

IN TOUCH



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

As we begin our Lenten journey, this week's edition of In Touch invites us to reflect on the values of kindness, self-discipline and renewal that guide our school community at this time of year. Lent offers an opportunity to pause, refocus and consider how we can support one another through small acts of care and encouragement, and it has been wonderful to see students engaging thoughtfully with this shared journey.

I would also like to complement our Year 11, 12 and 13 students on the maturity, resilience and focus they have shown during their PPE examinations over the past week. They have approached this important period with determination and a positive attitude, and we are proud of the commitment they continue to demonstrate in their learning.

As always, thank you to parents and carers for your ongoing support, which plays such an important role in helping our students to thrive.



Our Weekly Lenten Guide to Loving Kindness

TIP 2

Allow yourself to be cared for and praised by others
and say thank you.



KEY DATES

- 2nd -6th March - National Careers Week
- 5th March - Interfaith Meal (5:30-7:30pm)
- 10th March – Year 9 Options Evening
- 12th March – KS3 Celebration Evening (6.00pm)
- 9th March - 19th March – British Science Week

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						



OUR 2026 LENTEN JOURNEY

Last week, the SJBC community marked the beginning of our 2026 Lenten journey - a sacred season of reflection, prayer and renewal.

At the same time, we also recognised the beginning of Ramadan for our Muslim brothers and sisters in our community. Through shared reflection, including a short passage from the Qur'an,

we were reminded that faith calls us to values we hold in common: compassion, self-discipline, gratitude and love.



As we journey through this special season together, we pray that it brings spiritual strength to our whole community, deepens our sense of unity, and helps SJBC continue to be a place of joy, understanding and care for all.



Happy Lent,
and



Ramadan Mubarak.



YEAR 9 DRAMA: BUILDING CONFIDENCE AND CREATIVITY WITH PAN

In January, our Year 9 drama students took part in an engaging and energetic workshop led by Pan Intercultural Arts, a London-based organisation that uses drama, creative play and performance to build confidence, teamwork and communication.

Throughout the session, students fully immersed themselves in a range of creative activities, working collaboratively to explore character, story, movement and dialogue. Their enthusiasm and willingness to participate made the workshop a real success.



The experience linked closely to our Key Stage 3 drama curriculum, helping students to develop and strengthen important performance skills such as improvisation, ensemble work and creative risk-taking.

It was a valuable opportunity for students to step outside their comfort zones, express themselves creatively and build confidence through performance.

PENS FOR SALE ON FRIDAYS

Every Friday, Fr Andrew and members of the School Council will be selling novelty pens by the Business Office.

Pens are priced at 30p each or 4 for £1, and all money raised will support two very worthwhile causes: helping street children through the Don Bosco Ashlayam project in Kolkata, India, and contributing towards a new foosball table for our SJBC playground.

We hope many students will come along and support the initiative while picking up some fun new stationery. Cash only, please, and if possible, do send students with the correct change.



DISH OF THE WEEK – PEPPERONI PIZZA

We are delighted to share that this week's Dish of the Week has been awarded to Ella in year 8 for her superb pepperoni pizza. Well done Ella!



CNN STUDIOS VISIT

Our students recently enjoyed an exciting and inspiring visit to the CNN Studios, where they had the chance to explore behind the scenes of a real professional broadcast environment.

During the visit, students were given a tour of the technical control room and learned more about the history and development of camera equipment used in television production. They gained a fascinating insight into the range of roles, technology and expertise needed to bring live news broadcasting to audiences around the world.



One of the highlights of the day was stepping into the studio itself, where students had the opportunity to use microphones and read from a teleprompter, experiencing what it feels like to present the news as a real newscaster.

The visit was both educational and inspiring, helping students to better understand the skills involved in media and broadcasting. It also sparked important discussion, with students reflecting on the need for greater female representation behind the camera lens and across the media industry.



FREE SANITARY PRODUCTS AVAILABLE AT SJBC

At SJBC, we are committed to ensuring that every student feels comfortable, confident and supported throughout the school day.

