

# IN TOUCH



## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

As we come to the conclusion of another of another busy but rewarding term, this week's edition of In Touch offers a chance to reflect on how the weeks' leading up to Christmas are always a special time in school, bringing opportunities to come together, celebrate shared successes and enjoy the festive events that mark the end of the term. I would like to thank our staff for their continued dedication and our parents and carers for the support you give so generously throughout the year.

As we now look ahead to the Christmas holidays, I would like to wish all our families a peaceful, restful and joyful break. We look forward to welcoming students back to school on Tuesday 6 January 2026, refreshed and ready for the opportunities of the new term.



Merry Christmas and best wishes to you all.



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

As Christmas approaches, Advent draws us into a holy pause, a time to notice the light already breaking into our waiting. In the quiet days of preparation, we are reminded that God's promises unfold with patience and purpose. May this season help us recognize hope in small beginnings, offer peace where there is heaviness, and strengthen our love for one another. As we move closer to the joy of Christmas, may our hearts be ready to receive the Light who comes to dwell among us.

## KEY DATES



- **9<sup>th</sup> December** - Ski Info evening for parents – (6:00pm)
- **11<sup>th</sup> December** - Year 11 Parents Evening - (4:25-6:30pm)
- **11<sup>th</sup> December** - High achievers event (6.30pm)
- **18<sup>th</sup> December**- Carol Service – 6pm
- **19<sup>th</sup> December** - Last Day of Term



## SOCIOLOGY IN ACTION TRIP – STUDENT REFLECTION

Last week, a group of our Sixth Form sociologists attended the Sociology in Action conference in London — a day filled with thought-provoking lectures from leading academics and researchers. The event gave students the opportunity to engage with real-world sociological issues, hear from experts at the forefront of their fields, and deepen their understanding of the subject beyond the classroom.

We are delighted to share a reflection written by Giada in Year 13, who offers her personal highlights and insights from the day. Her thoughtful account captures just how inspiring and impactful the experience was for our students.



*"The Sociology in Action trip was very enjoyable. My personal favourites were Ellis Cashmore, Professor Ann Oakley & Dr Gemma Birkett. Dr Birkett's talk on female crime really stood out to me because she showed how womens offending is often linked to difficult social circumstances like poverty, unhealthy relationships and exclusion.*

*Ann Oakley's lecture was inspiring. She spoke about her personal experiences at an all girls school, where she was told she wasn't fit for university, and how she later proved everyone wrong by studying at Oxford and becoming a leading Feminist sociologist. Her research on gender, family life and women's experiences made me see how important it is to question stereotypes.*

*Ellis Cashmore's talk was also a favourite because he explained how the media creates and shapes celebrity culture, even turning criminals into public figures. His ideas about parasocial relationships and the power of mass media were fascinating and made me think about how much influence the media has over how we see the world.*

*Together, these three talks were the most engaging for me and made the whole trip feel especially meaningful and a good experience."*

