

IN TOUCH



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

This week's edition of In Touch focuses on the importance of reading. As highlighted in the article below, reading remains one of the most powerful tools we can offer our young people—not only to support academic success, but to build confidence, empathy and a deeper understanding of the world. Developing a habit of reading for pleasure can have a transformative impact, and we are grateful for the support of families in encouraging this at home, through small, regular routines.

We also celebrate the wide range of opportunities that continue to enrich our students' experiences. From the thoughtful engagement of our Year 9 students in their RE work, supported by visitors from the Wimbledon Reform Synagogue, to the inspiring Bosco Discovery Talk delivered by AJ, students have been encouraged to think deeply, ask questions and broaden their horizons.

Finally, we are proud to recognise the example set by members of our staff, including Ms Perrineau-Daley, whose recent achievement in completing the London Marathon for charity reflects the values of service and commitment that we seek to instil in our students.

Please join us in keeping our Year 11 and Year 13 students in our thoughts and prayers as they begin their GCSE and A Level examinations.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership.



“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed.” 2 Timothy 2:15

As exams approach, let's stay focused and committed in our revision. Even when it feels tough, remember that every effort counts. With discipline and perseverance, we can give our best and face exams with confidence.

| 2026 | | | | | | | MAY | | | | | | |
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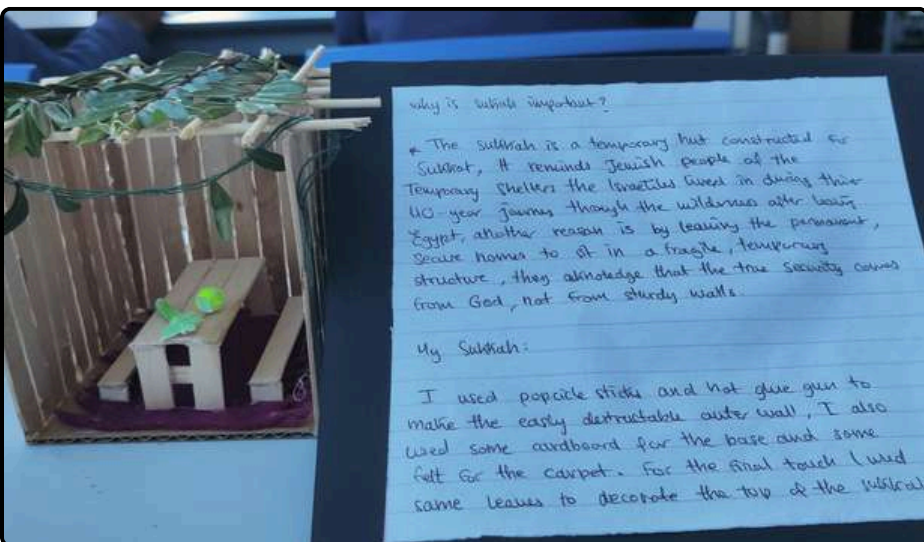
KEY DATES

- Tuesday 5th May - Year 10 Parent Route and Pathway Evening, (5.00-6.00pm)
- Thursday 7th May - GCSE EXAMS START!
- Thursday 7th May - Y8 Parents' Evening, (4.15-6.30pm)
- Monday 11th May - GCE EXAMS START!



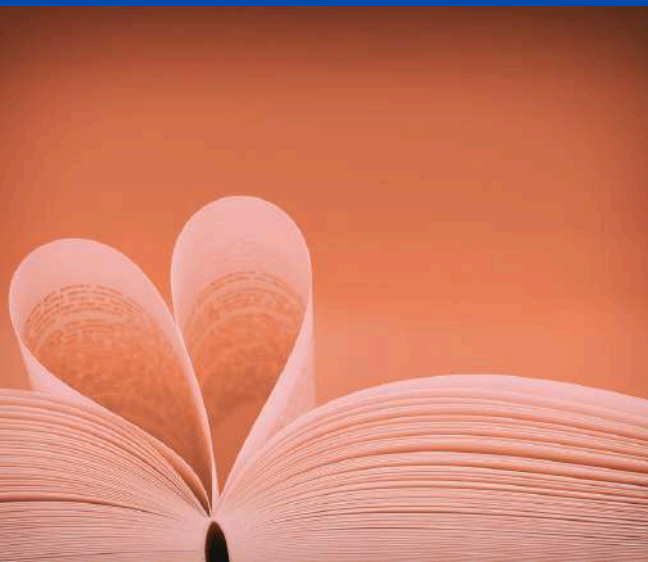
VISITORS FROM THE WIMBLEDON REFORM SYNAGOGUE

We welcomed Linda and Anton Fishman to our school on Thursday. Mr and Mrs Fishman are from the Wimbledon Synagogue and came to judge the work of our Year 9 students in RE. Students have been studying the festivals of Judaism and had to create a sukkah or something that a Jewish family would eat in their sukkah during the festival of Sukkot.



