

IN TOUCH



*Celebrating our
100th edition!*

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

This week's edition of In Touch is a particularly special one as we celebrate the publication of our 100th edition. Over the past few years, In Touch has become an important way of sharing the life of our school with parents, carers and the wider Bosco community, celebrating the achievements of our students and keeping families informed about the many opportunities that make St John Bosco College such a vibrant place to learn. My sincere thanks go to Ms Twarog, whose professionalism, creativity and meticulous attention to detail have made each edition such a high-quality publication.

I would also like to thank all of the parents, carers, alumni and friends of the school who joined us for last Friday's Cultural Evening. It was a wonderful celebration of the many cultures, languages and traditions represented within our community and a fitting reminder that our diversity is one of our greatest strengths. Thank you, too, to the many members of staff and students whose hard work made the evening such a memorable success.

This edition also highlights the many opportunities our students continue to enjoy, from the memorable Year 11 French visit to Paris and the outstanding GCSE and A Level Art Exhibition to our students' work with residents at Eden Court and the Chaplaincy's fundraising efforts.

Finally, this is the last week of the school year, and it promises to be an enjoyable one. Please note that students will follow a different timetable from usual, beginning with Sports Day on Monday, and there will be some variations to normal finish times during the week. Full details have been shared separately with families. Thank you for your continued support throughout the year.



"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens." Ecclesiastes 3:1

As we come to the close of another school year, we give thanks for the many opportunities to learn, grow and celebrate together as a school community. We are grateful for the dedication of our pupils, families and staff, whose kindness and commitment have made this year so special. As summer begins, may it be a season of rest, renewal and joy, offering time to recharge, cherish moments with loved ones, and return refreshed for the exciting year ahead.

2026 JULY						
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**

- Friday 17 July - 1pm end of day - Summer holiday begin
- Thursday 13 August - A Level Results Day
- Thursday 20 August - GCSE Results Day
- **Autumn 2026 term**
 - Wednesday 2nd September - Year 7 welcome 8.30 - 1pm
Year 12 welcome
 - Thursday 3rd September - all Year groups 8.30 - 3.30pm



YEAR 11 FRENCH STUDENTS ENJOY A FANTASTIQUE AVENTURE IN PARIS

This week, four of our Year 11 French students — Giselle, Iqra, Jiya and Tiya — took part in a very special French trip to Paris. For several of the group, this was their first visit to France, making the experience even more memorable.

The trip was designed to bring their French learning to life. Over the years, students had studied French culture, food, transport and landmarks in lessons; this was their opportunity to see, hear and taste these things for themselves.



After travelling by coach and ferry, the group arrived in Paris Bercy and began the day with a traditional French breakfast, including croissants and tartines. They then travelled on the Paris Métro to the Eiffel Tower, where they climbed an impressive 674 steps to reach the second floor. From there, their guide, Ms Mané, pointed out key Paris landmarks including Notre-Dame, Les Invalides, the River Seine and the famous bateaux-mouches.



The students also visited the Arc de Triomphe, walked along the Champs-Élysées, saw the Louvre, stopped near the Centre Pompidou, and visited a jewellery shop where they could design their own pieces. They were also delighted to visit a bakery linked to the animated series *Miraculous*, which had been suggested by the students themselves. The day ended, very appropriately, with crêpes before the return journey to London.



Throughout the trip, the students were a credit to themselves, their families and the school. They showed maturity, kindness, excellent manners and real resilience, particularly during a long journey with very little sleep. Their enthusiasm and conduct helped make the trip smooth, joyful and highly successful.

A huge thank you must go to Ms Tharsis, Head of MFL, who organised the trip and made this wonderful opportunity possible. This was the first overseas trip she has organised, and she put enormous care and commitment into ensuring the students had a rich and memorable experience. We are also very grateful to Ms Moreno for her kindness, professionalism and care throughout the journey, and to Ms Mané, our Parisian guide, whose knowledge of the city helped students gain so much from the day.



This was a truly special experience and a wonderful example of language learning coming alive beyond the classroom.

YEAR 9 TRIP TO THE HOLLAND PARK SYNAGOGUE

On 7th July we made our annual trip to the Holland Park Synagogue. The Year 9 students were treated to a very informative input on the internal features of an Orthodox synagogue as well as an explanation of the Amidah (standing prayer) and the importance placed on the sacredness of life in Judaism. They had the opportunity to hear a passage read from the Torah and they were allowed to stand at the bimah whilst this was being done.



