

IN TOUCH



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

As we begin the season of Advent, we are invited to pause, reflect, and look with hope toward the light that is coming. This time of year encourages us to slow down amidst the busyness of school life and to recognise the small moments of kindness, patience and generosity that strengthen our community.

With events such as our whole school mass on Tuesday during the school day and Carols in the Square on Tuesday evening, our upcoming parents' evenings, and the Carol Concert on 18 December, Advent offers us a chance to come together in faith and purpose.

May this season guide us toward peace and help us support one another with renewed compassion.



"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light." Isaiah 9:2

As we begin Advent, we're reminded that this season invites us to slow down, reflect, and look toward the hope that is coming. Even small acts of kindness and patience become ways we share that light with one another. May this time strengthen our community, guide our hearts toward peace, and inspire us to walk together with renewed faith and purpose.

KEY DATES



- **2nd December** - Start of Advent - Carols in the Square (6:00pm)
- **4th December** - Year 12 & 13 Parents Evening - (4:25-6:30pm)
- 9th Dec - Ski Info evening for parents – (6:00pm)
- **11th December** - Year 11 Parents Evening - (4:25-6:30pm)
- **11th December** - High achievers event (6.30pm)



YEAR 12 EXPLORE CAREERS IN THE MEDIA WITH ITV ACADEMY

This week, our Year 12 students enjoyed an inspiring visit from a guest speaker at ITV Academy, who delivered an engaging talk about careers in the media industry. The session opened students' eyes to the broad range of roles available at ITV – from production and journalism to editing, design and on-screen work.

Our speaker gave students a real sense of what it's like to work in such a fast-paced, creative environment, emphasising teamwork, adaptability and passion as key ingredients for success. Students also heard about the different pathways into media, including apprenticeships, trainee programmes and entry-level opportunities through ITV Academy.



After the talk, a small group of our Year 12 media students interviewed her in more depth, asking thoughtful questions about career progression, workplace culture and advice for young people taking their first steps into the industry.

A heartfelt thank you to ITV Academy for giving our students such a valuable and motivating insight into the world of media.

DISH OF THE WEEK – CHICKEN MADRAS

We are delighted to announce that Dish of the Week has been awarded to Malek Z (Year 10) for his outstanding Chicken Madras.

Malek demonstrated excellent culinary skills, producing a rich and aromatic curry, perfectly balanced with spices and cooked to a tender finish. His care, creativity and attention to flavour really stood out.

Well done, Malek — a fantastic achievement!



HURRICANE RELIEF FUNDRAISER – THANK YOU

A huge thank you to all students and staff who contributed to our cake sale in support of communities affected by the recent hurricane in the Caribbean. Thanks to the generosity and spirit of our school community, we raised just under £300.

It was a wonderful afternoon of fantastic food and shared culture – from burgers and salted fish to plantain fritters and a delicious array of cakes. Your enthusiasm made the event both meaningful and enjoyable.



A special thank you to Ms Burke for organising and driving this initiative.

The money raised will be divided three ways to support the Melissa Appeal for Jamaica, Haiti and Cuba, offering much-needed aid to families recovering from the impact of the hurricane.

