ST JOHN BOSCO COLLEGE
ISSUE 110/9 November 2026

IN TOUCH



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

This week's edition of In Touch reflects another busy and purposeful week at St John Bosco College. Our Year 11–13 students are continuing with their PPE examinations, and I would like to thank them for the focus they are showing, as well as parents and carers for the support you are providing at home during this important period.

There is also much to celebrate beyond the classroom. Our Year 7 students recently completed their first Big Expedition to Box Hill, taking on a challenging walk and working together throughout the day. We are also proud of our Chaplaincy Team, who marked the end of the Month of the Holy Rosary with a thoughtful procession and prayers for peace and for those affected by conflict around the world.

I would particularly encourage parents and carers to read the important feature in this edition on online safety, deepfakes and sextortion. New technologies bring many opportunities, but they also create new risks for young people. Please take some time to discuss these issues at home and remind your child that they should always seek help from a trusted adult if they feel threatened, pressured or worried by anything they experience online.

Looking ahead, we are also preparing for The Big Sleepout on 20 November and our KS4 Music Showcase on 24 November, with plenty more taking place as we move towards Advent and the end of term.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord."

Colossians 3:23

As our students continue with their PPE examinations, let us remember that success is not measured by results alone, but also by the effort, perseverance and determination we show along the way. Let us encourage and support one another, especially during moments of uncertainty, remembering that every challenge is an opportunity to learn and grow. May the weeks ahead be filled with focus, resilience and hope, as we celebrate progress, recognise every effort and continue striving to achieve our very best.



KEY DATES

- **Friday 20 November** - The Big Sleepout! (Until Saturday 21 November)
- **Tuesday 24 November** - KS4 Music Showcase (5pm-6pm)
- **6 - 13 November** - Year 11-13 PPEs
- **Thursday 26 November** - Staff INSET - school closed for students

A MOMENT OF PRAYER AND PEACE – OUR CHAPLAINCY TEAM'S ROSARY PROCESSION

On 22 October, our School Chaplaincy Team led a beautiful Rosary procession to mark the end of October, traditionally celebrated in the Catholic Church as the Month of the Holy Rosary.



Carrying a statue of Our Lady and the crucifix, students processed together while praying a decade of the Rosary. Their prayers were offered for all students, staff and families within the St John Bosco College community, and particularly for peace in our world, remembering those affected by war, violence and division.

The procession provided a meaningful opportunity for our young people to reflect on the example of Mary – her faith, trust, courage and compassion – and on the importance of bringing these values into everyday life.



At St John Bosco College, our Catholic and Salesian ethos is central to everything we do. Don Bosco's vision of helping young people become "good Christians and honest citizens" encourages us to see faith not simply as something we practise through prayer, but as something we live through kindness, service, respect and care for others.

Our Chaplaincy Team demonstrated this beautifully. Through their willingness to lead others in prayer, they reminded us of the importance of community, compassion and solidarity with those experiencing suffering across the world.

We are incredibly proud of our Chaplaincy Team for their commitment to the spiritual life of our school and for creating opportunities for others to reflect, pray and grow in faith.

Thank you to everyone involved in organising and leading this special occasion. It was a fitting and meaningful conclusion to the Month of the Holy Rosary, reminding us that even small acts of faith, kindness and prayer can help build a more peaceful world.

YEAR 7 BIG EXPEDITION

Last Friday, the whole of Year 7 headed to Box Hill in Surrey for our first ever Big Expedition!



Students took on a challenging walk through the countryside, including a steep climb to the top of Box Hill.





The day was all about building resilience, teamwork and confidence, with plenty of RUAH spiriton display as students encouraged one another and rose to the challenge.

The expedition finished with a crossing of the famous stepping stones over the River Mole. A fantastic achievement - well done, Year 7!

DISH OF THE WEEK – CHICKEN MADRAS

A big congratulations to Ben C for earning Dish of the Week with his fantastic Chicken Madras! Bursting with flavour and beautifully prepared, Ben's dish was a wonderful showcase of his growing culinary skills and creativity in the kitchen. A brilliant achievement and well-deserved recognition! Well done, Ben – we look forward to seeing what you create next!





