

IN TOUCH



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

It has been wonderful to see so many pupils recognised for their achievements through the collection of Character Points, a testament to their hard work and positive contributions around the school. You can read more about these in this edition of In Touch. Please keep encouraging your child to get as many of these as they can!

On Friday, we marked World Mental Health Day with a range of workshops and activities designed to promote wellbeing and resilience. These sessions encouraged students to reflect on how small acts of kindness, openness, and self-care can make a lasting difference to our shared community.

Our Sixth Form students continued their engagement with Black History Month by attending Black Tech Fest, gaining valuable insight into innovation, diversity, and representation in the technology industry.

Finally, we are pleased to introduce a new student IT support service, available every weekday at 10.30am in the IT Office, to help resolve any technical issues with platforms such as Arbor and Teams.



"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7

It has been inspiring to witness so many pupils celebrated for their dedication and the positive impact they make each day. Their efforts remind us that acts of kindness, no matter how simple, contribute to the strength and warmth of our school community. When we give freely and serve others with joy, we reflect God's generous spirit. In doing so, we help to cultivate a community rooted in gratitude, compassion and love.

OCTOBER 2025						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

KEY DATES

- Thursday 23rd October - 6th form Open Evening, (4:30pm - 7:00pm)school closes at 1:50pm)
- Friday 24th October - Sixth Form Social Event
- Friday 24th October - start of half term
- 5th November 8.25 School returns after half term break



SLOVAKIAN STUDENTS

We were delighted to welcome students and teachers from St John Bosco College Bardejov, Slovakia this week. Their visit was a wonderful opportunity to share experiences, culture, and friendship as part of our global Salesian family.

The Salesian network is one of the largest educational communities in the world, with over 3,800 schools across more than 130 countries, all inspired by the vision of St John Bosco to educate young people through reason, religion, and loving kindness.



It was a joy to host our Slovakian guests and to celebrate the international spirit that unites Salesian schools everywhere.



BLACK TECH FEST

Our Year 12 students had the incredible opportunity to attend Black Tech Fest, Europe's leading festival celebrating the intersection of technology, culture and identity. The event brings together global organisations such as Apple, Goldman Sachs, the BBC and the Financial Times, alongside inspiring entrepreneurs and innovators, to champion diversity, equality and inclusion in the tech world.



In line with this year's Black History Month theme, "Stand in Power and Pride," students experienced a powerful showcase of representation and inspiration. They connected with a wide range of high-profile businesses and saw first hand how innovation and inclusion can shape the future.



DISH OF THE WEEK SHOUT-OUT!

Congratulations to our Year 8 students Mark, Harrison, and Keane, who impressed Ms Henry in Food Technology this week with their teamwork and creativity. Working together, they made a delicious pepperoni, basil, chilli, and cheese pizza that looked and tasted restaurant-ready. Ms Henry described it as “mouth-watering good!” – a fantastic example of collaboration and pride in practical learning.



CAKE SALE FOR THE PHILIPPINES

On Friday 24th October, our Chaplaincy Team will be organising a Cake and Treats Sale at break time in the canteen to raise funds for the Philippines, which has recently been affected by a series of natural disasters.

This cause is particularly close to our hearts, as many of our students and families have roots in the Philippines and form part of our wider Salesian family.

We encourage students to bring a small amount of cash to support the fundraiser.

If any parents would like to donate cakes or baked goods, please ask your child to speak to Sr Pat.



'Time to help each other'

We are pleased to let you know that students can now access daily IT support in school. From **10:45–11:00 each day (break time)**, our IT team will be available in the **IT Office next to Room 1.10** to help students with:

- Logins for Arbor and other school platforms
- Issues with their Teams accounts
- Any other school-related IT difficulties

This dedicated slot means students can resolve technical issues quickly without losing valuable lesson time. Students are only permitted to visit during this break period and not at other times of the day.

Please encourage your child to make use of this support so they can stay connected and confident with our online systems.



Need IT Help?

 **Where:** IT Office – next to Room 1.10

 **When:** Every Break Time (10:45 – 11:00)

We can help you with:



- Logins for Arbor & other school platforms
- Teams account issues
- Any other school IT problems

! IMPORTANT

- Only at break time – you cannot leave lessons
- Come early – get your tech sorted fast!

