

IN TOUCH



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

The overlapping of the seasons of Lent and Ramadan this year has provided an opportunity for our students of different faith backgrounds to learn more from one another about the similarities and differences in the practice of their faith. The traditions of these seasons enable people to become closer to God and as a school we continue to support our children to explore and deepen their faith in these times of prayer and fasting. Our students have, for example, been involved in Lenten Community Service, and a Lenten Walk, to raise funds for Cafod.

Our preparation for Easter continues over the next few weeks, and will culminate in a Maunday Thursday Liturgy to which all parents are warmly invited. Can I also take this opportunity to remind you that parents can also attend our regular Friday morning mass starting at 8am. Please email the school if you'd like to come along.

One of St John Bosco's key aims when educating young people was to prepare them for life beyond school and give them the necessary skills to, in his words 'able to earn their own bread'. Preparing for employment and further training has been a key theme at SJBC in the past week few weeks with several events taking place to provide our students with insights into the world of work. We outline a few of these in this edition of In Touch.

YEAR 9 OPTIONS – DEADLINE FRIDAY 22ND MARCH

All Year 9 pupils must choose their GCSE options by Friday 22nd March using the form on the Year 9 Teams page.

Pupils must choose one subject from Block A, B and C (including a reserve), indicate if they want to be considered for Triple Science and also identify if they could be assessed in a Home Language (Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening)

BLOCK A	BLOCK B	BLOCK C
Geography (EBacc Hum) History (EBacc Hum) French (EBacc Lang) Spanish (EBacc Lang) Hospitality & Catering (CamNat)* Creative iMedia (CamNat)	Geography (EBacc Hum) Portugese (EBacc Lang) Art Business Studies Design & Technology Music Psychology	History (EBacc Hum) Art Computer Science** Design & Technology Drama Physical Education Sociology

AVAILABLE GCSES IN HOME LANGUAGES (EBACC LANG)

Arabic Bengali Chinese French Greek (modern)	Gujarati Hebrew (modern) Italian Japanese	Panjabi Persian Polish Portugese	Russian Spanish Turkish Urdu
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CAREERS EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Our careers education programme, led by Ms Williams, has seen a range of activities taking place over the past couple weeks to support National Careers Week and National Apprenticeship week. The employers that have visited school were blown away by the energy, enthusiasm and interest of our students in the world of work.

Some of the events that took place include:

- Apple's Head of EMEA Apprenticeship Program and a team of Apple's software engineering apprentices gave an inspiring presentation to Years 12 and 13 about life as an apprentice at Apple and an insight into the selection process
- Mr O'Brien from The Hill Group gave an informative presentation about apprenticeships and the opportunities for career progression within the construction industry to students in Year 7 and 8
- A successful Careers Fair in school featuring contributions from a wide range of employers including Lloyds, Cisco, Fulham FC and Just Eat, and a host of and training providers and education establishments.
- Targeted assemblies for students in years 9, 10, and 12, to focus on their post-16 and post-18 options
- Links to careers made across the curriculum in all subjects during careers week

If you'd like some resources to help you talk about career opportunities with your child then why not check these out:

Apprenticeships: Hints and Tips for Parents and Carers [Ammaarah Full guide Parents & Carers Hints & Tips \(amazingapprenticeships.com\)](#)

National Careers Week <https://nationalcareersweek.com>



COMMUNITY SERVICE



This week, as part of SJBC Lenten and Ramadan outreach programs. Some of our students participated in litter picking exercise around our school community and neighbourhood. They received lots of impressive commendations from many people.

One Lady said: "This is a gospel in action." It was really a noble act from them.

CONGRATULATIONS

Our warmest congratulations go to our year 9 pupil Elliot who recently became the British Schools Junior Judo Champion in the under 50kg category.

We are very proud of him and wish him good luck in future competitions



KEY DATES	Date	Event
	Thursday 21 March	Year 12/13 Parents' Evening
	Thursday 28 March	End of Term
	Monday 15 April	Back to school at the normal time, 8:35am

[sjbc_battersea](#)

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RAMADAN AND LENT

Celebrate the spirit of unity and reflection by joining us for a special dinner party that brings together the traditions of Ramadan and Lent.

Embrace the shared values of fasting, self-discipline, and compassion as we come together to break bread and foster a sense of community.

This unique 6th form student organised gathering aims to highlight the similarities between these two significant religious observances, promoting understanding and harmony.

Let the warmth of friendship and the richness of diverse cuisines create lasting memories. Join us for an evening of cultural exchange, delicious food, and meaningful connections.

Your presence will truly enrich the tapestry of our celebration.

On behalf of our 6th Form Students and the School Chaplaincy we invite Year 10 – 13 students and parents to a unique interfaith celebration to mark Lent and Ramadan in our community. All are welcome not only to celebrate the common ground between these two great World Religions but also to engage with a chance to learn more about the links between their tradition and practices.



DINNER

Party

MARCH 26th 2024

6.15pm - 8.30pm

Years 10, 11 and 6th form + Parents

WHATS INCLUDED?

- 4 course meal
- Quizzes (with prizes)

for only £12

Payment via ParentMail

by 20th March 2024

max 100 people

*In this blessed month, grant us strength in our fasts,
sincerity in our prayers, and compassion in our
hearts.*