Students were keen to demonstrate what they had learnt in RE about Judaism and they freely asked questions to clarify their learning. However, the most beautiful moment of the trip was when a couple of our Muslim students wished one of our hosts 'Shalom' and he responded with 'Salam'. Religious Education at its best.



RE REWARDS TRIP TO JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR

Recently, students in Year 9 and Year 10 enjoyed a fantastic rewards trip with Father Andrew to see the West End production of Jesus Christ Superstar.

The trip was a reward for students who have been working hard in Religious Education, showing commitment, effort and engagement in their lessons.



Jesus Christ Superstar is a famous musical which tells the story of the final days of Jesus' life, including his entry into Jerusalem, the Last Supper, betrayal, trial and crucifixion. The show explores big themes such as faith, loyalty, power, sacrifice and human weakness, all through powerful music and dramatic performance.

Students had a brilliant time experiencing RE brought to life on stage, and it was a memorable opportunity to reflect on the Gospel story in a different and creative way. A big thank you to Father Andrew for organising and leading the trip.

ART EXHIBITION

On Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th, we proudly hosted our final Art Exhibition, showcasing the outstanding GCSE and A Level artwork submitted this year. Across our 54 students, the exhibition featured a vibrant and energetic display of creativity, with work spanning a wide range of artistic mediums and techniques. Here are some of our Year 8 students exploring the exhibition, taking inspiration as they begin to consider their future GCSE Art options.



ART DEPARTMENT -YEAR 9 3D CAKE SCULPTURES

Year 9 students explored the work of contemporary artist Patianne Stevenson, whose playful sculptural cakes are created using found cardboard and recycled materials. Inspired by her imaginative approach, students designed their own unique cake sculptures, considering form, decoration, and creative themes.



Students developed their construction skills by experimenting with joining techniques and carefully layering cardboard to build strong, three-dimensional forms. They then refined their sculptures with acrylic paint, using colour and detail to bring their cake designs to life.



This was a highly practical and engaging project that encouraged experimentation, problem-solving, and creativity. Students produced a fantastic range of imaginative outcomes, with some even transforming their cakes into expressive characters, showcasing originality and personality in their final sculptures.



EDEN COURT

This week, thanks to Ms Tharsis, a group of our students visited the residents at Eden Court, and they were absolutely outstanding ambassadors for St John Bosco College. One resident summed it up perfectly, saying, "The students were very good," a comment they repeated after both visits.



This week, thanks to Ms Tharsis, a group of our students visited the residents at Eden Court, and they were absolutely outstanding ambassadors for St John Bosco College. One resident summed it up perfectly, saying, "The students were very good," a comment they repeated after both visits.

Our students truly lived out our RUAH values through their kindness, respect, care and warmth in every interaction.

The first visit celebrated culture and language, with Anyi proudly reading in Spanish about her home country, the Dominican Republic. Although none of the residents spoke Spanish, everyone enjoyed listening for familiar words and learning about another culture through photographs and storytelling.

The second visit was filled with music. Katherine performed a song she is preparing for her GCSE assessment, earning a delighted "100%!" from one resident. Daisy sang beautifully in both French and English, while Jack's wonderful piano performance inspired one resident to play the piano again for the first time in years. It was a truly special moment, showing how our young people can inspire confidence, joy and treasured memories in others.

These visits are about so much more than languages and music; they are about building community, developing confidence and using our talents to bring happiness to others. We are incredibly proud of everyone who took part.



CHAPLAINCY FUNDRAISING AND A FOND FAREWELL TO SISTER PAT

Our Chaplaincy Team has once again demonstrated what it means to live out our Salesian values of kindness, service and solidarity. Last week, six of our Sixth Form students worked alongside the Chaplaincy Team to raise money for those affected by the devastating earthquake in Venezuela. Making the most of the hot weather, they organised a fantastic ice lolly sale, which proved to be a huge hit with students and staff alike. The event was great fun, helped everyone cool down during the heatwave, and, thanks to the generosity of our school community, raised over £400 for this important cause. A huge thank you to everyone who supported the fundraiser.



Sadly, this term also marks the departure of our much-loved Sister Pat, who is leaving St John Bosco College to begin a new mission with the Salesians in Scotland. Sister Pat has made an enormous difference to the lives of so many young people through her compassion, encouragement and unwavering faith. She has been a constant source of support for our students and staff, and her warmth, humour and kindness will be greatly missed by the entire Bosco family. We thank her for everything she has given to our community, wish her every blessing in this exciting new chapter, and hope she will come back to visit us very soon. Once Bosco, always Bosco!