Giada - Y13

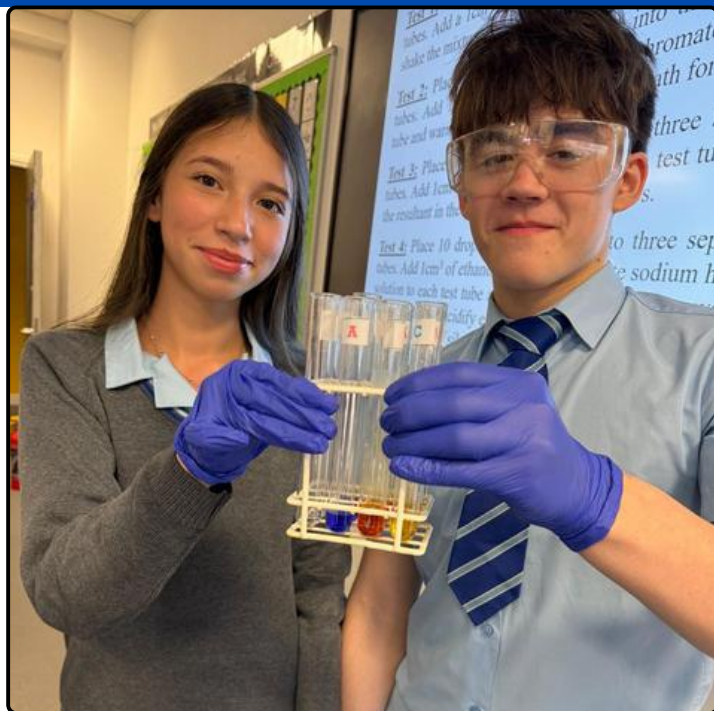


## YEAR 11 SIXTH FORM TASTER DAY

On Wednesday, our Year 11 students took part in a full day of Sixth Form taster lessons, giving them a real insight into the subjects, skills and experiences available to them as they prepare for their next steps.

Students explored a wide range of subjects, including Economics, Psychology, Sociology, Health & Social Care and more. In A-Level Physics, they carried out experiments investigating the value of acceleration due to gravity, while in Chemistry they identified organic compounds using scientific clues and deduction.

They also learned about the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) and our Enhanced Maths Programmes, both of which provide additional UCAS points and strengthen applications to top universities.



Throughout the day, students discovered the differences between A-levels, BTECs and T-Levels, heard about our enrichment and work experience opportunities, and gained valuable insights into life in the Sixth Form from current students.

Interviews for our highly sought-after Sixth Form places for September 2026 will begin soon. If your child would like further information, please contact Ms Kenneally or Ms Bennett.





This week we welcomed Jo Stow from Together for the Common Good, who spoke to students about the vital role we all have in being a “presence of good” in our broader communities. Her message offered powerful insights for our school community and beyond.

### 3 Key Messages We Heard



We belong to something bigger than ourselves. Jo reminded us that the “common good” means creating a society in which everyone can flourish — not just individuals. It’s about working together across differences so that all people have dignity, respect, and opportunity.

True change begins with relationships. Rather than staying isolated or indifferent, we are called to build real relationships and community — with neighbours, peers and those around us — so we can support each other and respond together to local needs.

Everyone has something to offer. Regardless of age or background, each person has gifts, abilities and a responsibility to contribute to the common good — whether through kindness, solidarity, volunteering or simply being present and supportive.

We hope this message resonates with many families. As parents and carers, you can support these values by encouraging kindness, community awareness, and active care for others.

Let’s help our young people recognise that — even in small everyday ways — they can make a difference.

### UPCOMING PPE EXAMS FOR YEARS 7–10 – JANUARY

A reminder that PPE exams for Years 7–10 will take place in the second week of January. Full exam timetables have been published on In Touch and are also available on students’ Microsoft Teams channels.

Please encourage your child to begin preparing now. Over the Christmas break, it’s important that students balance festive celebrations with some regular, manageable revision. They should make good use of their knowledge organisers, class notes and the revision materials uploaded to their Class Teams pages.

Thank you for your support in helping students get off to a strong start in the new term.



### Year 7 - RUA Hall

Monday 12th Jan	Tuesday 13th Jan	Wed 14th Jan	Thursday 15th Jan	Friday 16th Jan
Arrive for 8:35am Whole School Line Up				
Regular School Day	Period 1 lessons	Reading Age Assessment	Period 1 lessons	Period 1 lessons
	Period 2 lessons		Period 2 lessons	Period 2 lessons
	Break Time 10:30 - 10:45am			
	Extended Period 3 Lessons	Whole School Line Up 10:45am		
	Period 3 - Exam 1 English	Period 3 - Exam 1 RE	Period 3 - Exam 1 Maths	Period 3 - Exam 1 History
	Period 4 - Exam 2 Geography	Period 4 - Exam 2 Computing	Period 4 - Exam 2 MFL	Period 4 - Exam 2 Science
	Family Lunch Period 5			
	13:50 Key Stage 3 Line Up, 14:00 Dismissal			