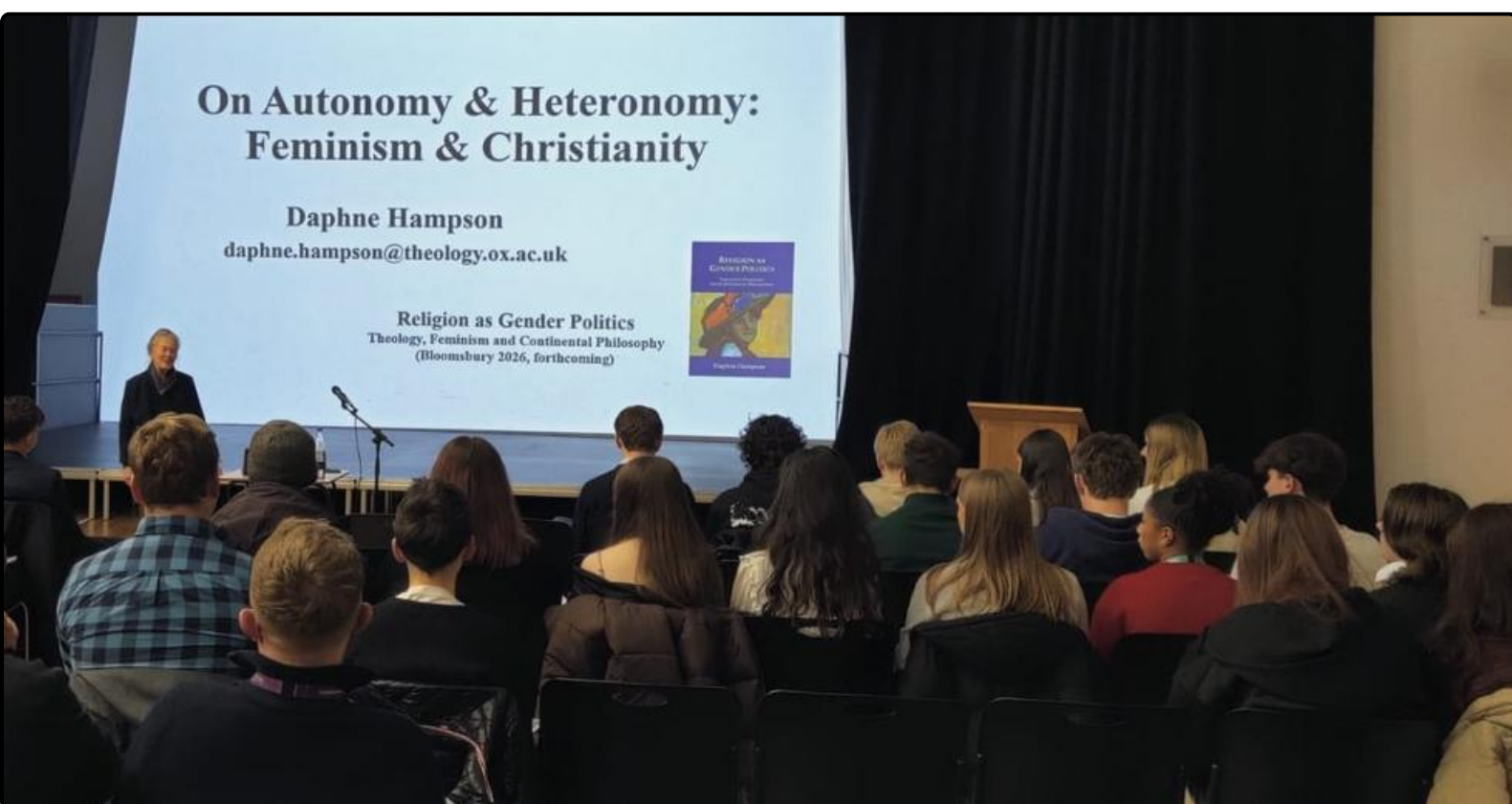
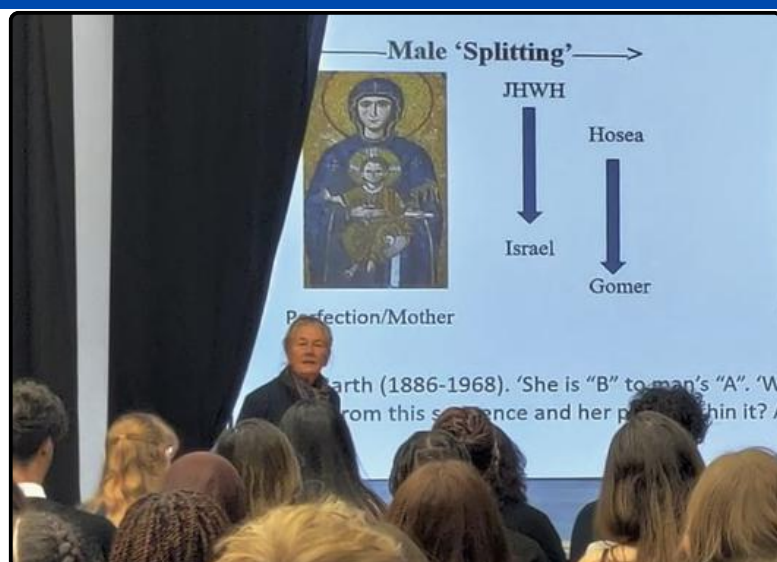
Thank you again for your kindness and solidarity.



A-LEVEL THEOLOGY CONFERENCE

Last week we hosted an inspirational **A-Level Theology Conference**, bringing together Sixth Formers from four of the six Salesian schools in the UK:

- **St John Bosco College, Battersea**
- **Salesian School, Chertsey**
- **Thornleigh Salesian College, Bolton**
- **Salesian College, Farnborough**



Students explored some seriously big questions – the Problem of Evil, whether theology is inherently sexist, and the ever-challenging Does God exist?

