

IN TOUCH



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

As we begin the half-term break, this edition of In Touch reflects the rich variety of opportunities available to students at SJBC and our ambition for every one of our students. It also stresses the importance of regular attendance at school, reinforced this week through our new prize draw initiative, reflecting our belief that every day in school truly does count.

We were particularly proud of our students who were recognised at the Jack Petchey Achievement Awards, celebrating the dedication and positive contribution of young people within our wider community. Meanwhile, our Sixth Form enjoyed a thought-provoking Bosco Discovery Talk from Christopher Lamb, Vatican correspondent for TV news channel CNN, offering valuable insight into global leadership and current affairs.

Looking ahead, we begin the season of Lent on Wednesday 18 February, a time that invites reflection, kindness and renewed focus. We will mark the beginning of this holy time in the church year when the children return to school. Following the half-term break, students will return to school at the normal time on Monday 23 February, when mock examinations will begin for Years 11–13. We encourage all students to use the holiday period wisely, balancing rest with revision and study.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. Have a lovely half-term break.



Our Weekly Lenten Guide to Loving Kindness TIP 1

At the end of the day
remember the good things that have happened.



2026 FEBRUARY						
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

KEY DATES

- 23rd February - return to school
- 23rd February – start of Year 11, 12, 13 Mocks
- 10th March – Year 9 Options Evening
- 12th March – KS3 Celebration Evening (6.00pm)



INTO UNIVERSITY

A group of Year 8 students took part in a skills-focused workshop delivered by IntoUniversity. Working in teams, students identified their skills and acted as board members to decide how to allocate a £1 million charity donation across three schools, using teamwork, collaboration, critical thinking, creative problem-solving, and communication skills.



They showed high levels of enthusiasm, curiosity and confidence when sharing their thoughts. All of the groups acted with RUAH (Respect, Understanding, Affection and Humour) when interacting with each other and the workshop leads.



A SPECIAL GIFT FOR OUR CHAPEL

Mr. Hills, father of William and Precious in year 10 and year 8 presenting an icon to father Greg as a gift to the school. The icon will find a good home in school chapel.



ATTENDANCE LUCKY DRAW

We're excited to let you know that we will be running a weekly attendance prize draw to celebrate and encourage excellent attendance across our school community. Each Monday during morning line up there will be a draw for a free hot drink or sweet snack for all students who have had 100% the previous week. We will select one student from each Key Stage.

Attendance really matters. Studies show that children who attend school regularly are more likely to achieve higher academic outcomes than those with persistent absence, and that strong attendance is linked with greater progress in learning. Official research from the Department for Education confirms the positive association between attendance and attainment across all pupils.

We believe this fun incentive will help motivate students and support positive routines. Please continue support your child to have well established routes for good attendance and punctuality.

CELEBRATING ST VALENTINE'S DAY

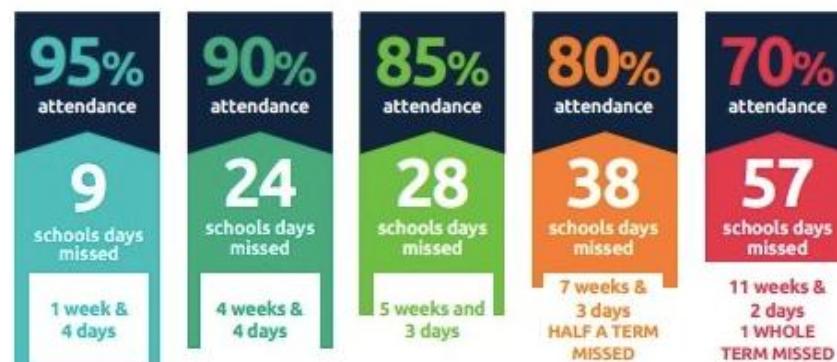
To celebrate St Valentine's day, some of our Sixth-form students organised a beautiful Valentine celebration for the entire school community. Through raffle draws and a Valentine post they created an atmosphere of joy while highlighting our care for each other and unity. The proceeds from this initiative will go to the Salesian Street Boys Charity in Nigeria. This is truly love in action, giving with open hearts, with and beyond boundaries.

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Thank you to everyone who supported and participated in making this event meaningful and impactful.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS. ALL DAY, EVERY DAY

Every day in school counts...



and every minute counts...



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Thank you to everyone who supported and participated in making this event meaningful and impactful.

