

# IN TOUCH



## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

This edition of In Touch provides another reminder of the rich variety of experiences enjoyed by our students beyond the classroom. Whether visiting the Embassy of Japan to learn about language and culture, attending a performance of Six in London, or participating in our whole-school Masses for World Environment Day, our students continue to benefit from opportunities that broaden their horizons and deepen their understanding of the world around them.

This week's we also highlight the importance of gratitude. National Thank a Teacher Day provides an opportunity to recognise the dedication of the staff who support our young people every day. The quotation from St Paul's letter to the Thessalonians below — "Give thanks in all circumstances" — is a timely reminder that taking a moment to acknowledge the efforts of others can make a real difference.

Looking ahead, our focus turns increasingly towards the upcoming PPE examinations for Years 7–10 and Year 12. These assessments are an important opportunity for students to demonstrate what they have learned and to prepare for future public examinations. I would encourage all students to make good use of the revision resources available to them and to approach the coming weeks with confidence and determination.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Working together, we can help ensure that all of our students finish the academic year positively and successfully.



***"Give thanks in all circumstances."***  
*1 Thessalonians 5:18*

Today, we take a moment to express our gratitude to the teachers who inspire, guide, and support us each day. Their dedication, patience, and encouragement help us to grow in knowledge, confidence, and character. Let us appreciate the difference they make in our lives and take the opportunity to say thank you for all they do. A simple act of gratitude can brighten someone's day and remind them how much their efforts are valued.

2026							JUNE						
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

- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June - Year 10 & 12 Exams (until Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June)
- Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June - Year 5 SENCO Parent Open Day
- Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June - Year 12 Offer Placement Day
- Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June - Salesian Games (KRD) / Year 11 Prom
- Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June - Years 7-9 PPE's
- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July - Culture Evening



## CLUB TAISHIKAN VISIT – EMBASSY OF JAPAN

On Friday 1st May, a group of SJBC students enjoyed a fantastic visit to Club Taishikan at the Embassy of Japan in London. The trip gave students a wonderful opportunity to experience Japanese culture through a range of interactive workshops and presentations hosted by the Japan Information and Cultural Centre.



Students took part in traditional Japanese calligraphy, learning how to use brush techniques and Japanese characters, before enjoying an energetic Yosakoi dance workshop complete with naruko clappers and traditional Happi coats.

The students represented the school brilliantly throughout the day, showing curiosity, enthusiasm and respect. It was a memorable cultural experience and a wonderful opportunity to broaden horizons and celebrate international learning.



## THEATRE TRIP - THE MUSICAL SIX IN LONDON

Some Year 7 and 8 students had the opportunity to see the musical Six in London. Although the musical was high-energy from start to finish, it was quite thought-provoking.



It focused on the lives of the six wives of Henry VIII and showed their stories from their perspective. It certainly gave students the chance to reflect on the inequality of women in the past, the abuse of power, and Henry's split from the Church for his own personal desires.



Students also managed to visit the beautiful church of Corpus Christi in Covent Garden, where we prayed and examined the architecture and design of this almost hidden church.

A quick walk back over Waterloo Bridge gave us a chance to see Big Ben, the Houses of Parliament, and more.

## DISH OF THE WEEK – RAISIN AND CHEESE SCONES

Dish of the Week goes to Akhari in Y7 for baking a batch of melt-in-the-mouth raisin and cheese scones that impressed everyone with their excellent flavour and quality - a worthy winner of this week's award!



# WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY WHOLE SCHOOL MASS

Students and staff gathered together for our whole-school Masses to mark World Environment Day. Through prayer and reflection, we gave thanks for God's creation and reflected on our responsibility as a community to care for the world around us, living out Pope Leo's call to protect our common home.





During our recent Bosco Discovery Talk, Year 12 students were inspired by Chiudo Ojike, Head of the Transaction Monitoring Unit for Commodity Trade Finance at HSBC UK Bank plc.

Chiudo shared her personal journey, highlighting the challenges, opportunities and lessons that shaped her Life. She encouraged students to remain resilient, embrace new experiences and stay open to opportunities, even when life does not go exactly to plan.

Her message reinforced the importance of ambition, self-belief and continuous growth, reminding students that success is built through learning, adapting and making the most of every opportunity.



## NATIONAL THANK A TEACHER DAY

As we approach the end of the academic year, we would like to encourage parents and carers to take a moment to recognise the dedication and hard work of school staff through the Thank a Teacher initiative. A simple message of thanks can make a huge difference and is a lovely way to acknowledge the care, commitment and support staff give to young people every day.

Schools with high levels of participation can also receive prizes and recognition through the initiative, so by taking part you are not only celebrating individual staff but also supporting the wider SJBC community. Families can send a free thank you message via [Thank a Teacher UK](https://www.thankateacher.co.uk).



**WHO WILL YOU  
SAY THANKS TO**

**ON THANK A TEACHER DAY?**



Send a Free Personalised Card → [thankateacher.co.uk](https://www.thankateacher.co.uk)

# UNDRAISING FOR SEAN DEVEREUX CHILDREN'S FUND

Many of you will know that our Devereux ASD Base is named after Sean Devereux, a British Salesian missionary and aid worker who dedicated his life to supporting vulnerable children. Following his death in Somalia in 1993 while working for UNICEF, Sean's family established the Sean Devereux Children's Fund (SDCF), which continues to support children's education in Liberia.