ONLINE SAFETY: DEEPFAKES, SEXTORTION AND KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE

An important message for all parents and carers

The online world offers young people wonderful opportunities to learn, connect and explore. However, new technologies, particularly Artificial Intelligence (AI), are creating risks that parents and carers need to be aware of.

This month in form time, we are reminding students about two increasingly concerning online dangers: **deepfakes and sextortion.** We would encourage all parents and carers to take a few minutes to understand these issues and have a conversation with their children about staying safe online.

What are deepfakes?



AI technology can now be used to create extremely realistic fake photographs, videos and even voices. Worryingly, ordinary photographs taken from social media can be manipulated to make someone appear naked or involved in situations that never happened.

These images can be used to embarrass, bully, humiliate or blackmail young people. Even though the images may be completely fake, the emotional harm they cause is very real.

Creating or sharing sexualised images of children, including AI-generated images, can also constitute a serious criminal offence.

What is sextortion?

Sextortion is a form of online blackmail. It often begins when someone approaches a young person through social media, gaming platforms or messaging apps, sometimes pretending to be another teenager.

The person may build trust before persuading the young person to share an intimate photograph or video. They then threaten to distribute the image to friends, family or school unless money is paid or further images are provided.

Increasingly, criminals are also using AI-generated fake images to make these threats, meaning that a young person may be targeted even if they have never shared an intimate photograph.

What can parents do?

We strongly encourage parents to not allow children under the age of 13 to have access to social media. Once you allow them to be on social media:

- **Talk openly and regularly with your child** about their online experiences, including who they communicate with and what they share.
- **Discuss AI and deepfakes.** Make sure your child understands that not everything they see online is real, and that creating or sharing humiliating images of others is never acceptable.
- **Review privacy settings** on social media and gaming accounts, particularly who can contact your child and access their photographs.
- **Encourage your child to seek help immediately** if anyone threatens, blackmails or pressures them online.
- **Respond calmly if something goes wrong.** Children may be frightened of getting into trouble and may delay telling an adult. Reassure them that you will help them and that they can speak to you without fear of being judged.

If your child is being threatened or blackmailed

- Do not pay money or respond to demands for additional images.
- Stop communication, preserve evidence such as threatening messages and account details, and seek help to report and block the offender.
- Do not forward, download or make copies of intimate images of children.
- Please contact the school safeguarding team if you are concerned **(dsl@sjbc.wandsworth.sch.uk).**
- You can also report online sexual exploitation to the police or CEOP.



Useful resources for parents and carers

We recommend the following websites for practical advice and support:

CEOP Safety Centre	Report concerns about online grooming, sexual exploitation or abuse.
National Crime Agency – Sextortion Advice	Clear advice on recognising online blackmail and what to do if your child is targeted.
Childline – Report Remove	A confidential service helping under-18s report intimate images that have been shared or may be shared online.
Internet Matters	Practical guidance for parents on online safety, social media, AI and privacy settings.

Working together to keep our children safe

At St John Bosco College, we teach students that our RUAH values – Respect, Understanding, Affection and Humour– apply just as much online as they do in school.

We want young people to understand that their digital actions have real consequences, that everyone deserves dignity and respect, and that they should never feel afraid to ask for help.

Please take some time this week to talk to your child about these issues. A calm, open conversation could make an enormous difference.

If you have any concerns about your child's online safety, please contact our safeguarding team through dsl@sjbc.wandsworth.sch.uk.

Together, we can help our young people navigate the digital world safely, responsibly and confidently.

Helping children navigate the online world safely is more important than ever. Visit our website for more online safety resources and support.

