

IN TOUCH



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

This week our year 7, 8, 9 and 10 students will be sitting their PPE examinations. We were delighted with the focus and commitment of the year 12 students who completed their exams last week and I am sure that our younger students will follow their example. You can help them to prepare at home by encouraging them to get a healthy balance of revision and rest. It's also going to be hot this week so please do make sure that they bring a refillable bottle of water to keep them hydrated through the day.

Please also check in with your children each day to find out how they got on and make sure that they are using their equipment packs, containing knowledge organisers for the core subjects, as part of their revision.

Finally, I'd like to give a big shout out to our Savio and Devereux children who completed a 5km walk in aid of the Sean Devereux Foundation. It's still not too late to send in your donation in an envelope to the school office.



"There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them."

1 Corinthians 12:4

As we look ahead to the cultural evening, we celebrate more than talent—we celebrate identity, courage, and the beauty of expression.

Every performance is a glimpse into the heart. Every moment on stage is a step of confidence.

May this evening be a joyful reminder that our children shine in many ways—and each gift is worth honouring.



KEY DATES

- 30th June - Year 7 – 10 and 12 PPE2 End of Year Exams
- 7th July – 11th July - Yr 10 work experience week
- 8th July – Yr 6 into 7 welcome evening
- 9th July – T-Level Host Provider day
- 8th & 9th July – 1pm close - please remember that school will close 1:00pm on Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th July to allow for whole-staff training
- 14th – 18th July – Year 12 Work Experience



THE YEAR 10 PILGRIMAGE TO AYLESFORD

The Year 10 pilgrimage to Aylesford in Kent gave our students a taste of why people of faith go on pilgrimages. They experienced for themselves the peace and stillness of the Marian shrine. Students were taken by the stillness and beauty of the shrine. It emphasised the fact that pilgrimages can be local, and they don't have to visit famous sites either.



Brothers Solomon and Malachy led the students through a beautiful service in the Cloister Chapel where they focused on the theme of reconciliation in a time of war and conflict.

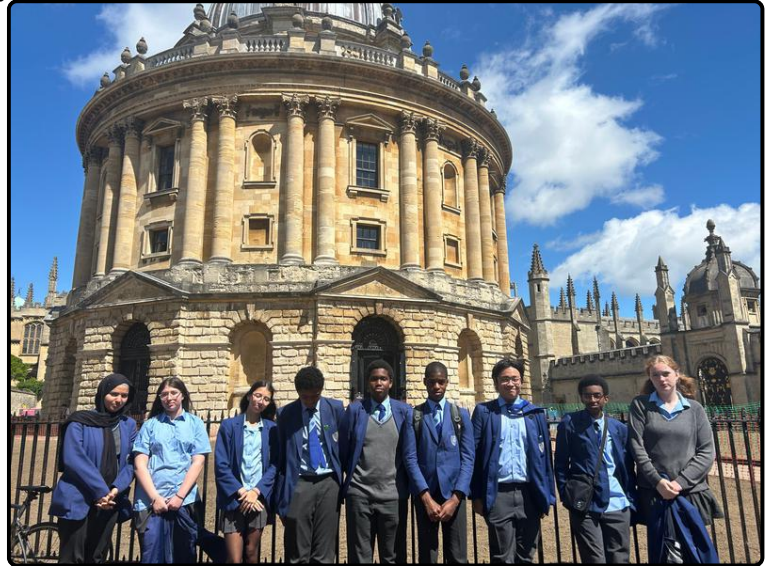


Of course, there was the obligatory visit to the shop and students just had to feed the geese!



ACCESS OXBRIDGE PROGRAMME

Last Thursday, the Access Oxbridge group travelled to Jesus College, Oxford, to explore the campus and be inspired to apply. They were given a tour by a current student and were impressed by the beautiful architecture and the rich history of the city.



Highlights included a visit to the Bodleian Library – which holds a copy of every book published in the UK – and a glimpse through the gates of the elusive All Souls College, which accepts only one student per subject each year and does not allow visitors. The group also gathered at the site where Protestant martyrs were burned alive publicly under the reign of Mary Tudor.



In the afternoon, they attended a talk and a mock lecture by Dr Matthew Williams on the topic, "What is the meaning of life?" After some discussion, the question evolved into a deeper one: "What is the meaning in life?" Students were encouraged to grapple with large, abstract ideas and were repeatedly challenged with the four magic words: "What do YOU think?". Who knew that an apple on a stool could prompt twenty minutes of discussion and argument?