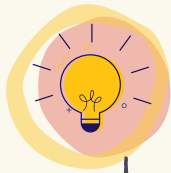
**Take advantage of
this support and
keep your learning
on track!**





Last week at SJBC we marked World Mental Health Day with a series of activities and messages across the school. Throughout the week staff and students shared tips for positive mental health and well-being in tutor time, assemblies and on our noticeboards. On Friday we celebrated World Mental Health Day itself, reflecting as a community on the importance of looking after our minds as well as our bodies.

Students heard practical ways to support their own well-being – from getting enough sleep, to staying connected with friends and trusted adults, to keeping active and building exercise into daily life. Our RUAH ethos underpinned everything we shared: respect for ourselves and others, understanding and acceptance, responsibility for our health, and a heart for kindness.



Tips for Parents of Teenagers

Parents and carers play a vital role in helping young people build healthy habits and resilience.

Some simple ways you can support your teenager's mental health include:

- ✓ Encourage good sleep routines. Aim for 8-10 hours a night. Try switching off devices an hour before bed.
- ✓ Keep communication open. Make time to listen without judgement. Sometimes a walk or drive together can make talking easier.
- ✓ Model healthy coping strategies. Show your child how you handle stress in positive ways - exercise, mindfulness, planning ahead.
- ✓ Promote physical activity. Encourage your teenager to find an activity they enjoy - it boosts mood and relieves stress.
- ✓ Celebrate effort as well as results. This helps build confidence and reduces performance pressure.
- ✓ Know where to get help. Remind your child that it's always OK to ask for support from a trusted adult, and be aware of school and local mental health resources.

By working together – students, staff, and families – we can help every young person at SJBC develop the habits and confidence they need to thrive.

If you'd like further advice or support on teenage mental health, please contact the school's pastoral team or visit the NHS "Young Minds" website: <https://www.youngminds.org.uk>

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK – YEAR 8 THEATRE WORKSHOP

As part of our Mental Health Awareness Day programme this week, our Year 8 students enjoyed a fantastic performance from UpFront Theatre Company on Wednesday 8th October. The interactive play explored the importance of looking after our mental health, with thoughtful discussions — and even a touch of K-pop!

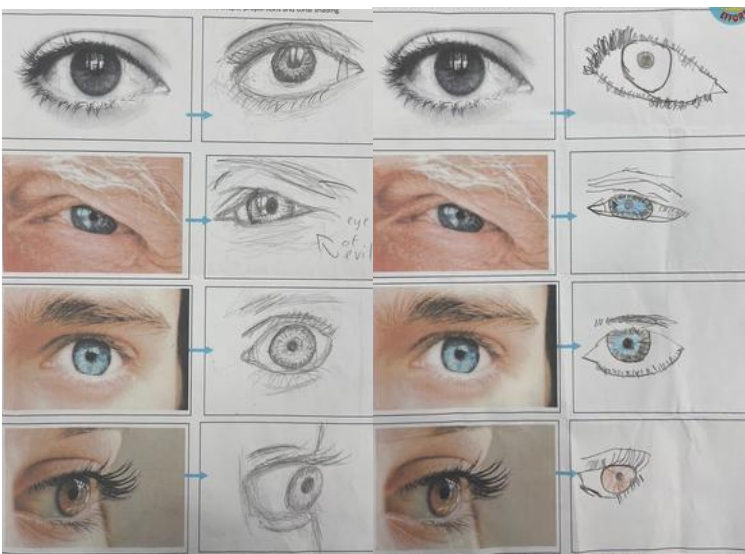


Students engaged brilliantly throughout, answering challenging questions and contributing to meaningful conversations about wellbeing. The UpFront Theatre team were full of praise for our students' energy, enthusiasm, and maturity.

