

IN TOUCH



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

This week's edition of In Touch reflects the wide range of opportunities that continue to enrich the learning experiences of our students. One highlight this week was a visit from George Imafidon and the Motivez team, launching the Sustainable London Programme as part of British Science Week.

We also celebrate the achievements and creativity of many of our younger students. Congratulations to Katie in year 7 who was named runner-up in the Bertha Earth Badge competition, a fantastic achievement in a national event involving many schools. We'll share more news of this week's successful KS3 celebration event in the next In Touch.

It has also been encouraging to see students engaging enthusiastically with learning beyond the classroom, whether through World Book Day activities such as the visit to Clapham Books, or through the culinary creativity demonstrated by our Year 7 students in Food Technology.

Alongside these academic and creative successes, we are proud of the confidence and determination shown by our students in wider activities. A group of SJBC girls recently took part in their first HYROX fitness challenge, demonstrating resilience, teamwork and a willingness to take on new challenges as part of our celebrations of International Women's Day.

Finally, I would like to thank parents and carers for your continued support and partnership. As we move through this busy period of the term, we look forward to welcoming parents to upcoming events including Year 11 Parents' Evening this Thursday. A reminder that parents are also warmly welcomed to meet members of the governing body at an informal drop-in, today, Monday 16 March, between 3.00-3.30pm.

Finally I'd like to wish all our Muslim families Eid Mubarak this week!



Our Weekly Lenten Guide to Loving Kindness

TIP 4

When people get into a moaning session, distract the focus to make it more hopeful.



2026 MARCH						
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

- Monday 9th March - 19th March – British Science Week
- Thursday 19th March - Year 11 Parents' Evening (4:15-6:30pm)
- Thursday 26th March - Year 12/13 Parents' Evening (4:15-6:30)
- Friday 27 March - early close at 1pm



BERTHA EARTH BADGE COMPETITION

Huge congratulations to Katie C. in Year 7 who came runner up in the Bertha Earth badge competition, which saw 85 students from 18 different schools enter.



Katie, St John Bosco

THE 2026 WINNER & RUNNERS UP



The Winning Design
By Kari, Bishopshalt School



Nysha, Rooks Heath



Siyana, Central Foundation



Zachary, Harris Garrard



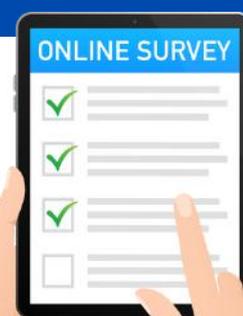
Katie, St John Bosco

She wins a £50 eco voucher for her fantastic design. She is also the first ever student from SJBC to come runner up in this annual competition. Well done Katie!

OPPORTUNITY TO GET INVOLVED: BATTERSEA PARK

Enable, the people that look after Battersea Park want to hear from the local community about how they can make the park better for everyone. This includes finding out what activities and events people want to see, and addressing how welcoming and safe the park is.

They would welcome feedback from families and have asked us to share online survey with you [Battersea Park Survey](#)



ONLINE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Next week, Bishop Gerard Bradley will join The Mark 10 Mission for a special online Stations of the Cross event for schools across the Archdiocese.

At 11am on Friday 20 March, Bishop Gerard will be joined by Georgia Clarke and Greg Finn for a half-hour guided Stations of the Cross filmed at St Anthony of Padua parish.

The video will premiere on the Archdiocese of Southwark YouTube channel [youtube.com/rcsouthwark1](https://www.youtube.com/rcsouthwark1) and will be freely available for schools, parishes and families to watch together.

The Mark 10 Mission is dedicated to sharing the Gospel with children and helping them encounter Christ through prayer. Using the beautiful Stations in St Anthony's, Bishop Gerard, Georgia and Greg will guide children through all fourteen stations, pausing at each one to reflect, wonder and pray. This short and engaging devotion offers a meaningful way for young people to enter more deeply into the story of Jesus' Passion during Lent.

All schools across the Archdiocese are warmly encouraged to join the online premiere, and parishes and families may also wish to take part together.

STATIONS — OF THE — CROSS



CELEBRATING CULINARY CREATIVITY IN YEAR 7



This week in Food Technology, Ms Henry has been recognising several Year 7 students for their outstanding effort, enthusiasm and creativity in the kitchen.



As part of the "Dish of the Week" recognition, the following students were celebrated for their impressive baking skills and dedication to developing their culinary talents: Veron, Destiny, Aaliyah, Raffaella and Abby.

Their dishes showed great care, creativity and pride in their work, and it was wonderful to see such enthusiasm for learning new skills in the kitchen.



Congratulations to all of our budding young chefs – keep on baking!

WORLD BOOK DAY CELEBRATION VISIT TO CLAPHAM BOOKS

As part of our ongoing World Book Day celebrations, a group of Year 7 and Year 8 students enjoyed a lovely visit to Clapham Books after school on Monday.

Students were excited to see a display in the shop featuring the book covers they had designed during their English lessons, showcasing their creativity and enthusiasm for reading.



During the visit, students also had the opportunity to spend time together choosing books, sitting and reading as a group, and using their World Book Day vouchers to purchase a book of their choice. It was a wonderful way to celebrate reading and bring our classroom learning into the wider community.



A special thank you to Ms Thomas for organising this fantastic experience, and to Miss Anna and Mr Denny, who also joined the visit and helped make the afternoon so enjoyable for our students.

INSPIRING FUTURE ENGINEERS DURING BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK - MOTIVEZ

As part of British Science Week, our Year 10 students recently took part in an inspiring assembly launching the Sustainable London Programme, delivered by Motivez.

The programme is designed to engage secondary school students across London in sustainability and engineering challenges, encouraging them to develop creative solutions to real-world environmental problems. Over the coming weeks the programme will include a series of design workshops, hackathons and collaborative events, culminating in a final showcase where students will present their ideas and celebrate their achievements.



The assembly was led by George Imafidon, a local young engineer whose journey into the world of STEM has been truly inspiring. George spoke to students about his experiences growing up locally, attending a London secondary school and pursuing engineering through both university study and apprenticeships. Through his work in STEM he has met and collaborated with a range of global figures, including Lewis Hamilton and Beyoncé, demonstrating the exciting opportunities that science and engineering can open up.



Thirty Year 10 students will have the opportunity this week to take part in hands-on STEM workshops. In addition, thirty students who signed up for the SJBC inter-house competition will participate in a series of design sessions facilitated by SJBC staff alongside six Motivez facilitators.

The winning team from SJBC will then have the opportunity to compete against other London schools, with the possibility of progressing to a national stage.

We wish our students the very best of luck and look forward to hearing more about the innovative ideas they develop as part of this exciting programme.





Parent Governor Election – Your Vote Needed!

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have received **two nominations** for the current **Parent Governor vacancy** on our Governing Body. As the number of applicants exceeds the number of available positions, we are now required to hold a **parent election**.

Over the next few days, you will receive:

- A **short statement** from each candidate outlining why they wish to serve as Parent Governor
- Details on how to **cast your vote**
- The **deadline** for submitting your vote

All parents and carers with a child currently enrolled at the school are eligible to vote. We encourage you to take part in this important process - **parent governors play a vital role in shaping the strategic direction of the school**.

Thank you for your contribution to our school community.

Warm regards,

The Team at SJBC

SJBC GIRLS TAKE ON THEIR FIRST HYROX CHALLENGE

Last week a group of SJBC girls took part in their first ever Hyrox simulation at a Nike gym, organised by Rox Queens to celebrate International Women's Day.

When they arrived, the girls were surprised with some amazing gifts from Nike. Each student received Nike trainers and a sports bra to wear during the event and keep afterwards – making them feel like real athletes before the race had even begun.



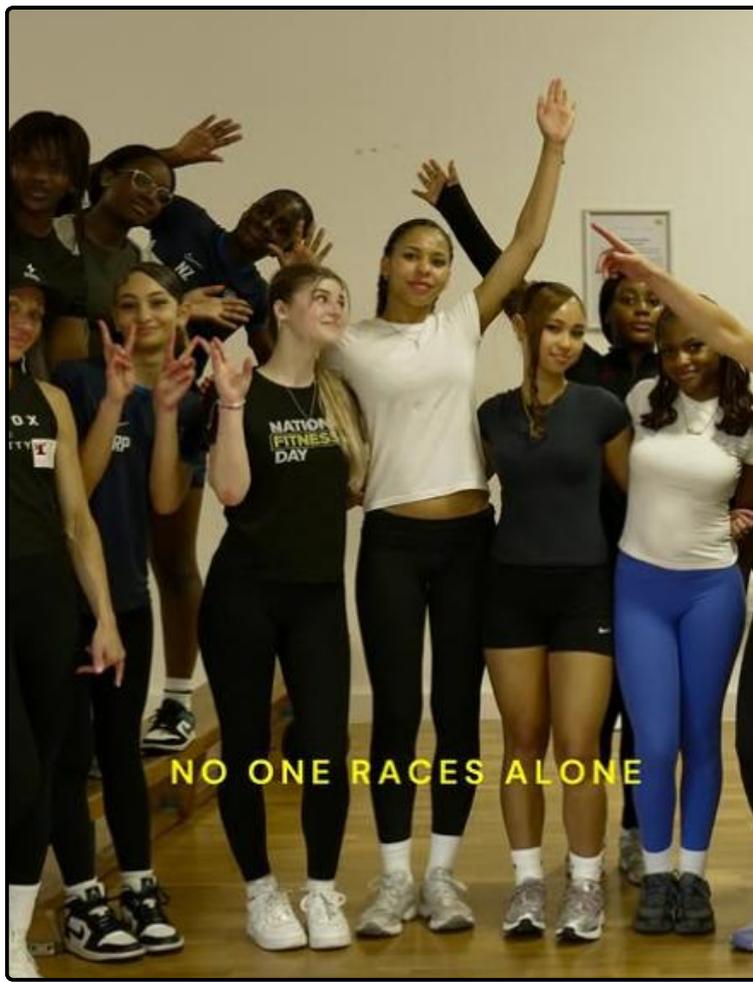
The atmosphere was incredible. There was a DJ playing music, free items from different sports brands and a really supportive community of athletes cheering everyone on.

The challenge itself was tough but exciting. The girls completed a 3km run combined with a range of strength exercises, showing determination, teamwork and great resilience. By the end of the day, many of the students were so inspired that they decided they would love to keep training and get more involved in the sport of HYROX.

A big thank you to Ms Louis and Ms Sandoval for organising this brilliant opportunity.

There was also a cake sale on the day raising money for Women's Aid. Thank you to everyone who supported it!

It was a fantastic way to celebrate sport, teamwork and strong women at SJBC.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS: ELECTRIC BIKES & LIME BIKES

As part of our commitment to student safety and legal awareness, we are sharing important guidance about **electric bikes** and **Lime rental bikes**. These have become increasingly popular – but parents and students must be aware that certain uses are illegal and may lead to criminal consequences.



! UNDER 14s – IT IS **ILLEGAL** TO RIDE ELECTRIC BIKES ON ROADS

UK LAW IS CLEAR:

- Children must be 14 years or older to legally ride an electric bike (even a standard e-bike with pedals and limited speed) on any public road.
- This includes commuting to school.
- Electric bikes used on roads must meet legal standards for power and speed. If not, they are considered motor vehicles, requiring a license, registration, and insurance.

USING AN ELECTRIC BIKE UNDER THE AGE OF 14 ON A PUBLIC ROAD IS A CRIMINAL OFFENCE.



! UNDER 18s – **ILLEGAL** TO USE LIME BIKES

Lime e-bikes (and similar app-based rental bikes) **are only legal for people aged 18 and over.**

- To create an account, users must upload valid ID and a selfie as part of age verification.
- **Students under 18 riding a Lime bike are breaking the law.**
- Our Safer Schools Police Officer has confirmed that underage use is not only against company policy – it is also a **criminal offence**.



PARENTS CAN BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE IF A CHILD IS CAUGHT USING THESE BIKES ILLEGALLY.

WHY THIS MATTERS



- These bikes are motor-assisted and pose real safety risks – especially on busy roads.
- Police have the right to stop, confiscate, and issue penalties for illegal use.
- Any criminal offence can affect future applications for university, jobs, or even travel.

WHAT YOU CAN DO AS A PARENT



- Do not allow your child to use an electric bike on roads if they are under 14.
- Ensure your child does not use Lime bikes or create a Lime account if under 18.
- Talk to your child about the legal and safety risks.
- Report any unsafe or underage usage to the school or local Safer Schools Officer.



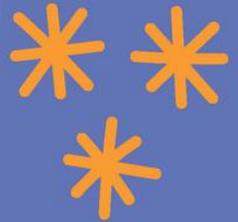
FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL OR YOUR LOCAL SAFER SCHOOLS POLICE OFFICER.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US KEEP ALL OUR STUDENTS SAFE AND LAW-ABIDING.



DROP IN SESSION
14 APRIL 4.30 PM

**FOR SPANISH SPEAKING
PARENTS WITH EMOTIONAL
WELLBEING PRACTITIONERS
- HELPING WITH BRINGING
UP A TEENAGER
IN THE UK**



El 'Educational Wellbeing Service' estará ofreciendo un taller dirigido a madres, padres y cuidadores sobre el bienestar emocional durante la adolescencia. Esta es una etapa con muchos cambios físicos, emocionales y sociales. Para algunos jóvenes, estos cambios pasan sin gran dificultad, sin embargo, para otros pueden ser más difíciles. Este taller estará enfocado en entender el bajo estado de ánimo y la ansiedad en los adolescentes. También hablaremos de los retos adicionales que pueden experimentar los jóvenes que han cambiado de país, cultura o idioma.





MEET THE GOVERNORS

PARENT DROP-IN



Mon 16 March 2026



3:00–3:30pm



Pop in to meet our Governors,
ask questions, and share your views.

It's a great chance to hear how governors
support the school, discuss priorities like
standards, wellbeing and SEND,
and help shape what happens next.

**No booking needed —
just drop in.**