If any girls need sanitary products, these are available free of charge from the school office. Students are welcome to collect whatever they need, whether that is a single item or a small bundle to see them through. There is no limit, and support is always available.

We want all students to know that there is no need to feel embarrassed about asking. This is a normal part of wellbeing, and we are here to help.

A helpful reminder for students is to plan ahead and keep a spare sanitary towel or tampon in their school bag, so they feel prepared in advance.





In November, we invited parents and carers to complete our SJBC Parent Pulse survey focusing on student happiness, wellbeing and safety. Thank you to the families who responded. Your views are extremely important in shaping our priorities and ensuring that SJBC remains a safe, inclusive and aspirational school community.

★ WHAT YOU TOLD US

We are pleased to share the following headline outcomes:

- 90.9% of parents agree or strongly agree that their child is happy at SJBC.
- 94.5% agree or strongly agree that their child feels safe.
- 96.4% agree the school teaches the value of respect.
- 92.7% agree their child has made friends.
- 89.1% agree their child feels included and part of the school community.
- 85.5% positive responses for behaviour standards.
- 85.5% positive responses for emotional and mental wellbeing support.
- 18.2% reported their child had experienced bullying, with the majority stating that issues were dealt with effectively.

These results reflect strong confidence in our safeguarding culture and the positive relationships that underpin our school community.

💬 WHAT PARENTS SAID

We are especially proud of the warmth and encouragement reflected in many of your comments:

"My daughter is flourishing thanks to numerous opportunities. Self led and tutor led."

"Teachers being kind and understanding."

"Activities/clubs for the students and communication with the parents."

"Thank you all for all your support and encouragement with my daughter."

"Great communication, and when support is needed, the staff always go the extra mile... The school creates a welcoming, safe environment where students feel valued, listened to, and encouraged to do their best."

"The school provides a welcoming and inclusive environment where teachers genuinely care about students' wellbeing... The pastoral care team is approachable. The school also promotes kindness and respect through assemblies and activities."

AREAS WE CONTINUE TO DEVELOP

As always, we reflect carefully on areas where we can strengthen further:

- Continued focus on behaviour consistency.
- Further strengthening emotional wellbeing and mentoring provision.
- Curriculum enrichment requests, including financial literacy.

YOU SAID, WE DID (UPDATE – MARCH 2026)

We are committed to ensuring feedback leads to action. Since the survey:

You said behaviour visibility matters.

We have strengthened corridor presence, refined routines around toilet usage, refined family lunch routines and reinforced consistent expectations across all year groups.

You said food quality needed improvement.

We have changed our catering supplier, and students are already reporting significantly improved feedback regarding food quality and choice.

You said wellbeing support could be strengthened.

We are increasing mentoring conversations and pastoral check-ins, and we are more clearly advertising how students can access support across the school.

You said communication is important.

We continue regular In Touch updates and encourage parents to engage via the PTFA WhatsApp group to stay informed and connected.



As parents, you are already part of our Parents, Teachers & Friends Association (PTFA).

This WhatsApp group is for all parents – your place to stay connected, share ideas, and keep up to date with school news and events.



Why join?

- Get quick updates about school events and activities
- Connect with other parents in our community
- Share your ideas and support the school in fun, flexible ways
- Be part of the team that makes a difference in your child's school life

Scan the QR code or click the link below to join:

https://chat.whatsapp.com/I3CzN8XF36B5X0oJyfyWKx?mode=ac_t

HELP YOUR CHILD NAVIGATE THE ONLINE WORLD SAFELY – NEW

In today's digital world, children and young people spend more time online than ever before — learning, connecting with friends, creating and exploring. While there are huge benefits to being online, it can also expose young people to harmful or confusing content without us realising. That's why the UK government has launched a new online safety resource for parents and carers that we strongly encourage you to explore:

[Kids Online Safety – Online Content Guidance](#)

This dedicated government webpage brings together practical advice and tips to help you:

Understand what your child is seeing online

The site explains how the digital world works, and offers prompts to help your child think critically about the content they encounter — for example, how to ask questions like: “Who posted this?”, “How does it make me feel?”, and “Is it accurate?”