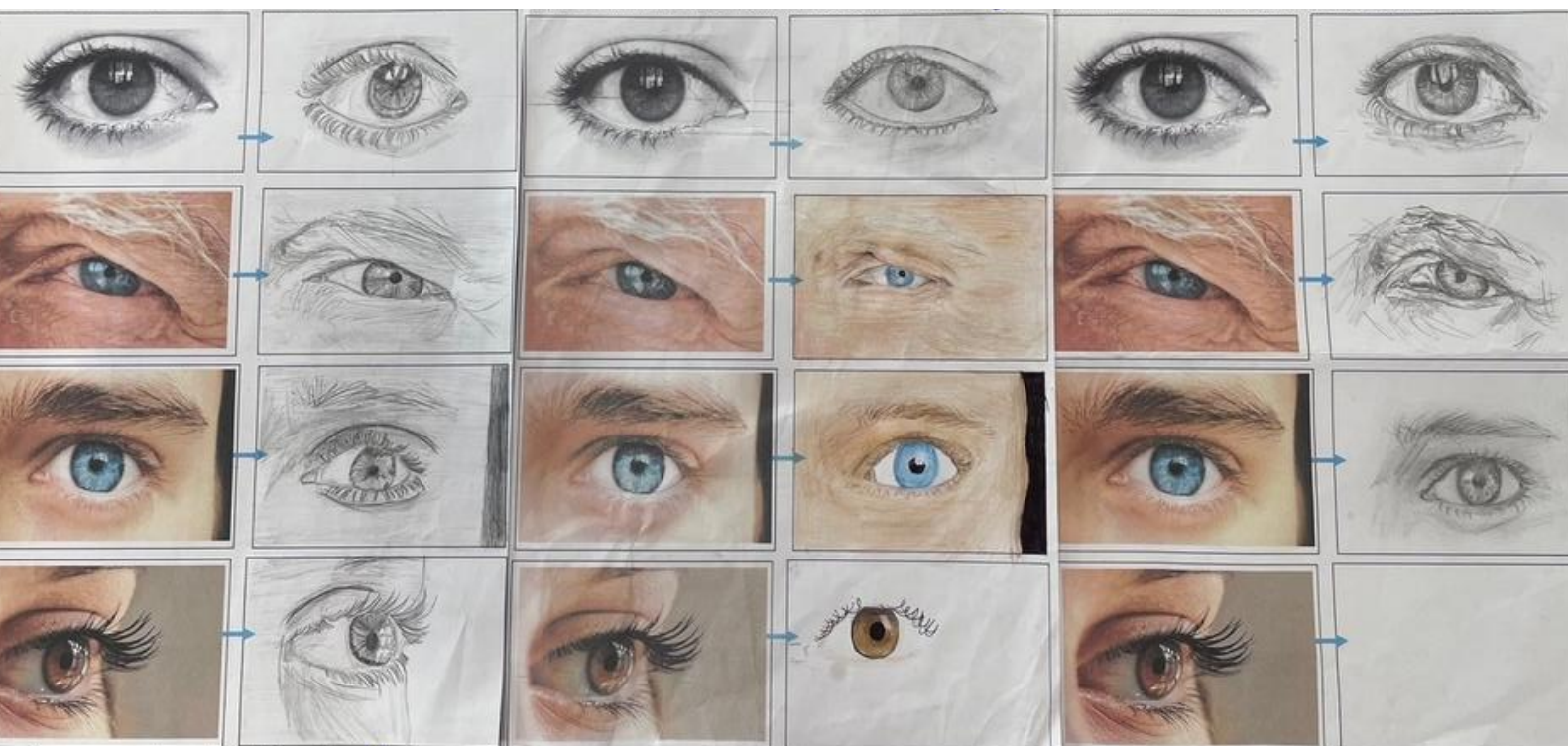
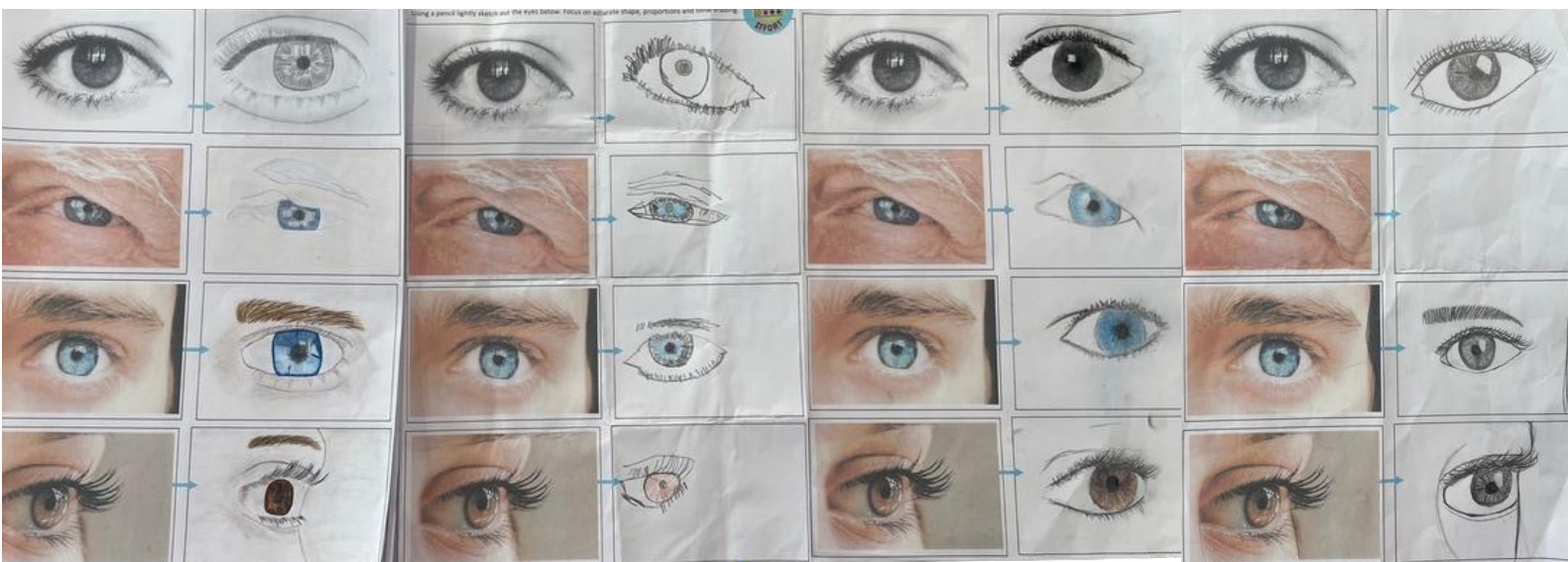
A huge thank you to everyone involved for helping make this such a positive and memorable part of our Mental Health Awareness Week