YEAR 11 PROM

A couple of weeks ago, our Year 11 students ended their time in Key Stage 4 with a fantastic Year 11 Prom, organised by Mrs Henry and the pastoral team.

It was an amazing evening. Students looked absolutely superb in their long dresses, tiaras and suits, arriving in style and ready to celebrate. They had great fun, partied into the evening, created lots of memories and also had time to reflect on their journey at Bosco since Year 7.





Year 11 are now enjoying their long, extended holiday while looking ahead to their GCSE results. We are very proud of them and look forward to welcoming many of them back in September as they begin the next stage of their journey in our Sixth Form.



CULTURE DAY AND EVENING CELEBRATIONS

On Friday, we rounded off the summer term with one of the highlights of the St John Bosco calendar - our fantastic Culture Day and Evening

Throughout the day, our school was transformed into a vibrant celebration of cultures from across the world. Students proudly wore traditional dress and national colours, representing countries from every continent. It was wonderful to see our young people celebrating their heritage, languages, faiths, traditions and identities with such pride and confidence.



In the evening, our community came together once again for our International Evening. Parents, governors, staff, alumni and friends of the school enjoyed an incredible showcase of music, dance and cultural performances. It was a joyful opportunity to celebrate our diversity, strengthen friendships and welcome back former students who remain part of the Bosco family.

A huge thank you goes to Ms Motiwala for organising the entire day, and to Mr Kandabatu and Mr Berner for coordinating the outstanding evening performances. Their hard work made the event such a tremendous success.





It was a wonderful reminder that our diversity is one of our greatest strengths. Once Bosco, always Bosco - and we already looking forward to celebrating together again next year.



As we come to the end of another busy school year, we would like to wish all our students and families a happy, safe and restful summer holiday.

The summer break is an important opportunity for children and young people to recharge, spend time with family and friends, and enjoy activities that support their physical and emotional wellbeing. Encourage your child to keep busy, stay curious, try something new, read interesting books or articles, and spend time outdoors where possible. A healthy balance of rest, activity and routine can make a real difference to their wellbeing.

Summer Wellbeing Tips for Students

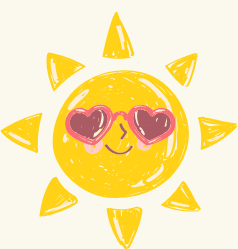


- Get enough sleep and try to keep a reasonably consistent bedtime.
- Eat regularly and drink plenty of water.
- Spend time with people who make you feel safe and supported.
- Get outside, exercise, walk, play sport or take part in other activities you enjoy.
- Take breaks from phones, social media and screens.
- Read, create, cook, draw, listen to music or learn something new.
- Talk to a trusted adult if you are worried, upset or feeling overwhelmed.
- Remember that it is normal to have good days and more difficult days.

Students should enjoy a genuine break from school, but we also encourage them to look through their books and Knowledge Organisers from time to time. A small amount of review over the summer will help them retain important knowledge and feel more confident when they return.



Wellbeing Tips for Parents and Carers



The summer holidays can also be demanding for families, particularly when routines change. Try to maintain some structure within the day, while still allowing time for rest and flexibility.

- Agree a simple daily routine, including meals, sleep and time away from screens.
- Encourage your child to talk about how they are feeling without immediately trying to solve every problem.
- Notice any significant changes in sleep, eating, mood or behaviour.



Plan low-cost activities together, such as walks, visits to local parks, libraries or museums.



Help children stay connected with positive friends and family members.



Make time for your own rest and wellbeing too.



Seek support if you are concerned about your child's mental health or safety.



Parents and carers can also report concerns about a student's wellbeing, mental health or bullying through the SHARP system on the school website.



<https://www.sjbc.wandsworth.sch.uk/page/?title=Safeguarding&pid=673>

Getting Ready for September

About a week before the new term begins, please help your child return gradually to the rhythm of school. This should include going to bed and waking up at the correct times, reducing very late nights, reviewing their Knowledge Organisers and preparing their uniform, equipment and school bag.

Please purchase all uniform items early and do not leave this until the final few days of the holiday. Any changes to hair or piercings should also be planned carefully.

Normal school expectations will apply from 1 September, including:

- No unnaturally coloured hair.
- No extreme hairstyles.
- Only one pair of small, plain studs, with one stud in each ear.
- No additional facial or body piercings.
- Full and correct school uniform.
- Skirts must be at least knee length

Students should return ready to learn, ready to make progress and ready to make the most of every opportunity in the year ahead.

We hope all our families enjoy a peaceful and enjoyable summer, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in September.

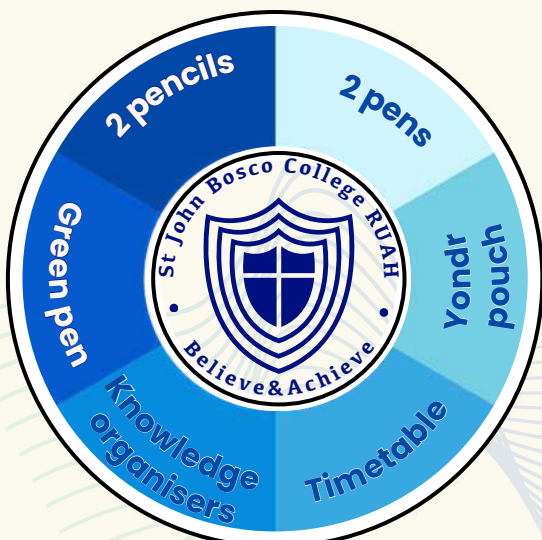
As we look ahead to September, each student will be issued with a new set of Knowledge Organisers for all subjects. These are essential learning tools and will play a key role in helping your child succeed.

From Thursday 3rd September, we will be expecting all students to:

- Keep their equipment packs including white boards and Yondr pouches Knowledge Organisers safe
- Bring them to school every day in their equipment pouch

Please note that a replacement pack will cost £15, so it's important students take care of them — we want to encourage responsibility and independence in all our learners.

Your continued support makes a real difference. We've had a great start and we're looking forward to an even stronger September.



Equipment

You will be provided with a pencil case, Yondr pouch and termly knowledge organisers at the beginning of the academic year. It is your responsibility to look after these items.

Replacements

If you require a replacement, or top up, these will be available from the school office and can be purchased by ParentMail or by cash.

BOSCO Camp 2026

TAKE
COURAGE

9-13
years
(year 5 - year 9)



8th August to
16th August

9:30 am to
3.30 pm

Cost: £50

Deadline:
2nd August 2026

SJBC,
Parkham Street,
Battersea
SW11 3DQ

Teamwork,
Educative games,
Creative workshops
(drama, music, art,
sport, baking,
gardening, science,...)
Reflective moments.



Scan for
registration

batterseayouthministry@salesians.org.uk
Contact: 07349868215

SUMMER FUN. MAKE MEMORIES.
Try something new!

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

for Children and Young People

Wandsworth's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme offers a fantastic range of **free** holiday clubs for eligible children and young people.

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:



SPORTS



ARTS &
CRAFTS



MUSIC



DRAMA



OUTDOOR
ADVENTURES

...AND
MUCH
MORE!



For children in **Reception to Year 11**
who meet the eligibility criteria.



A healthy meal
provided each day.

FUN
FRIENDS
FOOD
ALL FOR
FREE!*



FIND OUT MORE AND BOOK TODAY!

Check eligibility and book activities online:



<https://fis.wandsworth.gov.uk/activities-and-things-to-do/D9-wandsworth-haf/>



Scan me!



Wandsworth
Holiday Activities
and Food (HAF) Programme



Helping every child
have a **healthy**, **happy**
and **active** holiday.

*For eligible children and
young people. Funded by the
Department for Education.

Explore LONDON FOR FREE!

Amazing days out. No entry fee.

From world-famous museums and galleries to beautiful parks, iconic landmarks and hidden gems, London is full of incredible experiences that won't cost a penny!

Perfect for families, friends and visitors of all ages.



FUN
INSPIRING
UNFORGETTABLE
— AND —
FREE!

DISCOVER FREE:



MUSEUMS
& GALLERIES



ROYAL PARKS
& GARDENS



ICONIC
LANDMARKS



CULTURE
& HERITAGE



UNIQUE
EXPERIENCES



Plan your next adventure and see
London differently!

Find loads of ideas for free days out in London at

<https://www.visitbritain.com/en/things-to-do>



Find your
GREAT
Britain

Wandsworth Education Wellbeing Service Self-Care Summer Newsletter

Wandsworth Education Wellbeing Service work in schools to support children, young people and their families with their emotional wellbeing, offering 1-2-1 support, groups and workshops. This is our summer newsletter which provides information on activities & wellbeing events you can try over the summer.

Relationships & Connection:

Spending time with friends, family, pets and our community helps boost our wellbeing.

Emotional Wellbeing Support

Take a look at page 2 for self-care plans and mental health support helplines and websites.

Keeping active

Keeping active improves our mood. Find something that works for you whether it's walking, dancing, online classes or sports.

Creativity:

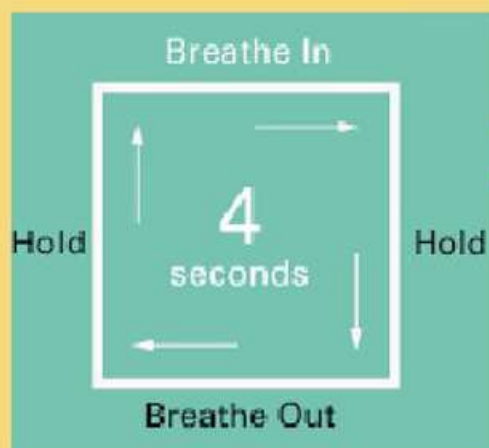
Finding ways to be creative helps you express yourself and be more present. Try drawing, writing or making music!

Relaxation

See below some relaxation strategies to try this summer. Click [here](#) for other relaxation ideas.

Fun and Entertainment

Look at page 3-4 for lots of free/low cost and FUN activities in Wandsworth!



**Take a deep breath.
Look around you and name:**

5 Things you can see



Things you can feel



4

3 Things you can hear



Things you can smell



1 Thing you can taste



Creating a self-care plan

Self-care is the little things we do to look after our wellbeing and to keep ourselves feeling good!

There are many aspects to self-care:

Physical



Emotional



Social



Practical



Anna Freud have created a self-care plan booklet for young people to fill out. Click [here](#) to access it.

Mental Health Helplines for young people:

Over the summer, you can contact the below services:

If you're a child, young person, or a parent/carer worried about a young person's mental health, call the **South London Partnership CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) Crisis Line** on 0203 228 5980. The line is open every day from 9am to 11pm.

Off The Record Free, confidential counselling for young people aged 11-25 who live, work or study in Wandsworth. Call free on 0800 980 7475, open Mon-Fri from 3-6pm.

Kooth Live chat support.

Childline Call 0800 1111 (available 24/7).

Hopeline UK (Papyrus) Call 0800 068 41 41, text 07860 039967 or email pat@papyrus-uk.org (available 24/7).

Samaritans Call 116 123 or online chat via the website.

Shout Text SHOUT to 85258 (available 24/7).

For emergencies, please call 999 or visit your local A&E

Wandsworth Holiday Activities

 **Swimming & Tooting Bec Lido** - Check local leisure centre websites for swimming sessions at Balham, Putney, Latchmere and Tooting Leisure Centres. Young people can also enjoy outdoor swimming at Tooting Bec Lido. Free and discounted swimming options are available for eligible residents.

 **Young & Creative Wandsworth** - Opportunities for young people aged 13-25 to take part in arts, performance, journalism, broadcasting, creative projects and cultural events across the borough.

 **Youth Clubs & Youth Activities** - Wandsworth Youth Services offer youth clubs, holiday activities, Duke of Edinburgh opportunities, sports, skills development programmes and support for young people aged 11-19 (up to 25 with disabilities).

Free sports facilities (check if booking is required)

Parkrun

- Tooting Common Parkrun - 5km every Saturday morning.
- Wandsworth Common Parkrun - Weekly 5km community run+walk.

Skate Parks

- Battersea Park Skate Park
- King George's Park Skate Facilities
- Local skate and wheeled sports areas across the borough.

Outdoor Gyms

- Free outdoor gym equipment in parks across Wandsworth: Battersea Park, King George's Park, Tooting Common and Wandsworth Common.

Tennis Courts

- A variety of free and paid tennis courts are available across Wandsworth parks and open spaces.

Explore Wandsworth's Green Spaces

- Battersea Park
- Wandsworth Common
- Tooting Common
- King George's Park
- Wimbledon Park

Perfect for walking, cycling, outdoor games, picnics and meeting friends over the summer holidays.



Respectful



Open



Collaborative



Compassionate



Consistent