

Thursday 9 January 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Happy New Year!**

I hope that you and your families had a lovely Christmas and enjoyed the holidays. The new term at St John Bosco College has started well and I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you a very happy New Year and to update you on what's been happening and what's in the diary for the weeks ahead.

### **Feast Day**

We are delighted that Archbishop John Wilson, the new Archbishop of Southwark, will be coming to St John Bosco College on Friday 31 January, to celebrate our Feast Day Mass in the parish church of the Sacred Heart. As they did last year our students will all have opportunity to go on trips and visits after mass. Please check ParentMail for details of your child's trip and any payments required.

### **KS3 Careers Fair**

I am delighted to announce that following the success of our first KS3 Careers Fair last year we are holding another event on Tuesday 21 January at 5.30pm. This will be a chance for our younger students to find out more about the wide range of exciting career and study options that are open to them. Please do make a date in your diary and come along. The event is also open to children in year 6 at local primary schools so please spread the word with your friends and neighbours.

### **New staff**

As the school continues to gain in popularity locally, and pupil numbers continue to rise, I've been fortunate that I have been able to recruit some excellent new members of staff to the school.

Joining us this January are:

Mrs Dybowska – Head of Savio/Devereux Resources Bases

Ms Bennett – Vocational Coordinator and teacher of Business Studies

Ms Gould – Teacher of English

Mr Annan – Teacher of Science

Before Christmas we said goodbye to Ms Penketh, Social Science teacher, who is moving on to undertake further study and to Mrs Baister, our SENCO, who is going on maternity leave. Her role will be covered by Ms Wyciszkiwicz who has been working closely with Mrs Baister in St Francis for several years.

### **House system**

As you will be aware, we introduced vertical tutoring at the start of this academic year based on a house system. To further help to embed this system we have purchased sew-on lapel badges for all pupils to wear on their blazers to identify which house they are in. These will be sewn on to students' blazers over the next couple of weeks by staff.

### **International Links**

As a Salesian school we are proud of our international links and this half-term will see a visit to the school from our partner Salesian school from Florence, Italy starting on 10 February. We plan to send a group of students from SJBC to Florence in the Autumn on a reciprocal visit. Please look out for further details. As you may already know our History department are taking a group of pupils to Krakow in Poland on 23 January for an educational visit and more trips are planned for later in the year.

### **Maintaining high standards**

One distinguishing feature of an outstanding school is the way in which pupils are dressed and how they present themselves. The overwhelming majority of our students arrive to school looking smart and well-presented and we are determined to maintain our high standards.

Please do ensure that your child is fully equipped for school and wears their uniform correctly. May I remind you that jewellery and piercings are not allowed, and students with these items will be asked to remove them when they come in to school.

As we head into the time of the year when the weather turns colder please can I also remind you that only plain, dark outer jackets are permitted to be worn by students. Hoodies and brightly coloured coats cannot be worn to school and these will be confiscated if they are seen by staff.

For those students who do not have a school tie these can be bought from the student office for £7. Students will not be allowed to borrow spare ties and will be expected to buy a replacement.

### **Meetings for parents**

Please note the following dates in your diary:

- E-Safety workshop for parents at 5.30pm on Thursday 16 January
- Year 9 options event at 6.30 pm on Thursday 16 January
- KS3 Careers Fair at 5.30pm on Tuesday 21 January
- Year 9 parents' evening from 5.30-7.00pm on Thursday 23 January
- Year 7 parents' evening from 5.30-7.00pm on Thursday 30 January
- Supporting revision at home workshop for parents on Thursday 13 February at 5.30pm

### **Parent Teacher and Friends Association**

Another great way to support your child at school is to get involved with the Parent Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA). It is a great opportunity to meet other parents and school staff to help to raise funds and support the work of the school. Please get in touch with Ms Tari [jtari@sjbc.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:jtari@sjbc.wandsworth.sch.uk) to find out more.

Thank you for your continued support of the school.

Yours faithfully



Mr P Dunne  
Headteacher