YEAR 9 ARTISTS IMPRESS

Ms Coughlan is delighted with the progress her Year 9 Art students have made so far this term. They have been listening attentively in lessons and steadily improving their work each week.



This was particularly evident in their most recent homework, where students produced beautifully detailed drawings of the human eye - showing remarkable ability to express both age and emotion through art.



SURVEY

Dear St John Bosco College,

My name is Millie, and I work for the Parks Team at Enable. I am currently working on a project to restore the Cascades waterfall in Battersea Park. (You can read about the project [here](#)).



We are currently in the development phase of the project and as part of this I am creating an Activity Plan and Interpretation Plan to guide future activities, learning opportunities, and volunteering in the park. I am gathering input from local schools to understand how children and young people use Battersea Park, what activities they'd enjoy, and how the park can be more welcoming, safe and engaging for everyone.

I'd really value your school's input by sharing and filling out this survey: [Battersea Park Survey](#). It should take less than 10 minutes to complete and can be filled out by staff, parents and students.

Additionally, I'd like to offer a short workshop or discussion that I can deliver to a class to explore ideas about what Battersea Park could offer young people in more detail, if that is an option of interest.

Best wishes,
Millie

Millie Coe| Parks Engagement & Inclusion Officer



CHARACTER POINTS: CELEBRATE ACHIEVEMENT EVERY DAY!

At SJBC, we love recognising our students who show Respect, Understanding, Affection and Humour in all they do. Every lesson, teachers award Character points for positive behaviour, effort and contributions to school life.

We encourage all parents and carers to check your child's character points live on the Arbor app – it's a great way to see their daily successes and talk together about the values that make our community so special. You can also see up to date attendance and homework on the app.



Please encourage your child to keep collecting points and aim for the next milestone! Every week any child who collects 10 Character Points is entered into a termly draw for some fantastic awards - you will know that they have achieved this milestone as the 10 points will also trigger a congratulatory email home to you.



We're using Arbor's free Parent Portal and Arbor App

We've chosen Arbor to help us manage our school.

Arbor is a simple, smart and cloud-based MIS (Management Information System), which helps us work faster, smarter and more collaboratively as a school. The Arbor App and Parent Portal mean we can keep you informed about your child's life at school in a much more accessible way. Log into Arbor to see and update your child's information, get live updates and make payments or bookings on the go!

The Parent Portal works on Google Chrome (computer or laptop) and you can download the Arbor App from the App Store or Google Play Store on your phone (Android 5.0; iOS 10.0 and upwards).

