

# IN TOUCH



## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

It has been a pleasure to welcome students back for the start of the Summer term and to see such a positive and purposeful return to school. The term ahead is an important one, particularly for our older students preparing for public examinations and we will be working hard to ensure that they are ready to achieve their best in May and June.

This week's edition of In Touch highlights the breadth of opportunities that continue to enrich school life. A group of students represented the school at a recital of the prestigious London Symphony Orchestra, where their conduct and engagement were a credit to the community. We also thank Holly Mitchell for an inspiring Bosco Discovery Talk with Year 12 students, encouraging them to approach the future with resilience, curiosity and ambition.

The week ahead sees a group of intrepid year 7 students heading to the Welsh border for a week's residential as part of our Bertha Earth environmental programme. We are also very excited about the annual Savio and Devereux Art Show, taking place this Wednesday, which showcases the creativity and talents of students in our ASD resource bases. These experiences remind us that education is about developing the whole person and enabling every young person to flourish.

As always, thank you to parents and carers for your continued support and partnership. We look forward to all that this term will bring and to working together to help every student achieve their very best.



***“Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and He will establish your plans.” Proverbs 16:3***

As we approach our exams, we are reminded that this is part of our journey of growth.

In moments of pressure, may we trust in God's guidance and use the gifts we have been given with confidence. Let us encourage one another and move forward with hope, knowing we are not alone. May this time strengthen both our learning and our faith.

2026							APRIL						
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									

### KEY DATES

- Wednesday 22 April - Base Art Show
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April - PTFA interfaith meal (5:00pm)
- Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April: Y9 Parents' Evening (4.15pm-6.30pm)
- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May: Bank Holiday
- 



# THE LUTE RECITAL IN LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

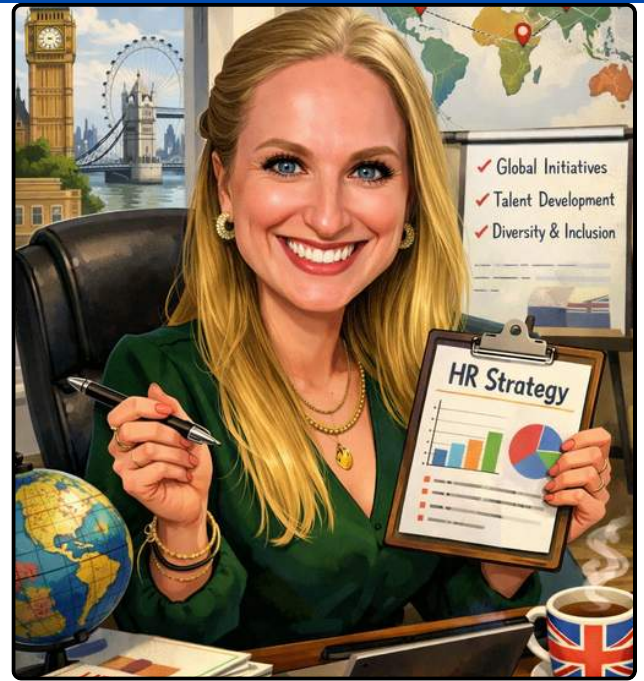
The lute recital in London Symphony Orchestra venue was a fantastic experience, and the students represented the school exceptionally well. Their behaviour throughout was outstanding, and they engaged thoughtfully with every part of the event. I was very proud of our students with this as we were surprised - this event was recorded by BBC 3 radio!



We explored music across centuries, beginning with the Renaissance and moving through the Baroque period to modern interpretations, including works by The Beatles, performed by Thomas Dunford (lute) and Keyvan Chemirani (percussion). We were also very fortunate to hear an original composition by the accompanying percussionist. The programme featured music rooted in Western traditions, such as John Dowland's 16th-century songs for lute and voice and J.S. Bach's Cello Suite No. 1 (in an arrangement for lute and percussion), alongside Persian-inspired pieces like Sherezade played on the Iranian Daf which is a frame drum fitted with multiple metal rings. A highlight was the virtuosic improvisation on drum called Zarb.



Students particularly enjoyed the interactive elements introduced by the performers. At the artists' request, the SJBC group joined in by singing bass lines in several pieces and even harmonising during the performance, which made the experience especially memorable.



