

IN TOUCH



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

As we come to the end of the Spring term, this final edition of In Touch provides an opportunity to reflect on a busy and productive period in the school year. It has been a term marked by strong engagement in learning, a wide range of enrichment opportunities, and a continued sense of community across the school.

As we look ahead, I would like to take this opportunity to ask for your continued support for our Year 11 and Year 13 students, who are now entering a crucial period of preparation for their GCSE and A Level examinations this summer. Your encouragement at home—helping students to establish good routines, revise consistently and maintain a healthy balance—will make a significant difference to their confidence and success.

As we break for the Easter holiday, I would like to wish all our families a happy and restful Easter. We look forward to welcoming students back to school at the normal time on Monday 13 April, ready for the important term ahead.



Our Weekly Lenten Guide to Loving Kindness

TIP 6

Forgive other people for not being perfect
and trust them with a fresh start.



2026 MARCH						
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

- Monday 13th April - Summer Term starts
- Tuesday 14th April - Wellbeing Drop-in Session for Spanish Speaking Parents (4:30pm)



WHOLE SCHOOL LENT WALK

Last week, all students in Years 7 - 10 took part in our annual Lent Walk, a meaningful opportunity to step away from the busyness of daily life and enter into a period of reflection as we prepare for Easter, now just two weeks away. Rooted in the Christian tradition of pilgrimage, the walk offered students a chance to journey together, pausing at key moments of prayer and reflection and to consider the significance of Lent as a time of renewal, sacrifice and hope.



Despite the cold, the atmosphere was one of calm reflection and strong community spirit. Walking side by side, students experienced what it means to belong to a faith community - supporting one another, reflecting together, and preparing their hearts for Easter. It was a powerful reminder that Lent is not only a personal journey, but one we undertake together as a school community.

SPONSORED LENT WALK IN RICHMOND PARK

We are incredibly proud of the 51 students who took part in a sponsored Lent Walk in Richmond, organised in part by Fr Greg. This was a powerful expression of faith in action, as students embraced the challenge with courage, joy and determination despite difficult weather conditions - walking through rain, wind and even sleet.



Together, they raised an outstanding £900 in support of street children in Ibadan, Nigeria. More than just a fundraising effort, this was a lived experience of the Gospel message - students demonstrating love, compassion and solidarity with others. It was a truly inspiring example of our young people putting their faith into action and making a real difference.

CHINESE VISITORS

Before half term we welcomed a very special group of visitors - 25 headteachers all the way from China!

They arrived bright and early and were welcomed by Mr Dunne in the Rua Hall before our School Council students

took them on a tour of the school and visited lessons - giving them a true taste of life at SJBC. They also heard about the UK curriculum from Mr Lake, and about teacher training from Miss Ahmed.



The best part though, was when Luis, Aline and Raissa in year 10 gave them a short talk about their lives at school and then Odoosa in year 12 spoke to them in Mandarin Chinese, a language she has taught herself!

It was a great experience for everyone and we are very proud of our international links. Maybe some of you will get a chance to go to China to visit them in the future!



THORPE PARK

On Friday Year 11 students enjoyed a well-deserved trip to Thorpe Park, offering a moment of fun and togetherness ahead of the intense revision period leading up to their GCSE examinations. As students approach these important final weeks, it was a valuable opportunity to pause, spend time with friends, and strengthen the relationships that have supported them throughout their journey at SJBC.



The day was filled with laughter, shared experiences and a strong sense of community. Moments like this are important in helping students feel connected and supported as they prepare for the challenges ahead, reminding them that they are not alone as they move towards their exams and the next stage of their education.



GEOGRAPHY GCSE FIELDWORK

Our Year 11 Geography students have been completing local fieldwork in Battersea and Nine Elms in preparation for their GCSE exam. They have been looking at the impacts that regeneration of the Power Station and the surrounding area has had on the urban environment, and the economic opportunities that our local area offers.



As a local study, many of them were able to offer their own insights about these impacts and their lived experience in the regenerated areas.

As part of the study, students visited several different sites to conduct primary data collection, using environmental quality surveys, emotion mapping, land-use surveying and pedestrian counts to help them draw their own conclusions about the successes of the regeneration project. All of this hard work will be used in the third of their GCSE Geography exams this summer. With a debut from Benji the dog, it was a productive but enjoyable time and the students did us proud.



SCIENCE WEEK

Last week, we celebrated an inspiring and engaging Science Week at St John Bosco College, with a wide range of activities designed to spark curiosity and deepen students' understanding of the world around them.