YEAR 11 - 13 PPE/MOCK EXAMS

Year 11

Friday 6th Nov	Monday 9th Nov	Tuesday 10th Nov	Wed 11th Nov	Thursday 12th Nov	Friday 13th Nov
	Arrive for 8:35am Whole School Line Up				
Normal Lessons P1 **10:00 Exam** Science Biology	**Exam 9:00 - 10:30** RE	**Exam 9:00 - 10:30** Maths (Non-Calc)	**Exam 9:00 - 10:30** Science Chemistry	**Exam 9:00 - 10:30** Maths (Calculator)	**Exam 9:00 - 10:30** Science Physics
	Break - Whole School Line Up 10:47am				
	Tutor Time 10:55 - 11:20am				
	Period 3 Lessons 11:20 - 12:10 Spanish/French/Portuguese Speaking (arranged by MTS)				
Lunch	Lunch 12:10 - 12:40 (12:40 Line Up - Playground)				
Normal Lessons P5 Normal Lessons P6	**Exam 13:00** **Option C** Computing, Art (11am start), PE, History, Performing Arts, Sociology, DT	**Exam 13:00** English Literature (Paper 2)	**Exam 13:00** **Option A** Spanish, Geography, French, History, Creative iMedia, Hospitality and Catering	**Exam 13:00** **Option B** Portuguese, Business Studies, Music, DT, Psychology, Art (11am start), Geography	**Exam 13:00** English Language (Paper 1)

YEAR 12

Monday 9th Nov	Tuesday 10th Nov	Wed 11th Nov	Thursday 12th Nov	Friday 13th Nov
Arrive for 8:35am Whole School Line Up				
RESITS	**Exam 9:00** **Option C** Chemistry, DT, Sociology, Spanish, T- Level Media, Creative Imedia (Level2)	**Exam 9:00** **Option E** BTEC Applied Science (Biology & Chemistry), Portuguese	**Exam 9:00** **Option A** Politics	**Exam 9:00** **Option D** History, T-Level Digital **Option C** Spanish
Lunch 12:10 - 12:40 (12:40 Line Up - MUGA)				
Exam 13:00 **Option A** Biology, Politics, English Literature, Health and Social Care, Further Maths, Core Maths	**Exam 13:00** **Option B** Business (Level 2 & 3), Economics, Psychology, Photography (11am start)	**Exam 13:00** **Option D** Physics, PE, Geography, History, T- Level Digital, Art (11 am start)	**Exam 13:00** **Option E** Maths, Philosophy and Ethics (3 hours), BTEC Applied Science (Physics), Portuguese	**Exam 13:00** **Option B** Business (Level 2), Economics

YEAR 13

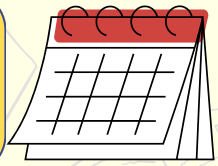
Monday 9th Nov	Tuesday 10th Nov	Wed 11th Nov	Thursday 12th Nov	Friday 13th Nov
Arrive for 8:35am Whole School Line Up				
Exam 9:00 **Option D** Geography, History, Physics	**Exam 9:00** **Option C** Sociology, DT	**Exam 9:00** **Option A** Government & Politics, Spanish, English Literature, Biology, H&Soc. Care	**Exam 13:00** **Option C** Sociology, DT	**Exam 9:00** **Option D** Physics, Geography, History, PE, T - Level Digital
12:40 Line Up - MUGA				
Exam 13:00 **Option A** Government & Politics, Spanish, English Literature, Biology, H&Soc. Care	**Exam 13:00** **Option E** Art (11am start),Maths, Philosophy and Ethics, BTEC Applied Science (Physics), Portuguese	**Exam 13:00** **Option B** Business, Economics, Psychology, T - Level Digital, Photography (11am start)	**Exam 13:00** **Option E** Maths, Portuguese	**Exam 13:00** **Option B** Business, Economics, Psychology

NOVEMBER EXAMS – HOW PARENTS CAN HELP

Our first formal examinations of the academic are an important opportunity for students to demonstrate what they have learnt so far, identify areas for improvement and develop good study habits.

Key examination dates:

- Years 11–13: PPEs (Pre-Public Examinations) begin week commencing 9 November 2026.



- Years 7–10: Examinations begin week commencing 30 November 2026.

We want every student to approach these examinations with confidence, a positive attitude and a healthy balance between preparation and wellbeing. Parents and carers play a vital role in helping young people achieve this.

Five ways you can

SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

1. Help them start revising now – little and often

Encourage your child to begin preparing well before the examinations. Short, regular revision sessions are far more effective than last-minute cramming. Help them create a realistic revision timetable, breaking subjects into manageable topics and including regular breaks.