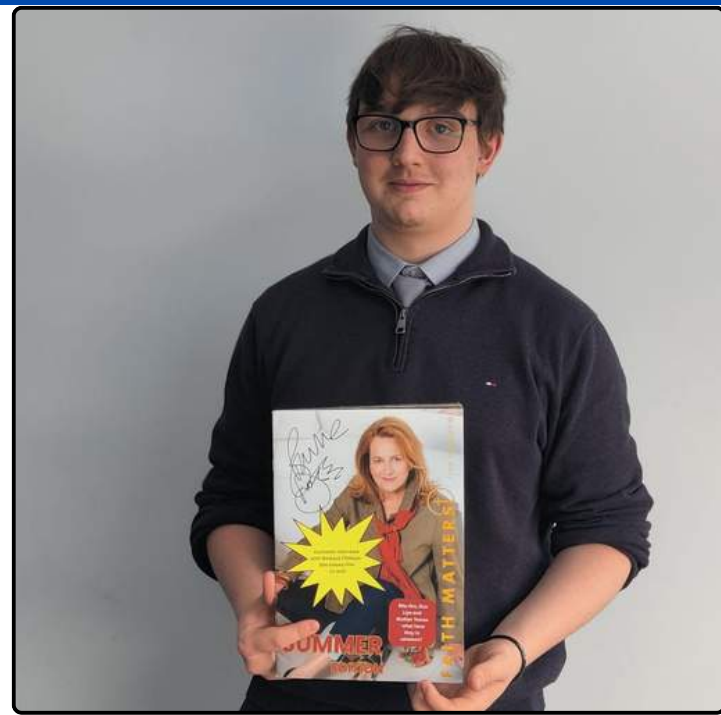
This week, our Year 12 students were delighted to welcome Holly Mitchell, Chief of People at Valiantys, as part of our Bosco Discovery Talks programme. Holly spoke candidly about her career journey, including overcoming the challenges of dyslexia and finding her path into HR through work experience.

She emphasised the importance of resilience, curiosity and strong interpersonal skills in today's evolving workplace. Students particularly benefited from her practical advice on applications and interviews, as well as her encouragement to embrace failure as a key part of personal and professional growth.

## FAITH MATTERS MAGAZINE

Harrison Burt interviewed Scottish singer Barbara Dickson last year for our 'Faith Matters' magazine. Barbara Dickson is a Scottish singer and actress, she holds the record for being part of the best selling duet in history with Elaine Paige on 'I know him so well', which spent four weeks at number one in the UK in 1985.

Last week Harrison was surprised to receive an autographed copy of the magazine from her.



# SJBC SKI TRIP 2026 – A WEEK TO REMEMBER IN PILA, ITALY

This year's SJBC Ski Trip to Pila, Italy, was an unforgettable experience for all involved. Pupils departed full of excitement and anticipation, and after a smooth ferry crossing followed by an overnight coach journey, they arrived buzzing and ready for their first taste of the slopes.

We were fortunate to enjoy fantastic snow conditions, especially for the time of year, which provided the perfect setting for learning and progress. From the very first lessons, pupils demonstrated outstanding enthusiasm and resilience.

Skiing is never without its challenges, and there were certainly a few falls, tumbles and sore legs along the way—but what stood out most was the determination shown by every pupil to keep going and improve each day.

Evenings were just as enjoyable, with a full programme of activities that brought the group together. Pupils took part in bowling, enjoyed pizza parties, explored the local town, and competed in lively pool tournaments. There was also time to relax and socialise in our beautiful mountainside hotel, helping to build friendships and create lasting memories.



By the end of the week, the progress made was truly impressive. Every pupil had developed the skills and confidence to ski at least blue runs, with some of our more advanced Bosco skiers pushing themselves even further to tackle the black runs at the top of the mountain. It was a joy to see such growth, both in skill and confidence.

Throughout the trip, pupils embodied the SJBC RUAH values—showing respect, understanding, affection and humour in abundance. Their positive attitude and support for one another made the trip not only successful but genuinely special for staff and students alike.

We are incredibly proud of all who took part and grateful to the staff who supported the trip.