We were delighted to welcome back Father Ste Lloyd, who some of you remember as **Brother Ste** when he worked in Battersea, who is now Head of RE at Thornleigh. He attended with his students and shared thoughtful reflections on the day.

It was a wonderful celebration of Salesian collaboration, intellectual curiosity, and shared values.

ART STUDENTS VISIT SLOVAKIAN EMBASSY EXHIBITION

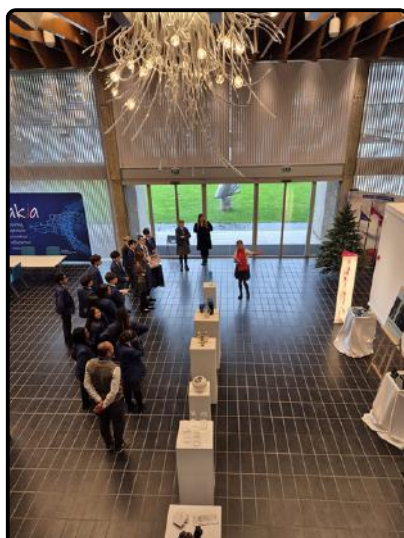
Last week, a group of our students had the wonderful opportunity to visit the Slovakian Embassy in Kensington to explore an exhibition by two renowned Slovakian glass artists.

The artwork, inspired by themes from Greek mythology, offered students a thought-provoking and visually striking experience.



It was a unique cultural trip that broadened our art students' understanding of materials, technique and storytelling through art.

We extend our warm thanks to Ms Monika for organising this enriching visit.



CISCO STEM FESTIVAL

Through our ongoing T Level partnership with Cisco, students in Year 10 and Year 12 studying Computer Science, T Level Foundation Digital Pathway and the Digital Software Development T Level, were invited to take part in the Cisco STEM Festival at their headquarters.

As one of leaders in networking hardware, software and telecommunications, students were fast-tracked to the future. At the Customer Experience Centre students experienced VR technology and hardware that has multiple applications to connect global users. They learnt about the Degree Apprenticeship career pathways and progressions available to them from existing apprentices, and those who had been through the programme.





They also tackled an AI task, using Microsoft Co-Pilot, to answer a brief, and had to work in teams to research and create presentations. The students worked hard to deliver on the brief, and impressed the organisers with their efforts.

To round off the day, students were able to network with employees from different departments and seniority to learn more about their individual journeys and learn more about life at Cisco.

STUDENT QUOTES:

"Really nice headquarters, staff are very kind and give answers quickly and professionally. The food was great and a lot of job opportunities there"

"On the trip I learnt a lot about the lives they are living in Cisco, the skills they have gained, and which skills are most important to focus on and develop. Employees helped me understand that there are many, vastly different jobs people carry out in Cisco."

"The event was definitely eye-opening and helped me understand a lot more about the company than before. It made me more interested in a career in tech."





SCAN AND JOIN THE SJBC PTFA WHATSAPP GROUP FOR ALL INFORMATION, EVENTS AND MESSAGES FROM THE SCHOOL.



SJBC PTFA
WhatsApp group



As parents, you are **AUTOMATICALLY** members of the PTFA... your voice counts.

The PTFA is a mixture of parents and friends of the school, who work together for the benefit of St John Bosco College.

Some are full-time parents; some work part-time or work full-time.

NONE of us are specialists in fundraising.

https://chat.whatsapp.com/l3CzN8XF36B5X0oJyfyWKx?mode=ac_t

1

YOU'LL FEEL MORE CONNECTED

- There's no better way to know what events are being planned, have your say or make new fundraising suggestions, than by offering your help and support.

2

YOU'LL BE PART OF A GREAT NETWORK

- Every PTFA event is an opportunity to meet other parents in the same situation as you.
- You will be part of a like-minded network of people who all share a common goal of improving the school for all our children.

3

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

- By volunteering to help the PTFA, you'll be able to use whatever skills you have for a noble cause.
- Our PTFA strives to establish a supportive and encouraging community for the entire school.

4

WHAT THE PTFA DOES AFFECTS EVERY PARENT (AND STUDENT)

- Your voice matters – the PTFA is made up of people elected to represent you, so help us to do this effectively.
- Your ideas and involvement can help improve the quality of education for all the children at our school.

5

IT'S FUN!

- Help plan fun events, socials and get-togethers
- Suggest NEW fun ways to raise funds
- Get your whole family involved!



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**