JACK PETCHEY ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS – WANDSWORTH (JANUARY 2026)

The Jack Petchey Achievement Awards ceremony in Wandsworth was celebrated as an “incredible night”, recognising the achievements of young people and leaders within the local community.

The event brought together award winners, their families, friends, and supporters to honour the hard work, dedication, and positive impact of young people across schools and youth organisations.



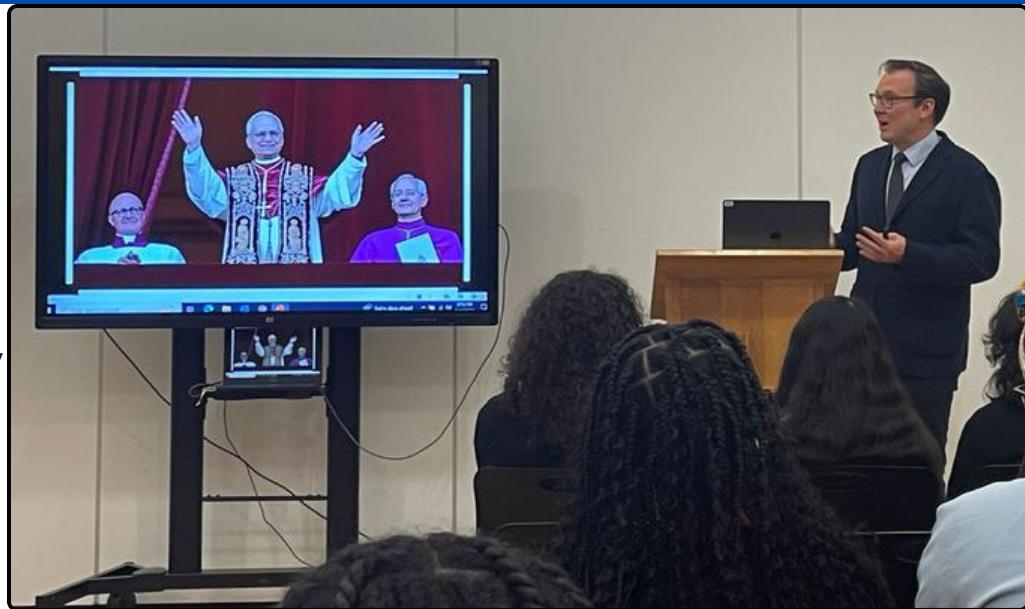
Recipients received Jack Petchey Achievement Awards for outstanding accomplishments — these awards are part of a wider Foundation programme that celebrates young people aged 11–25 for going above and beyond in school, community, or personal development.

The ceremony included moments of celebration, applause, and recognition, providing a platform for young achievers to shine and be publicly acknowledged for their achievements. Pupils from SJBC that were celebrated include: Giulia, Janelle, Ronnie, Anaaya, Hana, Lushay and Max

SALESIAN ASHLAYAM

Over half term, Fr Andrew and Mr Cooper are visiting the Salesian Ashlayam project in Calcutta, India, spending time with our wider Salesian family and seeing first-hand how the community supports some of the city's most vulnerable children and young people through safe shelter, care, education and hope for the future. They also took copies of our Sixth Form magazine, *Faith Matters*, to share with students and staff there — a small way of strengthening the connection between our communities.





Our Sixth Form recently enjoyed a Bosco Discovery Talk from Christopher Lamb, CNN's Vatican correspondent.

Christopher spoke engagingly about the role of the Pope in 2026 and explained the Conclave process, drawing on his first-hand experience reporting the 2025 Conclave, which elected the first American pope, Pope Leo XIV.

Thank you, Christopher, for such an insightful and thought-provoking session, and for helping our students understand how faith, leadership and global events connect in real time.

SPORTS NEWS

Well done to our Year 8 football team on a fantastic victory against Bolingbroke Academy. Mr Azzouz was incredibly proud of the team's determination, teamwork and skill.



CHARACTER POINTS PRIZE DRAW – HALF TERM WINNERS

Each half term, we hold a prize draw for all students who achieve 10 character points in any week that half term. Students who meet this target have their names entered into a draw, with one winner selected per House, plus a Sixth Form winner, to receive prizes. This celebrates pupils who consistently demonstrate strong character across their subjects and school life.