On Friday 19th June, students from Devereux, Savio, and a small group of mainstream students will take part in the annual Walk for Sean, completing a 5km sponsored walk to raise funds for the SDCF.

Students have been given sponsorship forms and would greatly appreciate your support.

**IN SUPPORT OF THE SEAN DEVEREUX CHILDREN'S FUND**

# MILES FOR SEAN

**MIDSUMMER 5km WALK**

Join students from Savio and Devereux as we walk 5km together in honour of Sean Devereux and to support a life-changing cause.

**EVERY CAKE SOLD MAKES A DIFFERENCE!**

**FRIDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2026** | **BATTERSEA PARK** | **1:00PM - 2:40PM**

**WHY ARE WE WALKING?**  
The Sean Devereux Children's Fund is raising money to support education for blind children in Liberia.

**SPONSOR A STUDENT!**  
Each student will receive a sponsorship form to take home. Family, friends, neighbours and supporters are encouraged to sponsor our students.

**SUGGESTED DONATIONS**  
50p | £1 | £2 | £5

Our aim is for every student to raise approximately £10. Every donation, big or small, will help make a difference!

**WE WILL ALSO HAVE...**

**THURSDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> JULY 2026** | **BREAKTIME & LUNCHTIME** In the Canteen | **HOMEMADE CAKES, BISCUITS, BROWNIES AND MORE! DONATIONS WELCOME!**

*Small cake. Big impact.* | **THANK YOU!** | *Thank you for your support!*

**TOGETHER, WE CAN CHANGE LIVES.**  
*"It is not enough for children to be loved, they must know that they are loved."*

**IN SUPPORT OF THE SEAN DEVEREUX CHILDREN'S FUND**

# Bake Sale!

**EVERY CAKE SOLD MAKES A DIFFERENCE!**

*In honour of Sean Devereux Missionary. Friend. Inspiration.*

*Treat yourself. Help change a life.*

All money raised will go towards supporting education for blind children in Liberia.

**THURSDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> JULY 2026** | **BREAKTIME & LUNCHTIME** In the Canteen | **HOMEMADE CAKES, BISCUITS, BROWNIES AND MORE! DONATIONS WELCOME!**

*Small cake. Big impact.* | **THANK YOU!** | *Thank you for your support!*

**TOGETHER, WE CAN CHANGE LIVES.**  
*"It is not enough for children to be loved, they must know that they are loved."*

Donations will be collected after the walk. Families who would prefer to make a general donation towards the group effort are welcome to contact the school directly.

We are also delighted to announce a Bake Sale on Thursday 2nd July in support of the SDCF. Treat yourself while helping to make a difference to the lives of children in Liberia.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and encouragement of our young people as they learn the importance of helping others.

# USEFUL ADVICE

Helping children navigate the online world safely is more important than ever. Explore the poster below for important information and advice. Visit our [website](#) for more [online safety resources](#) and [support](#).

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.



FaceApp, as the name suggests, is an app by Wireless Lab which uses uploaded images of someone's face and allows them to add a variety of interesting filters making themselves look older, younger, appear with different hair colour and so on. The app uses either the camera on your phone to take a selfie, or lets you use a picture from somewhere like Facebook or Instagram to apply these filters. While this all sounds like innocent fun, there have been some valid concerns raised about the terms and conditions, and what the company is doing with all these selfies and pictures.



## What parents need to know about FACEAPP



### WHY IS IT SO POPULAR?

The app went viral in the middle of July 2019 with the #faceappchallenge, where users download Faceapp, take a picture of their face adding the old age filter, and then share the image of themselves online with friends. It can be fun to see what you might look like when you're more well travelled, and the results are pretty convincing (much to the amusement of older family members!).



### HOW DOES IT WORK?

The app scans the uploaded face, and uses a neural network (basically a huge database of sample faces) to show what it thinks you'll look like when you're old; adding wrinkles, grey hairs, yellowed teeth etc. Anybody can upload an image they have access to, even those of children, without any kind of consent being needed. As explained in the lengthy terms and conditions of the app, these images are saved by Wireless Lab and can be used however they see fit, at any time in the future.



### IS IT SAFE?

This is the contentious question. Wireless Lab, the Russian company behind the FaceApp app, are particularly vague with their descriptions of what they can potentially do with a person's details, to the point where a lot of people are worried about their images being used for nefarious purposes like cyber crime or political campaigns. In reality, the app is no more or less safe than any other, but that doesn't mean you shouldn't be vigilant of what you or your child is agreeing to online.



### LEVEL OF ACCESS?

Buried in the legal jargon and technical mumbo jumbo, FaceApp has a worryingly large amount of access to your or your child's device. As well as storing any pictures you upload to the app, it also has access to your internet history, and basic information like your name and location. Naturally this sounds scary because it has been highlighted so publicly, but this is the normal kind of access and information apps take from us nowadays. If you are at all concerned it's worth leafing through those lengthy Terms Of Service before making a decision on if you're happy for your child to use an app.