The staff at the college were highly impressed with our Year 10s and encouraged them to consider applying when they begin choosing universities in Year 12. Could we be witnessing the rise of the next generation of academic thinkers?

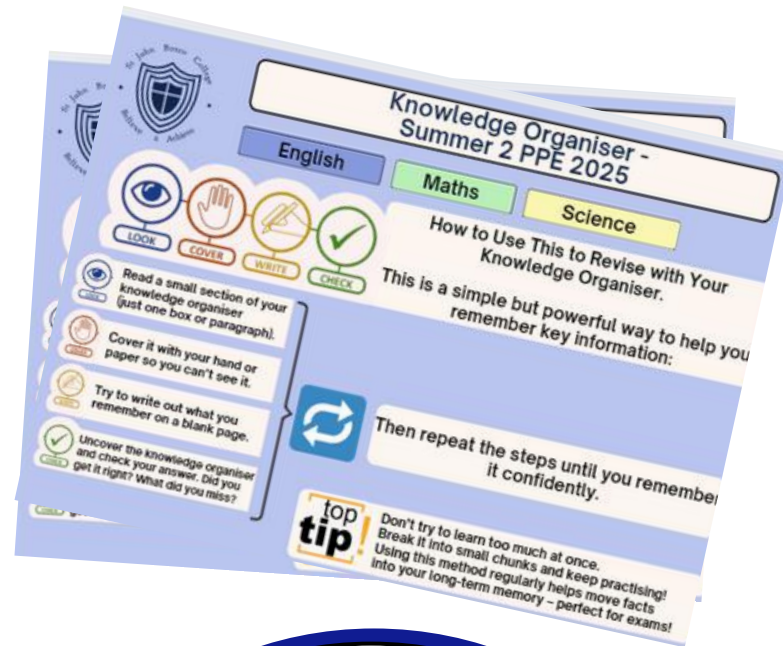
Thank you for supporting the new approach to equipment at SJBC. We've been really impressed with how mature and responsible students have been – it's made a clear difference to the start of each lesson and to their readiness to learn.



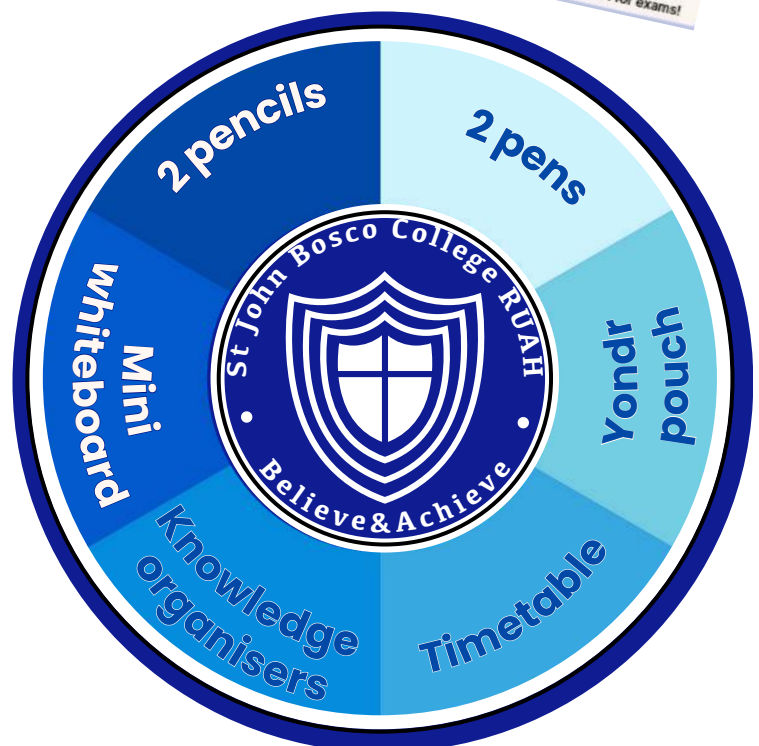
We now need to keep this going. Research suggests it takes around 66 days to form a habit, so we're in an important phase of embedding good routines. Being organised not only supports behaviour but also reduces anxiety and improves focus – key ingredients for academic success.

Please also encourage your child to make regular use of their Knowledge Organisers.

These aren't just for exam revision – they're designed to support deeper learning through frequent, low-stress review. From September, students will receive a KO for each subject, issued termly. Using them consistently helps strengthen memory and confidence across the curriculum.