We are already looking ahead—keep an eye out for details of our Ski Trip 2027!

## CONTACT DETAILS

It is vital that we have up to date contact details for all parents and guardians so that we can contact you in case of an emergency. Please do take a moment to log on to Arbor to make sure that we have the correct details listed for you.

Can you also please ensure that if you know that you will not be available to be contacted, for example if your son or daughter is temporarily staying with a relative or family friend while you are away, please inform us and provide their contact details.

## Arbor Parent Portal and App

Five good reasons to download the Arbor Parent App

1. Receive important information from school
2. See your child's praise points
3. View your child's attendance
4. Check your child's timetable
5. Access your child's report (when available)

## Log in

[First time logging in?](#)

[Forgot your password?](#)

Log in

## PARENT PULSE: CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL – WE WANT YOUR VOICE

At St John Bosco College, our mission is rooted in our Catholic faith and Salesian tradition. We strive to be a school where young people are known, valued and supported to grow not only academically, but also spiritually, morally and as members of a wider community.

To help us continue to develop this important aspect of school life, we are launching our latest Parent Pulse survey, focused on the ethos and religious life of the school.



### The survey invites parents and carers to share their views on key areas, including:

- Understanding and support of the school's Catholic mission
- How well the school supports your child's spiritual and moral development
- The quality of Religious Education
- Opportunities for families to engage in the prayer life of the school
- Links with the local parish
- How strongly families feel part of the wider Salesian community

### Your feedback is essential. It helps us to:

- Reflect honestly on our practice
- Strengthen the partnership between home, school and parish
- Ensure that our ethos is not just stated, but truly lived and experienced by all

The survey is anonymous and takes just a few minutes to complete.

Please complete the survey by **Wednesday 22 April 2026**

[Parent Pulse: Ethos and religious life of the school - April 2026 – Fill in form](#)

Together, we continue to build a school community rooted in faith, guided by love, and committed to the flourishing of every child.