### Year 10

Monday 12th Jan	Tuesday 13th Jan	Wed 14th Jan	Thursday 15th Jan	Friday 16th Jan
Arrive for 8:35am Whole School Line Up				
Period 1 & 2 - Lessons	Exam 9:00 Science Paper 1	Exam 9:00 Maths (Non - Calc)	Exam 9:00 Science Paper 2	Exam 9:00 Maths (Calculator)
Exam 9:30 Further Maths				
Tutor - 10:30 - 10:55				
Break 10:55 - 11:20				
Period 3 Lessons (11.20 - 12.10)			Reading Age Assessment	Period 3 Lessons
Lunch 12:10 - 12:40				
Exam Line Up 12:40 MUGA				
Exam 13:00 Option A DT, Spanish, Geography, French, History, Hospitality & Catering	Exam 13:00 English Literature	Exam 13:00 Option B Portuguese, Business Studies, Music, Creative iMedia, DT, Psychology, Art, Geography	Exam 13:00 Option C Computing, Art, PE, History, Performing Arts, Sociology, DT	Exam 13:00 RE

### Year 8 - Sports Hall

Monday 12th Jan	Tuesday 13th Jan	Wed 14th Jan	Thursday 15th Jan	Friday 16th Jan
Arrive for 8:35am Whole School Line Up				
Regular School Day	Period 1 lessons	Period 1 lessons	Period 1 lessons	Reading Age Assessment
	Period 2 lessons	Period 2 lessons	Period 2 lessons	
	Break Time 10:30 - 10:45am			
	Whole School Line Up 10:45am			
	Period 3 - Exam 1 History	Period 3 - Exam 1 Science	Period 3 - Exam 1 RE	Period 3 - Exam 1 English
	Period 4 - Exam 2 Maths	Period 4 - Exam 2 MFL	Period 4 - Exam 2 Computing	Period 4 - Exam 2 Geography
	Family Lunch Period 5			
	13:50 Whole School Line Up, 14:00 Dismissal			