A particular highlight was a breathtaking assembly for Year 7, which brought science to life through the exciting “whizz-bang-boom” of demonstrations. Students explored key ideas around sustainability, energy and the environment, including a creative moment where Year 8 students acted as wind turbines to generate clean energy and power a light - an excellent example of learning through participation.

The show focused on important themes in chemistry and sustainability, helping students understand how humanity can continue to use energy responsibly without damaging the environment. Through engaging demonstrations involving fire, explosions and rockets, students explored concepts such as carbon dioxide, air quality, and how scientists are developing solutions for a more sustainable future, including hydrogen fuel.

Meanwhile, a group of Year 10 students took part in the Motivez Sustainable Cities Eco Project, where they were challenged to design a company aimed at improving sustainability in London. Students worked collaboratively to develop innovative ideas addressing issues such as travel, litter, and raising awareness of environmental impact.

We are delighted that two teams were successful and will now progress to the London final - an outstanding achievement.

A huge thank you to our Science Department for organising such a rich and memorable week of learning.



BOSCO DISCOVERY TALKS - DR OLIVER STOTEN



Last week, we were delighted to welcome Oliver Stoten to St John Bosco College for our latest Bosco Talk, organised by Mr Tuckey.

Oliver brought a truly inspiring perspective, drawing on his experiences as a doctor, his time in the army, and his extraordinary achievements, including completing ultra-marathons and walking across Antarctica. His journey captured the imagination of our students, but more importantly, it offered powerful lessons about resilience, character and personal responsibility.



He also challenged students to take ownership of their learning, explaining that in the real world, individuals are often required to solve problems independently. Alongside this, he emphasised the critical importance of teamwork—highlighting that every major achievement in his life, from surgery to extreme expeditions, has depended on collaboration and trust in others.

Particularly powerful was his reflection on learning differences. As someone with dyslexia, Oliver spoke about the importance of understanding how you learn best. For him, being a hands-on learner was key to his success—an important reminder to our students that there is no single path to achievement.



Perhaps most inspiring of all was his message that school does not define your future. His honest reflection on not seeing himself as athletic at school, contrasted with his later achievements, resonated strongly with students and reinforced the idea that determination and mindset matter most.

We are incredibly grateful to Mr Tuckey for organising such a meaningful event, and to Oliver for sharing his time and experiences with our students. Opportunities like this are central to our commitment to broadening horizons and raising aspirations for all.



A central message of his talk was that career paths are rarely linear. Oliver spoke openly about how his own journey involved multiple changes in direction, reminding students of the importance of working hard now to secure strong qualifications that provide choice and flexibility in the future.



SOCIAL MEDIA ROUNDTABLE EVENT WITH MP MARSHA DE CORDOVA

We were delighted to host a special roundtable event led by our MP Marsha Da Cordova which gave young people the chance to share their views about social media and mobile phones in the light of the current debate around these topics.



Students from SJBC joined forces with their peers at Harris Academy and Thames Christian College to debate the pros and cons of social media and mobile phones for young teenagers. Their points of view, which covered a broad spectrum of opinion will be shared with key government figures by Marsha who was delighted with the engagement of her young audience.



AWARD EVENING IN CAMÕES FACEBOOK

We are proud to share that a group of our students were recently recognised at a special awards evening hosted by the Camões Institute at the Portuguese Embassy in London.