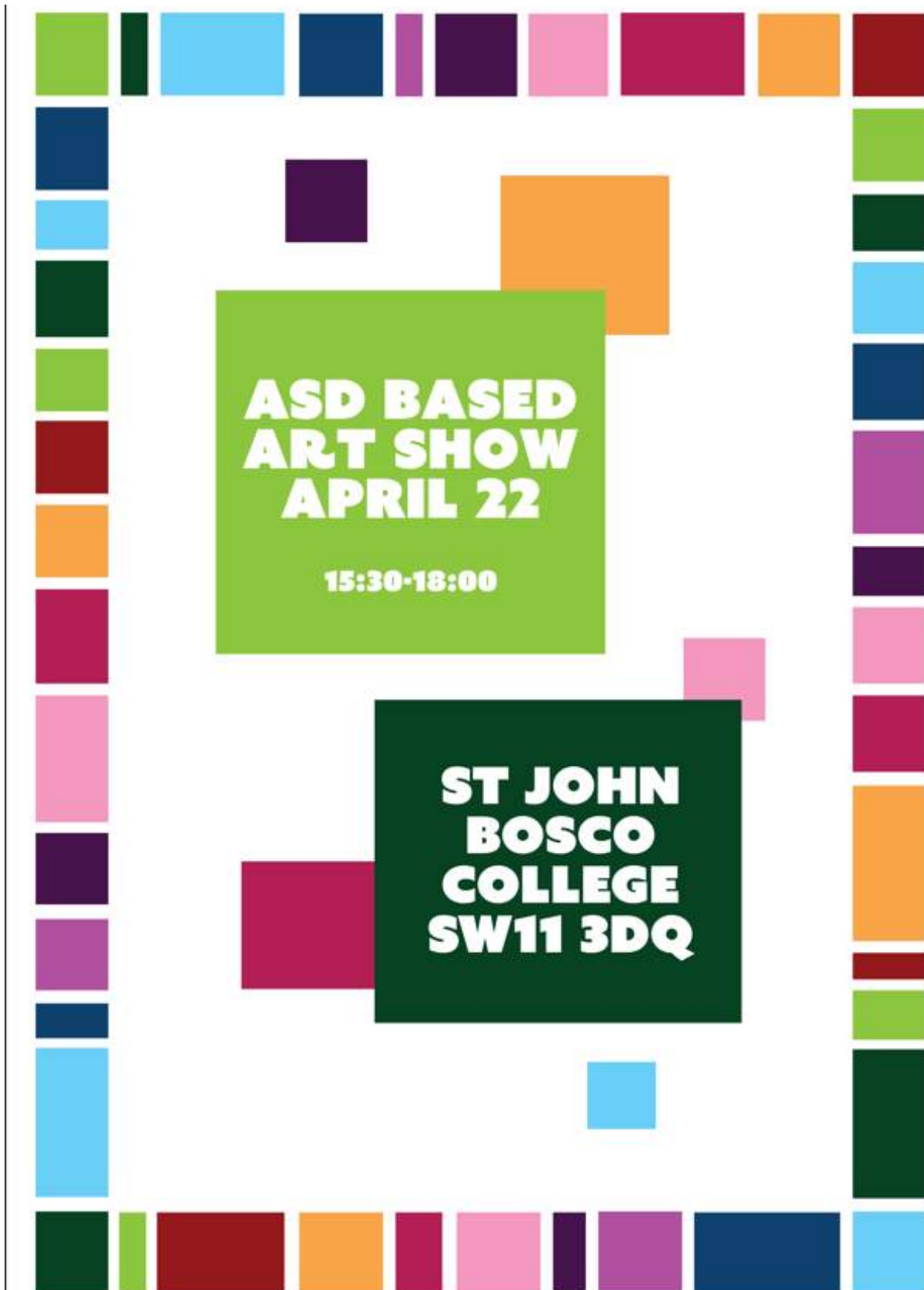
# SAVIO AND DEVEREUX ART SHOW

We are excited to invite you to our Savio and Devereux Art Show! The Art of Being Different exhibition will take place in the Activity Suite on **Wednesday 22nd of April between 3.30-6.00pm.**

This is an excellent opportunity to celebrate the success of our students in the ASD bases and to show off their creativity and talents! Through paintings, drawings, 3D models, pixel art, photographs and more, these young artists share their interests, unique perspectives and creative expressions.

You are invited to explore and celebrate the beauty of diversity and the power of art to connect and inspire!

There will be an art stall where you will be able to purchase copies of your favourite artwork.



# LIBRARY AFTER SCHOOL STUDY

## YEAR 10 - 13

The Library is open  
Monday to Thursday until 6pm  
and Fridays until 5pm.

- Quiet study space
- Staff support available
- Bank of past exam papers available



⚠️ You may not be anywhere else on site  
unsupervised after school

Use the space  
responsibly.

Don't leave your  
success to chance.  
Come to the library.  
Put the time in.  
Make it count.



## Upcoming Events For Secondary Parents Summer Term 2026

### Supporting your teenager's mental health webinars

We also provide free 1:1 early help support programmes for young people to support with anxiety or low mood. Speak to your school to find out more.

**21<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 26**  
**7 PM - 8 PM**

Managing Exam and  
Assignment Stress  
(Years 7-10)

**23<sup>RD</sup> APRIL 26**  
**1 PM - 2 PM**

**10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 26**  
**1 PM - 2 PM**

Supporting your  
teenager with  
emotional  
difficulties and  
self-harm

**18<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 26**  
**7 PM - 8 PM**

To view further event details and descriptions, and to book on to any of the webinars, please scan the QR Code or follow the link to our Eventbrite collection.

[Click here](#)



**Education  
Wellbeing  
Service****Education Wellbeing Service Webinar****Managing Exam and  
Assignment Stress  
(Years 7-10)**

Upcoming exams can be a stressful time for your teenager.

This workshop talks through some of the common challenges many young people face when their stress around revising or sitting an exam becomes too much. It will also cover how, as a parent or carer, you can best support your child to manage these feelings and do their best.

**DATE / TIME**

Tuesday 21st April  
7.00-8.00pm



Scan the  
QR code  
or  
click here

**DATE / TIME**

Thursday 23rd April  
1.00-2.00pm



Scan the  
QR code  
or  
click here

Sign up to either event  
for free on Eventbrite  
by scanning the QR Code.

You can also check out  
our other events by  
[clicking here](#)

**LOCATION**

Online - Hosted on Teams