

IN TOUCH



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

This has been a particularly busy week for staff and students at St John Bosco College as we welcomed Ofsted inspectors into school. I would like to thank our students and staff for the calm, positive and purposeful way in which they approached the inspection, and I am also very grateful to those parents and carers who took the time to complete the Ofsted Parent View survey and share their views. We expect to receive the published inspection report in around a month's time and, once it is available, we will share it with families.

This week's edition of In Touch also contains a number of useful reminders and updates, including important information about Free School Meals and our forthcoming Open Evening which takes place on Thursday 1 October from 5.00–7.00pm. I would be very grateful if parents and carers could help us to spread the word among friends, neighbours and families who may be considering secondary school choices for next year.

In this edition we include a feature on keeping children safe online. The digital world is changing rapidly, and schools and families have an increasingly important shared role in helping young people navigate social media, gaming, messaging, AI-generated content and other online spaces safely and responsibly. We hope the article will offer some practical advice for parents and carers and help prompt useful conversations at home.

Finally, we look forward this week to our Prize Evening this Thursday, 24 September, when we will have the opportunity to celebrate the achievements of students across the school with our special guest Anne Reyersbach, founder and chair of the Alf Dubs Annual Lecture Trust.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership.



"Let us not become weary in doing good."

Galatians 6:9

As we begin the week ahead, let us remember that progress comes through patience, effort and perseverance. When something feels difficult, may we keep trying and encourage those around us to do the same.

Through Respect, Understanding, Affection and Humour, may we support one another, celebrate every effort and help each person face the week with confidence and hope.

2026		SEPTEMBER						
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					

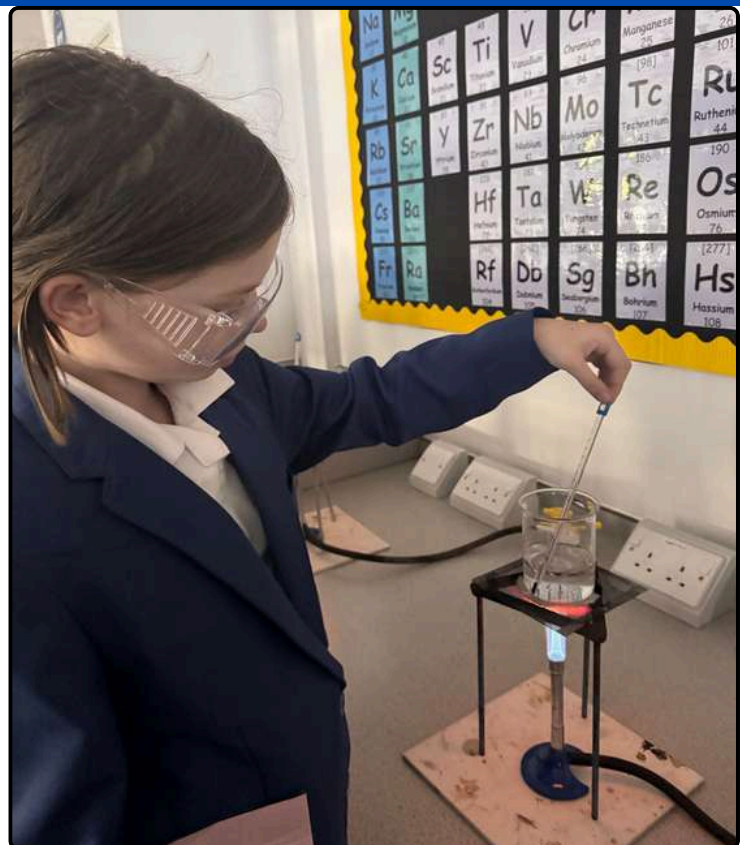
KEY DATES

- **Thursday 24 September** - Prize Evening (18:00-19.00), school closes early 13:50
- **Thursday 1 October** - Open Evening (17:00-19:00) - early finish at 13:50



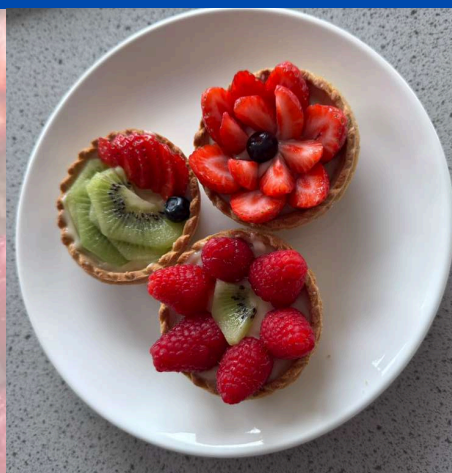
YEAR 7 SCIENCE

Year 7 class used Bunsen burners for the first time following a clear demonstration on how to use both the burning and safety flames. Students were attentive during the demonstration and then confidently applied the correct procedures, including safely lighting and adjusting the flame. They followed safety instructions well, demonstrated increasing independence when handling the equipment, and showed enthusiasm for developing their practical science skills.