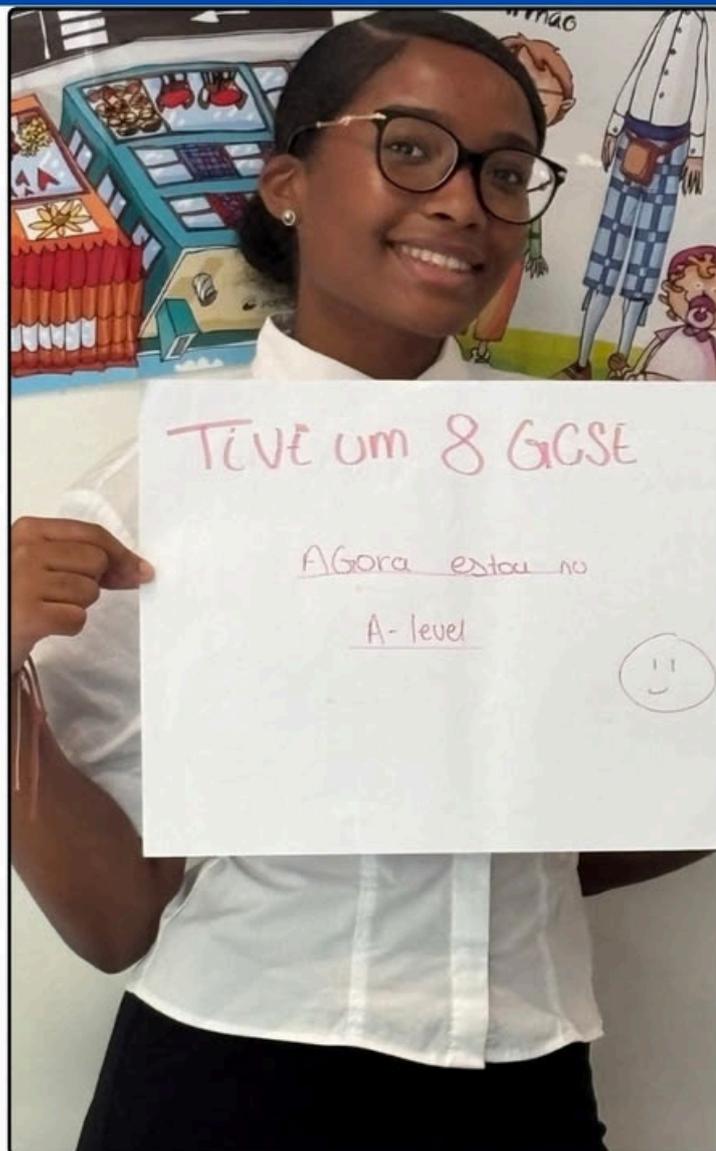
This prestigious event celebrated the academic achievements of students studying Portuguese across partner schools, including St John Bosco College. Our students were recognised for their excellent classroom performance and internal assessment outcomes, receiving diplomas for their achievement, effort and commitment to learning.

What makes this recognition particularly meaningful is the diversity of our learners. Among those celebrated were students from Portuguese-speaking families, students from multilingual households, and students who began learning Portuguese only after joining the school. Their success is a powerful reminder that excellence is driven by dedication, resilience and a genuine desire to achieve.

Portuguese at St John Bosco College continues to thrive as both a heritage and modern foreign language, offering students a rich opportunity to engage with language, culture and identity. The strength of this provision reflects the commitment of both our students and staff.

We are especially grateful for our partnership with the Camões Institute, whose support enables opportunities such as this and plays a vital role in promoting Portuguese language and culture in the UK. Hosting the event at the Portuguese Embassy made the occasion even more special for our students.

A sincere thank you to Mr Ferreira for his dedication and leadership in this area, and congratulations to all of our students who were recognised—it is a fantastic achievement.



DISH OF THE WEEK – EASTER COOKIES

This week's nomination for dish of the week from Mrs Henry is awarded to Elelta in year 8 for her fantastic Easter Cookies.



Join us for three days of creating carnival-inspired music at **Wandsworth Bloco Easter School** if you live in or attend school/ college in Wandsworth borough!
We've got Drums, Steel Pans and Brass & Woodwind sections.

WANDSWORTH BLOCO EASTER SCHOOL

Tuesday 7th – Thursday 9th April
10:30am – 4pm

Where

Yvonne Carr Centre
2 Thessaly Rd
Nine Elms
London SW8 4HT

What to do

You MUST book in advance.
For more information and sign-up
visit
www.kinetikabloco.co.uk/join-us

Who

Young people
aged 10-18
years, up to 25
for SEND

Cost
FREE

Must be a resident of/ attending a school or college in the
Borough of Wandsworth.

Lunch will be provided on all three days.



KinetikaBloco



kinetika_bloco



KinetikaBloco



If you have any questions or need help with the form,
please get in touch on 020 7960 4232 or with Shayanna at
shayanna@kinetikabloco.co.uk

**KINETIKA
BLOCO**



EASTER CAMP

FREE PLACES & LUNCH*

available for eligible families



Four Days of Fun!

Monday 30th March
Tuesday 31st March
Wednesday 1st April
Thursday 2nd April

10:00am - 2:00pm

 Henry Prince
Community Clubroom,
29 Saint John's Drive,
London, SW18 4UN

Ages 4-15 years

Suitable for children
and young people from
Reception to School
Year 11

REGISTER NOW

Book FREE* places via
www.eequ.org/experience/1164
or scan QR code



Book paid places via
our website

Activities Include:

**Multi-Sports | Fun Games | Football
Tournaments | Arts & Crafts**

Enjoy healthy meals and enriching activities
over the school holidays. *FREE for children
and young people eligible for benefit-related
Free School Meals.

Paid places also available (please bring a
nut-free packed lunch and drink).

- ★ £15 per day
- ★ £55 for all 4 days

Funded by

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