The Year 9 students produced a wide range of kosher foods as well a variety of sukkahs, as can be seen from the pictures. Both Mr and Mrs Fishman were impressed with what they saw and tasted. Competition for the best/most authentic food and the most creative sukkahs was tight, but our visitors managed to select winners from each of the RE classes they visited. They were also happy to answer students' questions about Judaism. We hope they will visit again.





At SJBC, we believe that reading is one of the most powerful tools we can give our young people—not just for academic success, but for confidence, empathy and lifelong opportunity. Reading for pleasure is especially important. It builds vocabulary, improves writing, and helps students understand the world around them in deeper, more meaningful ways. But perhaps most importantly, reading opens doors—to imagination, to different perspectives, and to discovering who we are.



Recommended Reads for Teenagers

Here are some fantastic, current reads that are proving popular with young people across the UK:



One of Us Is Lying – Karen M. McManus

A gripping mystery where five students walk into detention—but only four come out alive. Each has a secret, and each becomes a suspect. Fast-paced and full of twists, this book is brilliant for sparking discussion about choices, reputation and truth.

Shatter Me – Tahereh Mafi

A dystopian series with romance and action at its heart. The story follows Juliette, whose touch is deadly, as she navigates power, identity and control. A compelling, emotional read with strong appeal for teens who enjoy fantasy and drama.

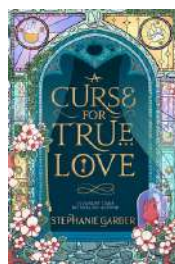


King of Nothing – Nathanael Lessor

A funny yet deeply thoughtful story about friendship, identity and what it means to be a young man today. Following Anton, a boy forced out of his comfort zone, the novel explores masculinity, empathy and personal growth in a way that really resonates with teenage readers.

I Shall Wear Midnight – Terry Pratchett

Part of the much-loved Discworld series, this story follows Tiffany Aching as she steps into adulthood and responsibility. With humour and wisdom, it explores justice, courage and doing what is right—even when it's difficult.



A Curse for True Love – Stephanie Garber

A magical, romantic fantasy full of twists, curses and high-stakes choices. This is a beautifully written story that explores love, fate and the consequences of our decisions—perfect for readers who enjoy escapism and strong storytelling.



Talking About Reading at Home

One of the simplest and most powerful things you can do is talk to your child about what they are reading. You don't need to have read the book yourself—just showing interest makes a huge difference.

What's happening in your book at the moment?

Try asking

Who's your favourite character and why?

Would you recommend it to me?

These conversations help build confidence and show that reading is valued beyond the classroom.



Supporting Reading (even if you're not confident)

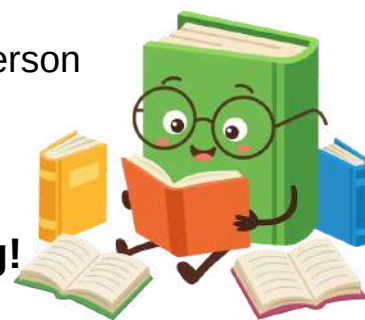
We know that some parents may feel unsure about reading themselves – but your support still matters enormously. Here are a few simple ways to get involved:

- **Listen instead of read:** Ask your child to read aloud or explain the story to you
- **Use audiobooks:** These are a fantastic way to enjoy stories together
- **Read anything:** Newspapers, recipes, social media—reading doesn't have to be a novel
- **Create routines:** Even 10 minutes a day makes a difference
- **Visit the library together:** Let your child choose books that interest them

Most importantly, show that reading is something positive—not a chore.

At SJBC, we are committed to building a culture where reading is part of everyday life. With your support at home, we can help every young person develop not just the skills to read—but the love of reading that will stay with them for life.

Thank you for your continued support—and happy reading!



LIVING OUR FAITH IN ACTION - GOOD SHEPHERD MASS

On Tuesday our Year 7 students experienced something truly special .