Finally, a reminder that students must bring all items from their equipment packs every day. If any key items are missing, they may be sent home to collect them. We appreciate your help in maintaining these high standards.



YEAR 13 PROM - CELEBRATING THE CLASS OF 2025

Year 13 students celebrated the end of their A Level and Vocational examinations in style with dinner and dancing at the exclusive 'La Gothique' venue in Wandsworth.

They all looked a million dollars as they danced the night away in the sumptuous surroundings of the Royal Patriotic Building.



There was much excitement on the night when the votes were counted for the Prom King and Queen... congratulations to the wonderfully turned out JP and Mathilde who won the ballot with a huge majority.

A big thank you to the sixth form team led by Ms Browning for organising a truly memorable event. We wish all our year 13s a happy and relaxing summer and look forward to seeing them in August on results day.



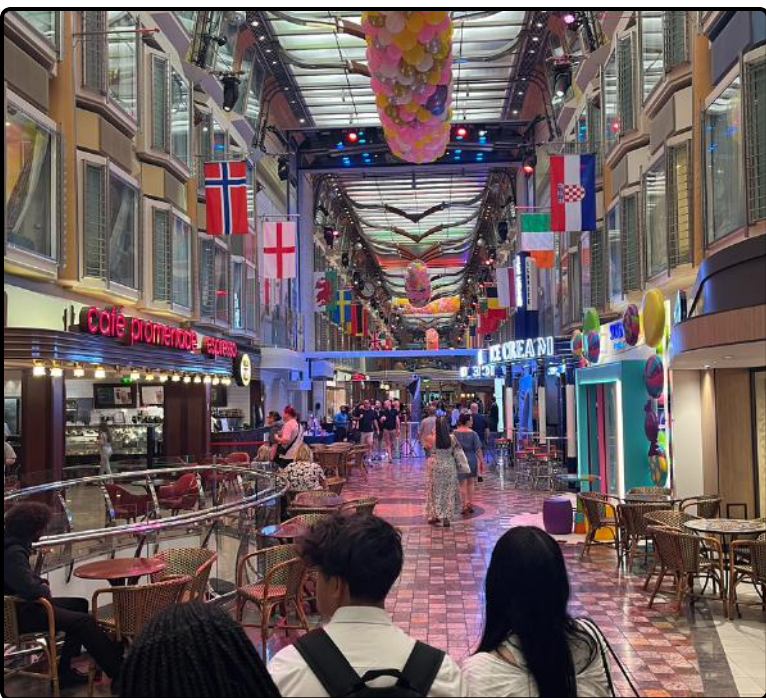
CRUISE CAREER SPRINGBOARD SUCCESS!

Well done to our amazing Year 12 students who have just completed their involvement in the Cruise Career Springboard programme - a unique opportunity to explore life and work in the global cruise industry.

Over nine weeks, students took part in expert-led sessions, visited six cruise ships, and explored the wide range of careers both onboard and shoreside - from entertainment and engineering to destination planning and health & safety.



Last week they completed another brilliant trip this time to see the Cruise Ship Independence on a perfect sunny day to deepen their understanding of the sector and prepare for final presentations to industry leaders.



The programme champions diversity and inclusion and opens doors to exciting career pathways for students from all backgrounds.

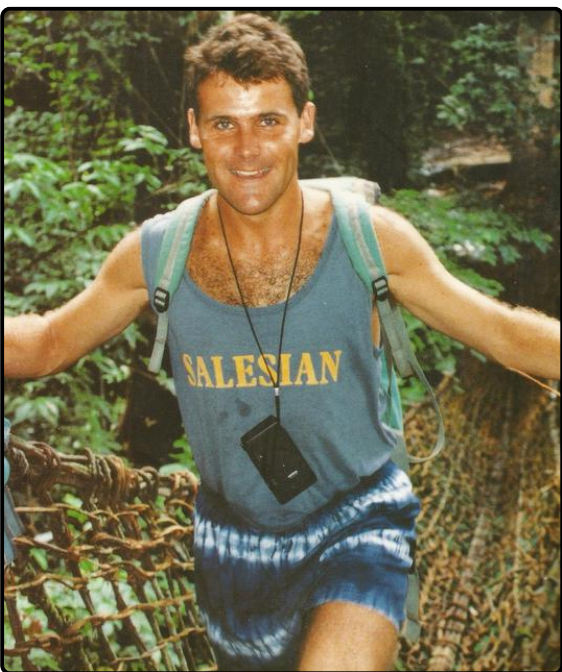
A huge thank you to Ms Williams for making this opportunity possible for our students – your hard work and passion are deeply appreciated!