How to get started

- 1.Wait for your welcome email from us telling you Arbor is ready - you won't be able to log in before
- 2.Click the link in your welcome email to set up your password
- 3.Go to the App or Google Play Store on your phone and search 'Arbor'
- 4.Click 'Install' on Android or 'Get' on iPhone then open the App
- 5.Enter your email, select the school, then enter your password
- 6.Accept the Terms & Conditions and enter your child's birthday

The Sunnyville School of Magic
W10 5BN, London, GBR

Enter your password

Log in

Forgotten password?

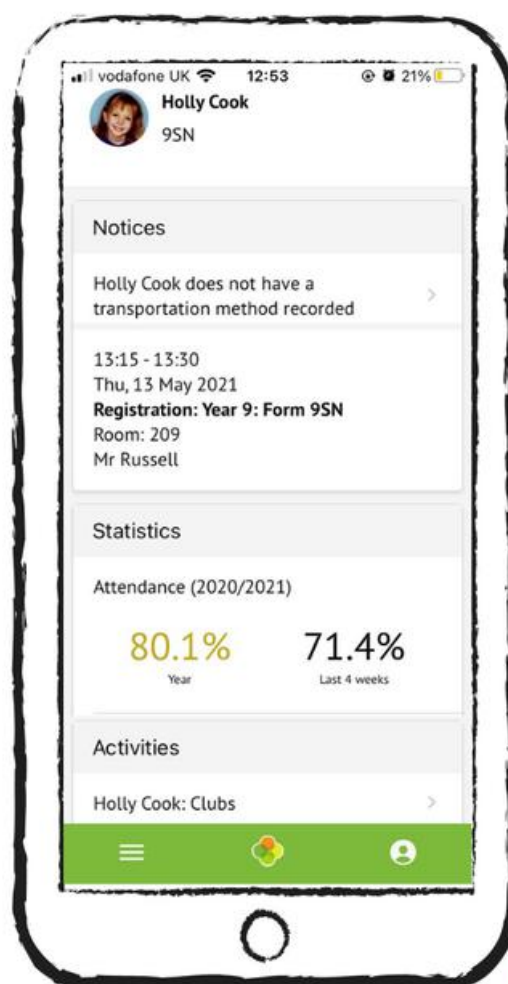
Need help using Arbor?

Contact the school office if you have questions about Arbor, the App or Parent Portal. Tell us the type and model of your phone, e.g. an iPhone SE, and include screenshots or screen recordings.

To safeguard student data in line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), Arbor only works directly with schools.

Some tips to try:

- 1.Ensure your username is the email address you use for Arbor. Ask us to check the email address linked to your account.
- 2.Reset your password from the login page, or ask us to do this.
- 3.If the login email was sent to you more than 96 hours ago, the password link will have expired. Ask us to send it again.
- 4.Ask the school office to check that your email address has not been used twice - e.g. on another guardian or child's profile.
- 5.Enter the birthday of one of your children to log in.
- 6.Only relatives who are **Primary Guardians** of a child can access the Arbor App. Ask us to check you can access Arbor.





St John
Bosco
College



Come and meet our friendly staff and employers to discuss the best subject options and career pathways.

Choose from a selection of
**A levels, T levels,
Vocational courses**
and experience our fantastic facilities with a personalised tour.

ST JOHN BOSCO COLLEGE SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

**THURSDAY 23RD OCTOBER
FROM 4:30PM TO 7:00PM**



"An outstanding Catholic school"

Section 48 Inspection
May 2025



Parkham Street, Battersea, London SW11 3DQ
www.sjbc.wandsworth.sch.uk Telephone: 0207 924 8310

SJBC SIXTH FORM EXPERIENCE

Your Future, Our Priority

Access Oxbridge Programme – bespoke support for competitive applications.

Careers Programme – expert guidance and work experience opportunities to prepare for the future.

Work Skills – preparing students for apprenticeships, university, and employment.

Qualifications Offered – A Levels, T Levels, BTECs, CTECs and AAQs..

Bosco Discovery Talks – inspiring speakers and events to broaden horizons.

Leaders in Action – opportunities to take initiative, represent peers, and develop leadership skills.

Sixth Form Committee – student-led social events and activities to build community.

#Believe and Achieve