We are delighted to announce this half term's winners:

Theresa House – Harit (Year 8)

Kolbe House – Scott (Year 9)

Moses House – Anaaya (Year 8)

Oscar Romero House – Ivania (Year 7)

Rafqa House – Ella (Year 8)

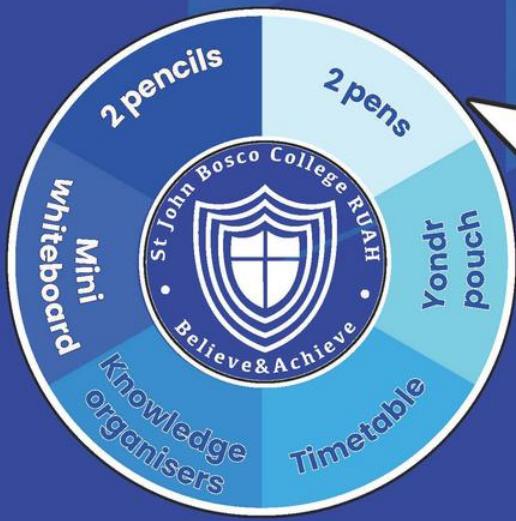
Sixth Form – Solomia (Year 13)

Please do encourage your child to keep collecting character points — they are a fantastic way to recognise effort, attitude and contribution, and they also enter pupils into future prize draws.





At SJBC, we believe being ready to learn starts with being equipped. Your Student Equipment Pack is a vital tool for your success – **pens, pencils, ruler, whiteboard, Yondr pouch** – everything you need to get the most from every lesson.



Price List:

- **Yondr Pouch – £18**
- **Full Student Equipment Pack – £20**
(Includes A5 Wallet, Yondr Pouch, A4 whiteboard and pencil case containing 2 x pens, 2 x pencils, whiteboard marker, 15cm ruler, pencil sharpener and eraser)
- **Replacement Pencil Case – £2.50**
(Pencil case containing 2 x pens, 2 x pencils, whiteboard marker, 15cm ruler, pencil sharpener and eraser)
- **Stationery Top-Up Pack – £2.50**
(Contains x 4 x pens, 4 x pencils and 2 x whiteboard markers)



Don't get caught short in class. Keep your pack complete, stay ready, and make every lesson count!

Join the

RIVERSIDER'S RADIO CLUB



EVER WANTED TO TRY PRESENTING?  

 CURIOUS ABOUT PRODUCING A SHOW? 

 LOVE MUSIC, NEWS, ENTERTAINMENT OR SOCIAL MEDIA?

- LEARN HOW RADIO WORKS FROM REAL BROADCAST PROFESSIONALS
 - BUILD CONFIDENCE AND CREATIVITY
 - TRAIN IN A LIVE RADIO STATION STUDIO

WHO CAN JOIN?

SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS (AGE 11-16)

COME ALONG, FIND OUT MORE & SIGN UP!

 RIVERSIDE RADIO, SOUTH WEST LONDON
TASTER DAY ON SATURDAY 28 FEBRUARY
LIMITED SPACES - DON'T MISS OUT!
CLICK [HERE](#) TO APPLY





St John
Bosco
College

ST JOHN BOSCO PTFA SPONSORSHIP TREE

Dear Friends of SJBC,

The PTFA sponsorship tree offers you the opportunity to make a positive contribution to the education of young people at SJBC.

For each stone leaf sponsored, the donation received will provide us with much-needed funds to enrich the lives of our students.

The sponsorship tree will have pride of place in our school grounds, housed close to the historic 'ambulacrum', providing a link between the past and present of the school.

The name of each donor will be inscribed on a leaf or stone, providing a permanent reminder of their generosity and contribution to the school.

DONATIONS

Small gold pebbles £25

Light green leaves £50

Dark green leaves £100

Large gold stones £200

If you would like to donate, you can do one of the following:

- Bring cash to school reception in an envelope clearly marked 'PTA donation'
- Pay online via ParentMail (only for staff and parents)
- Direct payments into the PTA account

Bank: NatWest Bank

Account Name: St John Bosco College Parent Teachers Association

Account Number: 69632812

Sort Code: 602228

Please put "Donation Tree" as a reference when making payment

Free Beginners English lessons

Limited places

for parents and families
of students at St John
Bosco College

**CLASSES EVERY TUESDAY TERM TIME ONLY
4:00– 6.00 PM HERE AT SCHOOL**

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



PLEASE EMAIL

DPARROTT@SJBC.WANDSWORTH.SCH.UK

TO RESERVE A PLACE