Start positive conversations at home

It can be tough knowing how to talk about online content without sounding lecturing — and just asking questions together regularly can make a real difference in helping children build confidence and judgement online.

Support safe habits from the start

Whether your child is just accessing their first device or becoming more independent online, the page offers guidance on how to support their online safety at every stage of their digital journey.



Go beyond the basics

The resource links to further support on setting parental controls, reporting harmful content, and finding help if you're worried about what your child is seeing or experiencing online.



Why it matters?

The online safety landscape is changing rapidly. New laws and campaigns are being implemented to make platforms safer for children and to give parents practical tools to act — not just worry. Encouraging open conversations and using resources like this webpage helps protect children from harmful or misleading content and builds their skills to navigate the digital world responsibly.

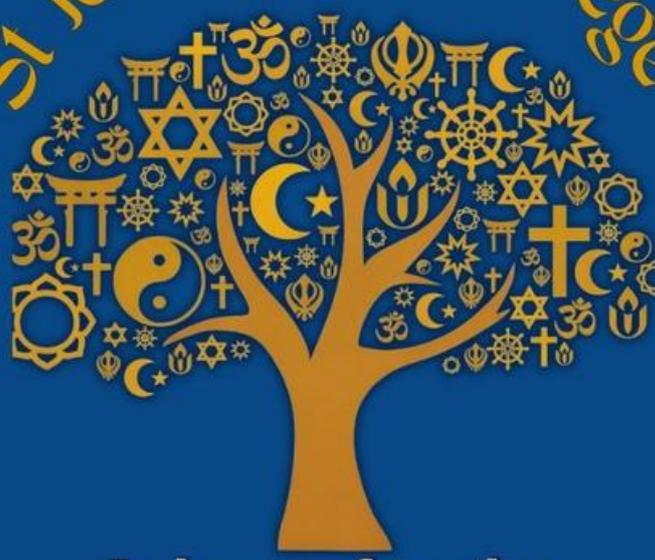
Insight for families:

Children may not always tell us what they see online — but by using trustworthy information and talking about it together, you help them think critically, ask questions and stay safe.

Take a moment this week to explore the page with your child — it could lead to a valuable conversation that helps them be both curious and safe online.



St John Bosco College



Join us for the Annual Interfaith Iftaar

**Thursday 5 March 2026
5.30pm – 7.30pm**

*As we enter the seasons
of Lent and Ramadan,
we are delighted to invite families
to come together for our annual
Interfaith Iftaar.*

**Tickets are £10 per person
and include a 3 course meal;
these will be **available on ParentMail.****

*Come and celebrate our multi faiths
at the school and support our PTFA*

TRAIN TO TEACH

Are you considering a career in teaching? Join us for our Train to Teach Information and Taster Morning and discover what life in the classroom is really like. This engaging session will give you the opportunity to:

- Observe a live lesson in action
- Enjoy a guided tour of the school
- Meet our experienced mentors
- Ask questions about training and career pathways
- Gain first-hand insight into stepping into the teaching profession

Whether you are exploring a career change or just beginning to think about your future, this event is the perfect place to start.

Places are limited and fill quickly.

Click [HERE](#) to register your place, or scan the QR code below.

St John Bosco College Train to
Teach Taster 12 March 10am



DON'T JUST IMAGINE IT. EXPERIENCE IT.



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

Join our
**INFORMATION and TASTER
Morning**
on **12 MARCH at 10am**

Secure your place. Email:
TraintoTeach@sjbc.wandsworth.sch.uk



St John
Bosco
College

To learn more visit
www.sjbc.wandsworth.sch.uk





LIBRARY AFTER SCHOOL STUDY

YEAR 10 - 13

The Library is open
Monday to Thursday until 6pm
and Fridays until 5pm.

- Quiet study space
- Staff support available
- Bank of past exam papers available



⚠ You may not be anywhere else on site
unsupervised after school

Use the space
responsibly.

Don't leave your
success to chance.
Come to the library.
Put the time in.
Make it count.