They joined schools from across London for the inspiring Good Shepherd Mass at St George's Cathedral, celebrated by Reverent Canon Victor Darlington. The powerful message reminded us all to spread God's word through the way we live each day.



The day didn't end there! Students also enjoyed a fascinating visit to the Imperial War Museum, making it a perfect blend of faith, learning, and discovery.

A joyful, enriching, and truly memorable experience for our young people.





Last week, we were delighted to welcome AJ, Founder and Managing Director of Influential Music, to SJBC as part of our Bosco Discovery Talks series.

AJ delivered a fascinating and engaging session, offering students a real insight into the music industry—from his early beginnings growing up locally in South London to building a successful career in DJing, broadcasting, artist management and entrepreneurship. His journey was a powerful example of how passion, resilience and hard work can open doors to exciting opportunities.

Our Year 12 students were particularly impressed, engaging thoughtfully with the talk and asking insightful questions about careers, creativity and the realities of working in the industry. AJ's emphasis on perseverance and making the most of opportunities strongly resonated with them.

We are very grateful to AJ for giving his time and sharing his expertise with our students. Experiences like this are invaluable in broadening horizons and helping young people to see what is possible beyond the classroom.

DISH OF THE WEEK – KNOTTED BREAD

A huge shout out to Eman and Des'Shaniea for their amazing Swiss roll!

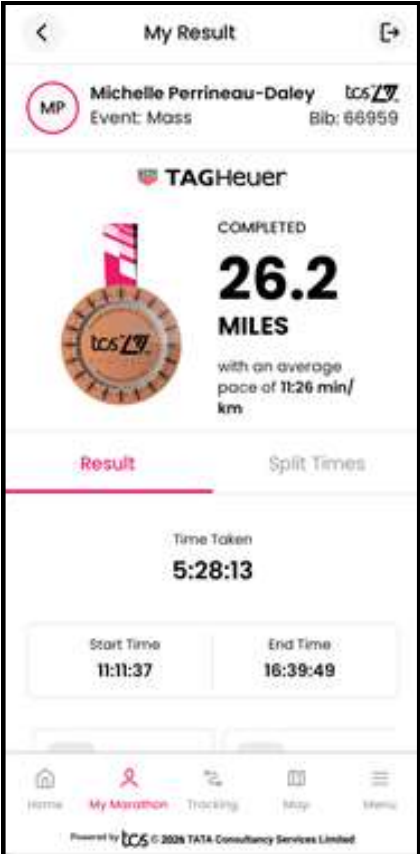
The skill, effort and care that went into their baking was outstanding – a fantastic result that really shows their growing confidence and talent.



We are incredibly proud to share that our Head of Computing, Ms Perrineau-Daley, successfully completed the London Marathon last week—an outstanding personal achievement.

Ms Perrineau-Daley took on this challenge in support of Malaika Kids, a small Tanzanian charity that provides care and support for 220 orphaned and vulnerable children. To date, she has raised an impressive £2,000.

Her commitment to this cause is deeply personal. Following a visit to Tanzania in 2015, where she supported street children and families, Ms Perrineau-Daley was profoundly moved by the warmth, generosity, and resilience of the communities she encountered. This experience left a lasting impression and inspired her ongoing support.



Malaika Kids has over 20 years of impact and is led by a dedicated local team in Tanzania, supported by trustees across the UK, the Netherlands, and the USA.

We congratulate Ms Perrineau-Daley on this remarkable achievement and thank her for embodying the values of compassion, service, and global responsibility that we seek to instil in our students.



FILM SCHOOL



Her, Me & ADHD presents **Film School**, our 6-week film production programme.

Think camera skills, animation, audio recording, script writing, acting, editing and directing.

This is a fantastic opportunity to get creative and learn new skills. Tell your story in your own words, using fun, creative, skill-based mediums.

Starting: 3rd June 2026

Time: 5:30PM - 7:30PM

Every Wednesday for 6 weeks

Location: Nine Elms Studio,
66 Ponton Rd, SW11 7BA

**Fees apply - £5 per session - Limited spaces.*

Register your interest now!

<https://forms.office.com/r/G08E1Jc26S>

Year 7 & Year 8 girls with a diagnosis of ADHD, or on the pathway to assessment. Wandsworth residents & children attending Wandsworth Secondary schools only.

 @HERMEADHD

HER, ME & ADHD



GOT A PROBLEM? NEED ADVICE?

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or just confused

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