2. Encourage active revision – not just reading notes

Simply reading through exercise books is rarely enough. Encourage your child to use their Knowledge Organizers, test themselves, use flashcards, complete practice questions, explain topics aloud or practise recalling information without looking at their notes. The more they actively retrieve information, the better they are likely to remember it.

3. Keep stress in perspective

Some nerves before examinations are completely normal and can even help students focus. However, excessive pressure can be counterproductive. Reassure your child that examinations are an opportunity to show what they know and discover what they need to work on next. Praise their effort, organisation and perseverance, not just their results. Listen if they are worried and help them tackle concerns one step at a time.





4. Protect sleep, exercise and downtime

Good preparation is not about studying every waking hour! Teenagers need plenty of sleep, regular meals, physical activity and time to relax. Encourage a consistent bedtime, limit late-night screen use and make sure revision is balanced with activities they enjoy.

5. Take an interest and ask questions

You do not need to be an expert in every subject to help your child revise. Simply asking, "What have you revised today?", "Can you teach me something you've learnt?" or "What topic do you need more help with?" can make a real difference. Encourage your child to speak to their teachers if they are unsure about anything.



Our message to students: Prepare well, work hard and believe in yourself!

At St John Bosco College, we want our students to develop not only strong academic knowledge but also the resilience, independence and confidence that will serve them throughout their lives.

Examinations matter, but they do not define a young person's worth or potential. What matters most is that every student prepares seriously, gives their best effort and learns from the experience.

Thank you for working in partnership with us to help your child succeed.

Education Wellbeing Service

wellbeinginschoolsevents@swlstg.nhs.uk

NHS
South West London and St George's Mental Health NHS Trust

Parent/Carer Webinars

Secondary Schedule 26/27

To view further event details and descriptions, and to book on to any of the webinars, please scan the QR Code or follow the link to our Eventbrite collection. Click here

- Understanding and supporting teen sleep
- Supporting your teen to cope with exams (Years 11-13)
- Screen time, social media and gaming - what parents need to know
- Conflict, communication and compromise - the teen years
- Healthy habits in teenagers with Autism
- Managing exam and assignment stress (Years 7-10)

We also provide free 1:1 early help support programmes for young people to support with anxiety or low mood. Speak to your school to find out more.

NHS
South West London and St George's Mental Health NHS Trust

Education Wellbeing Service Webinar

Understanding and Supporting Teen Sleep

Education Wellbeing Service



This webinar will look at some of the research and science around sleep hygiene, teenage sleep and thinking together about the challenges with some options for supporting from the perspective of parents or carers.

DATE / TIME

Tuesday 17th November
12.30-1.30pm

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

DATE / TIME

Tuesday 17th November

Scan the QR code or click here

Wandsworth Family Hubs

Online Workshops for Parents & Carers

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**.

