped you as a person to continue to persevere and remain 'Inspired to Learn and Ambitious for the Future'. You will remember the good times, the times when there were tears, the laughter and the friendships you have made that will last a lifetime. You have played a vital part in the journey and success of St Martin's as a school community that has high aspirations and makes a difference. This was recognised and endorsed in May 2018 when Ofsted inspectors said 'the motto of the school Caritate et Disciplina - With Love and Learning is driven by all staff in a common endeavour to improve pupils' life chances'.

Be good, be happy, be kind, be safe and remember.. 'Once a St Martin's Girl, always a St Martin's Girl.'

With every blessing



Mrs Stanislaus
Headteacher

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people/guidance-on-social-distancing-for-everyone-in-the-uk-and-protecting-older-people-and-vulnerable-adults>