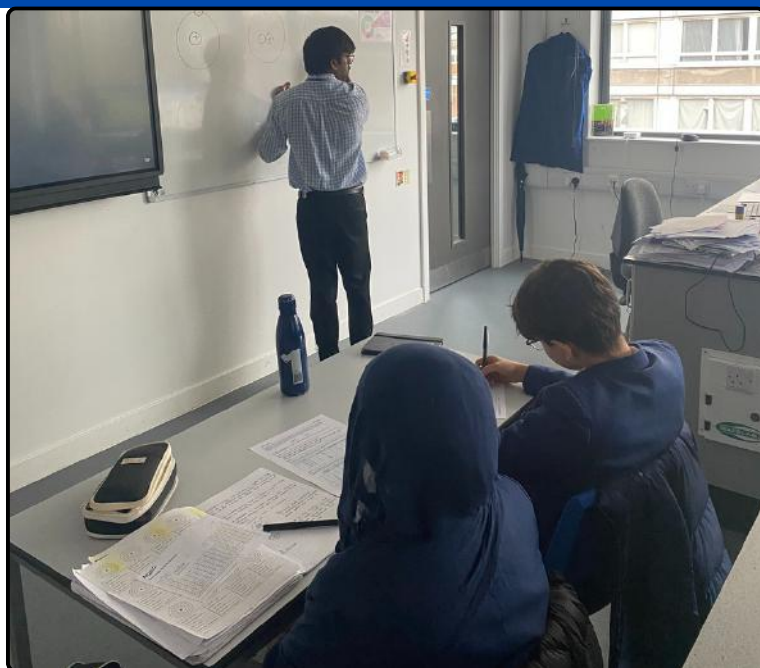


Year 9 - Sports Hall				
Monday 12th Jan	Tuesday 13th Jan	Wed 14th Jan	Thursday 15th Jan	Friday 16th Jan
Arrive for 8:35am Whole School Line Up				
Regular School Day	Period 1 lessons	Period 1 lessons	Reading Age Assessment	Period 1 lessons
	Period 2 lessons	Period 2 lessons		Period 2 lessons
	Break Time 10:30 - 10:45am			
	Whole School Line Up 10:45am			
	Period 3 - Exam 1 Science	Period 3 - Exam 1 MFL	Period 3 - Exam 1 English	Period 3 - Exam 1 Maths
	Period 4 - Exam 2 RE	Period 4 - Exam 2 Geography	Period 4 - Exam 2 History	Period 4 - Exam 2 Computing
	Family Lunch Period 5			
	13:50 Whole School Line Up, 14:00 Dismissal			

## EARTH HOUR – THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

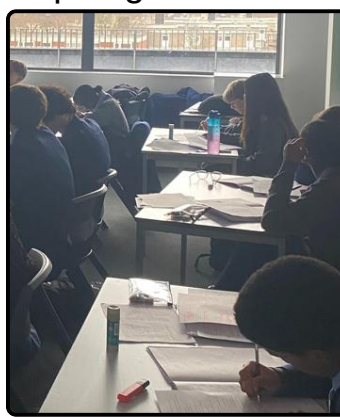
Thank you to all students and staff for taking part in our extended Earth Hour on Tuesday. This year, we stretched the experience across two full periods, making it our biggest and most impactful Earth Hour yet.

During this time, teachers switched off projectors, computers and lights for 100 minutes, delivering lessons completely tech-free. Ms Post even rediscovered some long-lost art skills in the process! Across the school, staff used pre-charged laptops and adjusted their teaching approaches to help minimise electricity use during the event.



We are grateful to everyone for contributing to a meaningful reduction in our carbon footprint and for modelling sustainable habits for our young people.

Our next Earth Hour will take place in March, and we look forward to making it even more inspiring.





## T LEVEL DIGITAL GRADUATION AT AMAZON

Nine weeks have passed in the blink of an eye...

Our Digital T Level students who were on placement at Amazon have now graduated. We are incredibly proud of our Year 13 students and enjoyed hearing about their accomplishments, their impact on their cohort, and on the business as a whole.



The young people they started their placement as, versus the young professionals standing before us now - what a massive difference. It is a testament to their willingness to get stuck in and try their best.

T Levels: Making a real-world difference.







Dear Parents and Carers,

Our whole-school Christmas Lunch will take place on Thursday 18th December. Students will enjoy a festive meal featuring roast turkey with stuffing or a vegetarian roasted vegetable, cranberry & cheese pastry wreath, served with roast potatoes, Christmas vegetables, and a seasonal dessert.

To ensure a smooth service on the day, please be aware of the following:

- Payment Information
- Students in Years 10–13 will need £3.50 available on their school lunch card to purchase the Christmas meal.

Please top up their account in advance to avoid any issues at lunchtime.

Students in Years 7–9 will receive the Christmas lunch free of charge as part of our Family Lunch provision.

Thank you for supporting us in making this a special and enjoyable event for all students. If you need assistance with topping up lunch cards, please contact the school office.

## CHRISTMAS IS HERE

**18<sup>Th</sup> December 2025**

**Roast turkey & stuffing  
Or**

**Roasted vegetable, cranberry & cheese puff  
pastry wreath served with**

**Roasties, sticky chipolata, Christmas  
vegetable medley served with rich gravy**

**Rudolph's nose cookie  
Or**

**Cinnamon popcorn  
chocolate brownie**







St John  
Bosco  
College

# **Festival of Lessons & Carols**

**Thursday 18th December**

**Christmas craft fair open from  
5.30pm**

**Service at 6pm**

**Free Entry**

**Refreshments  
after the service**

**Sacred Heart Church, Battersea,  
SW11 3DS**





# 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](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!