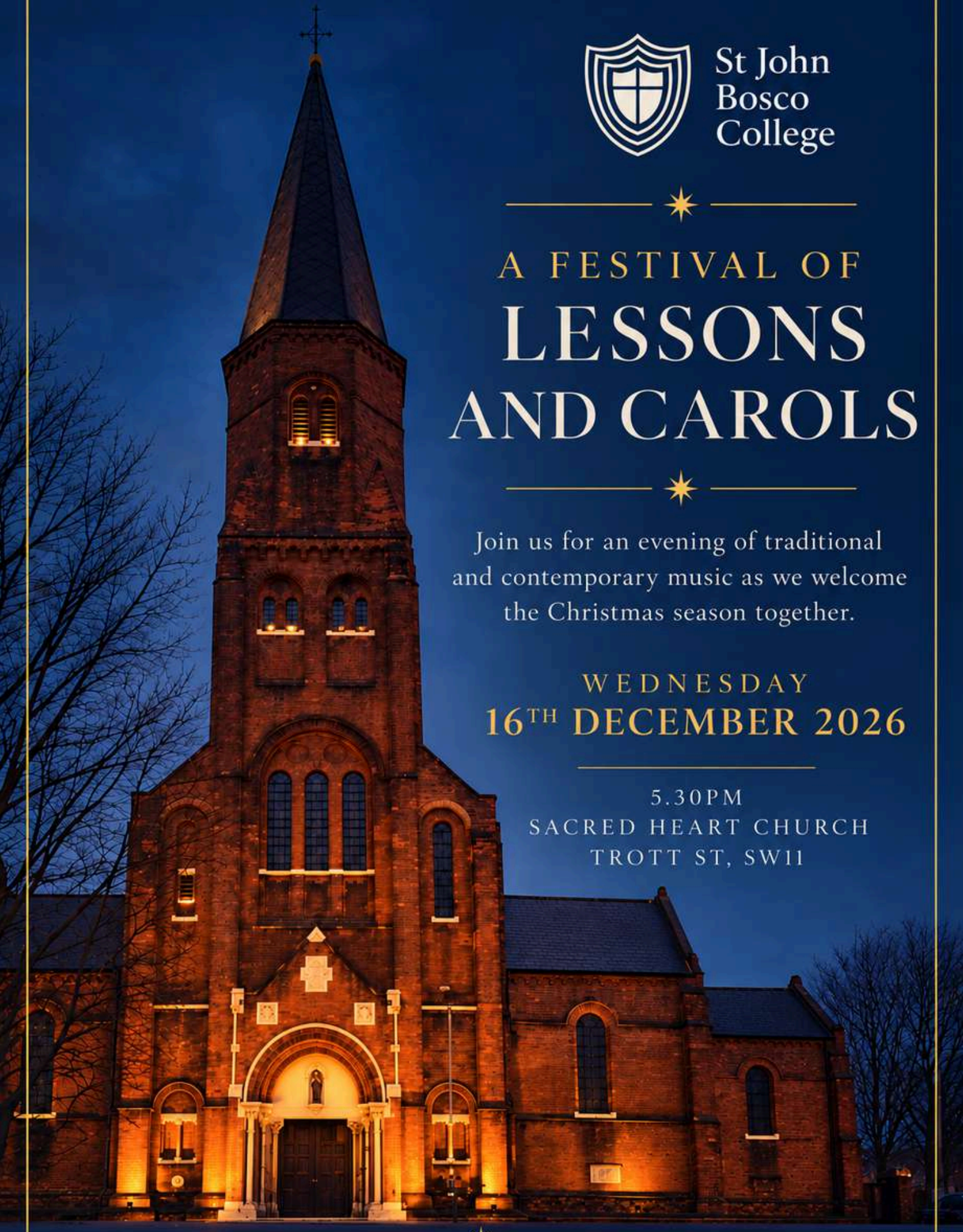
Date & Time	Workshop	Delivered by:
Monday 9 Nov 1 to 2.15pm	Introduction to Solids	Health Visiting Team
Monday 23 Nov 1 to 2.15pm	Sleep Hygiene for children with SEND	SEND Allkind
Monday 7 Dec 1 to 2.15pm	Learning Through Play	Early Years Team

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

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

BEST START IN LIFE

Wandsworth Council



St John Bosco College

A FESTIVAL OF

LESSONS AND CAROLS

Join us for an evening of traditional and contemporary music as we welcome the Christmas season together.

WEDNESDAY

16TH DECEMBER 2026

5.30PM

SACRED HEART CHURCH

TROTT ST, SW11

Craft Fayre in the Parish Centre from 5.30pm

Service begins at 6.00pm

Refreshments afterwards


URBAN
steppers
DANCE COMPETITION
GLOW IN THE DARK AFTER PARTY
SOLOS | DUOS | BATTLES
6&U | 8&U | 10&U | 12&U | 14&U | 16&U | 017
6&U | 8&U | 10&U | 12&U | 14&U | 16&U | 017
COMMUNITY DANCE EVENT OPEN TO EVERYONE
REGISTER HERE
SATURDAY
12TH DECEMBER 2026
CAIUS HOUSE
BATTERSEA
SW11 3RL
REGISTRATION: 12:30PM
COMP STARTS: 1:00PM
DANCERS:£12 | SPECTATORS:£10
Caius House Youth
EMAIL: KIMBERLY@URBANSTEPPERS.CO.UK