### SHOULD I BE WORRIED?

While your details COULD be used in the wrong way, the company has publicly stated they have no desire to do so and a number of independent probes into the app seem to suggest everything is being stored correctly and safely. That's not to say it will always be this way, so it's worth bearing in mind that this could change further down the line.



### FACIAL RECOGNITION SOFTWARE

An app that takes an image of a face and uses it to commit online crimes or say things pretending to be somebody else might sound like the plot of a hollywood thriller, but with today's technology it can be a very real fear. Facial recognition software is now so advanced, a fake picture or video of a face can be produced without your knowledge or permission, potentially by a company you thought was safe. Now it must be stressed that this is extremely unlikely to happen, especially as this advanced technology is still being worked out, so you shouldn't be too worried about it - but always be aware of the permissions you're giving to unknown parties.



## Safety Tips For Parents



### CHECK DOWNLOADS

It may seem obvious to keep an eye on what is downloaded on a device, but it can be very easy to miss out on new fads and viral hits. Most app stores let you see what's currently trending, alongside descriptions of what an app is. Talking to your child about what current trends they're enjoying will help you keep an eye on what's popular. You also get to see what you might look like in the future, which could be a blessing or a curse!



### BE REALISTIC ABOUT YOUR DATA

When it comes to online security, the phrase 'better the devil you know' is particularly apt. While companies like Facebook and Google are by no means virtuous in their collection of our data, we do at least know (for the most part) a lot about how it's being handled. Luckily, we know Wireless Lab are treating our information correctly for now, but apps you don't know or trust, may not. It's always worth reading up on an app and making sure it's the real deal before downloading it.



### BE AWARE OF COPYCAT APPS

When something like FaceApp goes viral, many copycat apps can pop up on the store piggybacking off the success of the original. These apps can contain viruses that are often far more malicious and dangerous to you and your child than the terms in the 'safe' version of the app. Make sure you're aware of which is the original before making any downloads.



### KNOW IF YOU CAN SPEND MONEY ON AN APP

Like most things these days, there is a way to spend money on FaceApp. You can purchase a 'pro' version which unlocks additional filters either through your phone's app store, or on the app itself. This subscription ranges from 1 month for £3.99, 12 months for £19.99 or lifetime access for £38.49. It's very easy to make this purchase without too much thought so do make sure you know about any additional costs of an app your child is using.



### ALWAYS READ THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Many of us don't have the time or energy to read through pages and pages of legal speak, and that's normal, but leafing through the fineprint can unearth a lot of grizzly permissions you didn't know you were giving. Often, at times they are unavoidable, but knowing what you're signing up for and if there's anything you can do about it could help you make more informed decisions on the types of content you expose your child to.



### Meet our expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 5 years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the current gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGbible. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.



SOURCES: <https://www.techradar.com/uk/news/is-faceapp-safe-a-deeper-look-at-the-viral-hit>, <https://www.tomsguide.com/news/faceapp-photos-privacy-worries>, <https://fortune.com/2019/07/17/faceapp-safe-privacy-russian-old-face-app/>, <https://www.unilad.co.uk/technology/faceapp-could-be-sharing-all-your-photos-without-you-knowing/>, <https://www.faceapp.com/terms>

Education  
Wellbeing  
Service

## Education Wellbeing Service Webinar

Supporting Your Teenager  
With Emotional Difficulties  
and Self-Harm

Being a teenager can be difficult to navigate, with lots of change and emotional ups and downs.

Parents and carers can have key roles in supporting their teenagers through this by understanding emotional regulation, and how to facilitate healthy responses to difficult or testing situations.



## DATE / TIME

Wednesday 10th June  
1.00-2.00pm



Scan the  
QR code  
or  
click here

## LOCATION

Online - Hosted on Teams

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

[wellbeinginschoolsevents@swlstg.nhs.uk](mailto:wellbeinginschoolsevents@swlstg.nhs.uk)

## DATE / TIME

Thursday 18th June  
7.00-8.00pm



Scan the  
QR code  
or  
click here

## Education Wellbeing Service Webinar

SUPPORTING YOUR TEEN'S  
TRANSITION TO COLLEGE -  
PARENT / CARER WEBINAR

Moving from secondary school to college involves lots of different changes for adolescents, including travelling new routes, becoming familiar with new environments and teachers, making new friends, and learning new subjects. This workshop aims to discuss these common worries and provide strategies to help you support your teen through the transition.

**This workshop is for the parents and carers of teens that are going to one of our colleges: Merton, Carshalton, Wandsworth, Kingston, Croydon and Richmond.**

Education  
Wellbeing  
Service

## DATE / TIME

Monday 6th July 1.00-2.00 pm  
Wednesday 26th August 6.00-7.00 pm

## LOCATION

Online - Hosted on Teams

Sign up to this event  
for free on Eventbrite  
by scanning the QR Code or  
following the link below:



[Click here to book](#)

[wellbeinginschoolsevents@swlstg.nhs.uk](mailto:wellbeinginschoolsevents@swlstg.nhs.uk)