WALK FOR SEAN – THANK YOU AND STILL FUNDRAISING!

Last week, some of our incredible students took part in the Walk for Sean and completed their 5km route bravely in the sunshine. Battersea Park looked absolutely stunning, and we were proud to be joined by two of our school governors, Nick Crean and Nadine Imankerdjo – thank you both for your support!

So far, we've raised an amazing £200, and fundraising is still open! If you'd like to donate, please give any contributions to Ms Motiwala or hand them into the main office, clearly marked "Sean Devereux Foundation".



As some of you will know, the Devereux Base at SJBC is named after Sean Devereux, a British Salesian aid worker who was tragically assassinated in Somalia in 1993 while working for UNICEF. His legacy lives on through the Sean Devereux Children's Fund, which continues to support the education of children in Liberia.



Our Devereux and Savio students, along with some mainstream students, joined this year's walk by completing their 5km route on Friday 20th June. Students raised money through have sponsorship forms. We are also appealing to our wider school community to support; please do email if you'd like to make a donation.

We are also hugely grateful to Maureen Devereux, Sean's mother, for her generous £100 donation to our fund.

➡ [Click here to read more about the Sean Devereux Children's Fund](#)

Thank you as always for supporting our brilliant young people and this important cause.



VISIT OF FR GEORGE SDB

We were delighted to welcome an important Salesian visitor to the school on Friday when Fr George, the director of the Don Bosco Ashalayam in Kolkata in Northern India, paid us a visit.

The Ashalayam helps hundreds of street children every year to find a home, and to get an education. Since 1985 they have helped over 155 thousand children to find hope in a warm Salesian welcome and the chance to learn new knowledge and skills to take them out of poverty. Their work is truly inspirational and Fr George leads this work.

Fr Andrew regularly raises funds to support the work of the Ashalayam, so please do look out for the next fundraising opportunity and do what you can to support this wonderful project.

<https://www.dbashalayam.org/>



ENGLISH CLASSES FOR PARENTS

FREE BEGINNERS ENGLISH LESSONS

for parents and families of students at St John Bosco College

Classes every Thursday
term time only
4:30 – 6.30 pm
here at school

Improve language skills, make new friends and get a head start in a new country. Plus, it's all at your child's school, here at St John Bosco's college, so no hassle for you!

New to England? Let's help your child thrive! Sign up for our free beginners English lessons at school.

Please email
dparrott@sjbc.wandsworth.sch.uk
to reserve a place



The countdown is on! Our amazing Cultural Evening is fast approaching – a celebration of music, food, colour, and community you won't want to miss.

3 WEEKS TO GO!



Friday 18th July 2025 5-7pm



Tickets available now on ParentMail or from Reception



Students must be accompanied by an adult.
No unaccompanied children will be allowed.



- Live music & entertainment
- Delicious world food
- Henna & glitter tattoos
- Games & raffle prizes
- Piñata fun!



Come dressed in traditional or cultural wear if you like – and help us make this a night to remember. Let's show the spirit of SJBC in every song, smile and celebration!



ST JOHN BOSCO COLLEGE **CULTURAL EVENING**



Does your child enjoy photography? The Battersea Society is running the Community & Connections Photography Award 2025, and it's a fantastic opportunity for them to get involved!

Students are invited to submit photos of people, events, places, or activities in Battersea that tell a story of connection within or between communities. The definition of connection is open to their interpretation!

Shortlisted entries will be exhibited at the Royal College of Art. Winners will receive certificates, and the overall winner will receive a cash prize.

The deadline is 14th September 2025, making the contest an ideal creative project for the summer holidays.

Full details and posters are available on your child's year group MS Teams. Please encourage them to have a look and participate.

COMMUNITY & CONNECTIONS PHOTOGRAPHY AWARD 2025



You are invited to send in photographs of people, activities, events or places in Battersea that tell the story of *connections* within or between *communities*. It is for you, the photographer, to decide what defines a community or connection. Let your imagination fly!



Commended photo by Gerjan Vlieghe, 2021 Photography Award

Shortlisted entries will be exhibited at the Royal College of Art in Battersea. Winning images will be awarded a special certificate and the overall winner will also receive a cash prize.

CLOSING DATE
14.09.25

For details, and to enter, visit
www.batterseasociety.org.uk



Royal College of Art
Postgraduate Art & Design