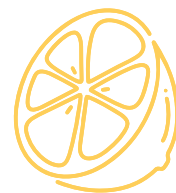
DISH OF THE WEEK – FRUIT TARTS

Well done to Immaculee and Emily for their stunning fruit tarts which they made this week in their food lessons! Ms Henry was absolutely impressed with their colourful sweetness!



FINAL REMINDER: FREE SCHOOL MEALS

The way families apply for Free School Meals has changed. If your child is eligible, you now need to apply to make sure they can continue receiving free meals in school.



If you have not applied, the school will **not be able to continue providing Free School Meals from Monday 21 September.**

Please do not miss out – apply today using link below



We have written to families about this previously, and this is a **final reminder.**

Free School Meal eligibility will not automatically renew each year, so even if your child has received Free School Meals before, you still need to make sure the application has been completed.

Please apply as soon as possible using the link below.

It is also important to apply because the school receives **additional funding linked to eligible pupils.** This funding helps us provide wider support, opportunities and resources for your child and other pupils across the school.

Please do not miss out – apply today using this link:

<https://fsm.lgfl.net/>

There is an FAQ section within the tracker to assist with any queries:

<https://lgfl.net/services/free-school-meals/faq>

Is my child eligible for free school meals?

From September 2026, free school meals in England have expanded to all children in households receiving Universal Credit, regardless of how much you earn.

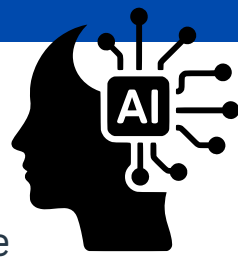
It's one of the biggest changes to free school meals in years, with over half a million more children expected to qualify.

Run a free eligibility check now to find out straight away whether your child qualifies for free school meals.



<https://fsm.lgfl.net/app>

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE WHEN USING AI



Artificial Intelligence (AI) is increasingly part of young people's everyday lives. AI tools can be incredibly useful for learning, creativity and exploring new ideas but, like all online technology, they need to be used safely and responsibly. At SJBC, we encourage parents and carers to take an active interest in how their children are using AI.

Five simple things parents can do:

1 Know what your child is using

Ask your child which AI apps and chatbots they use and, importantly, what they use them for. Regular, open conversations are often more effective than simply checking a child's phone.

2 Check age limits and safety settings

Make sure children use their correct age when creating accounts. Check privacy settings, parental controls and content restrictions. There is currently no UK Government list of AI apps that are officially considered "safe" for children, so age restrictions should always be taken seriously.

3 Remind them that AI can be wrong

AI can sound very convincing while giving inaccurate or misleading information. Encourage children to check important information against trusted sources and remember that AI-generated photographs, videos and voices may not be genuine.



4 Keep personal information private

Children should not give AI tools personal details such as their address, passwords, school information, private photographs or information about other people. They should also be cautious about using AI chatbots for very personal or emotional conversations.



5 Keep trusted adults at the centre

AI can support learning, but it cannot replace a parent, teacher or another trusted adult. If an AI conversation makes your child feel frightened, uncomfortable or pressured, or produces sexual, violent or otherwise harmful material, encourage them to stop, tell an adult and report the content through the platform.



Talk about AI, don't just ban it

Perhaps the most important thing we can do is keep talking. Ask your child to show you what AI can do, try it together and discuss both its benefits and its risks. This fits closely with our Salesian approach at St John Bosco College: young people are safest when they know that trusted adults are interested in their lives, available to listen and ready to help when something doesn't feel right.

Find out more

For straightforward, practical advice about AI, social media, parental controls, online risks and talking to children about their online lives, parents and carers can visit the UK Safer Internet Centre:

 **UK Safer Internet Centre – Advice for Parents and Carers**





St John
Bosco
College



DON'T JUST IMAGINE IT. EXPERIENCE IT.



**GET A TASTE OF TEACHING WITH
XAVIER TEACH SOUTHEAST'S LONDON HUB**

**Tuesday 29th September
at 9.30* - 11.30am**

*Timing subject to change depending on lesson to be
observed

Register at
[https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/eB
mmVkPWQc](https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/eBmmVkPWQc)

or scan here to register

Get into Teaching London
Secondary School Taster and
Information Event - 29th





St John
Bosco
College

OPEN EVENTS

OPEN EVENING

THURS 1ST OCT | 5PM - 7PM

OPEN MORNINGS

THURS 8TH & THURS 15TH OCT | 9AM - 11AM



REGISTER INTEREST

Headteacher's Welcome

I am delighted to welcome you to St John Bosco College and to invite you to discover a school community built upon aspiration, opportunity, and care. Situated in Battersea, our school proudly serves a diverse community where students are encouraged to grow in confidence, character, and faith within a supportive Catholic environment.

As Headteacher, I am proud to lead a school committed to helping every young person achieve their full potential. We believe education should provide students with academic success, alongside the confidence, resilience, and compassion needed to make a positive contribution to society.

At the heart of St John Bosco College is our Catholic Salesian ethos, inspired by the values and teachings of St John Bosco. We believe every child deserves to feel known, valued, and supported throughout their educational journey. Our inclusive community encourages students to develop academically, personally, and spiritually in an atmosphere founded on respect and encouragement.

We are ambitious for all of our students and committed to maintaining high standards across school life. Through dedicated teaching, strong pastoral care, and clear expectations, students become independent learners who approach challenges with confidence both inside and outside the classroom.

Alongside academic study, we provide opportunities that enrich students' wider experiences. Through sport, leadership, enrichment programmes, cultural activities, and service to others, students strengthen their character and develop skills that support them throughout their lives.

I encourage you to visit us, meet our staff and students, and experience the warmth, ambition, and community spirit that define our school.

Warm regards,

Mr Paul Dunne
Headteacher



Scan QR Code
to Register
Your Interest

OPEN EVENING
THURS 1ST OCT | 5PM - 7PM
OPEN MORNINGS
THURS 8TH & THURS 15TH OCT |
9AM - 11AM



**Calling all schools
across Wandsworth!**

Litter Transformed: The Re-Create Challenge



As part of our drive to promote recycling, we are encouraging and challenging pupils to create their very own masterpieces using clean, recycled materials and everyday litter!

What's up for grabs?

- £200 cash prize for the winning school
- First, second, and third-place prizes for individual student creators

Grab your plastics, cardboard and tins and turn litter into something unique!

**REGISTER
NOW!**



Deadline: Thursday 8th October 2026



Email: Grace.brady@krinkelsuk.co.uk



Krinkels UK

In Partnership with



**Wandsworth
Council**

Wandsworth Family Hubs

Online Workshops for Parents & Carers

Sep - Dec 2026

Grab yourself a cuppa and enjoy some helpful tips and support on a range of topics aimed at **under 5s** from Wandsworth colleagues and partners, **all online and interactive**.

Date & Time	Workshop	Delivered by:
Thursday 24 Sep 10 to 11.15am	Health Visiting Birth to School Supporting Your Child's Health, Development and School Readiness	Health Visiting Team
Monday 28 Sep 1 to 2.15pm	Enjoying Time with Your Child Part 1: Understanding Their Behaviour	Daniel Sellwood & Phoebe Oliver Educational Psychologists
Wednesday 7 Oct 1 to 2.15pm	Enjoying Time with Your Child Part 2: Strategies to Support Positive Behaviour	Amy Couprie & Phoebe Oliver Educational Psychologists
Monday 12 Oct 1 to 2.15pm	Supporting Your Child with Social Communication Differences	Joanna Hardman Highly Specialist Speech and Language Therapist
Wednesday 21 Oct 10 to 11.15am	Supporting Your Child's Health, Development and School Readiness for families with SEND children	SEND Health Visitor
Monday 9 Nov 1 to 2.15pm	Introduction to Solids	Health Visiting Team
Monday 23 Nov 1 to 2.15pm	Sleep Hygiene for children with SEND	SEND Allkind
Monday 7 Dec 1 to 2.15pm	Learning Through Play	Early Years Team

To book onto a workshop you can scan the QR code or click on the link below
<https://forms.office.com/e/qXdqNSEn20>

For more information contact
Hannah.skaife@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk

