

# IN TOUCH



Welcome to our new, regular, newsletter for parents and carers.

I hope that you've had a lovely summer and had a chance to spend some quality time together as a family. As August draws to a close and we begin September, it's time to turn our attention to the new school term. This week's bulletin sets out some of the things that you need to know ahead of the return to school next week and looks ahead to some important dates in the diary.

I look forward to seeing you in the new academic year.

Paul Dunne  
Headteacher

## Getting back into the swing of things ...

Returning to school can be a shock to the system for students (it is for staff too!) so it's important to make sure that preparations for the return to school start before the first day. The following tips can help:

- Make sure that bedtimes return to normal school day patterns for a few days before we come back.
- Good sleep is important for health and well-being so get into good habits such as switching off all electronic devices well before bedtime
- Make sure that you have a reading book (fiction or non-fiction) on the go before you start the new term and get back into the habit of reading, if you've taken a break from it over the summer.
- Have a look at the school website to see which topics will be coming up in the first weeks of term. Have a look back through some of the things that were covered last term and start to wake up those brain cells!
- Get kitted out with uniform, stationery and equipment a day or two before you return and have it all ready to go so that there is no last-minute panic on the first day back



# Uniform matters

How we dress affects how we feel about ourselves and how others view us. Arriving at school well-dressed and with correct uniform is not just essential in terms of following the rules; it sets the right tone for everything else that students do at school.

Refresh your memory about the school uniform expectations by referring to the attached guide that was shared last term. Students arriving without correct uniform will be asked to return home to correct it, so please avoid any problems by making sure that your child has everything that they need for their return.



The cost-of-living crisis is affecting many families, so if you are struggling to provide all the relevant uniform items for your child please get in touch with the school as a matter of urgency and we will look at ways of supporting you. We have a stock of pre-loved uniform items in school, and we are always grateful for donations of branded uniform items that children have grown out of.

Piercings can be a contentious issue. Please refer to the uniform policy for the guidelines on what is and isn't acceptable. A change this year is that one discrete stud can be worn in each ear, but other piercings and jewellery are not allowed and students will be required to remove them before they come into school in the morning.

## Who to contact



Positive relationships between parents/carers and school staff are vital to ensure that every child is supported to do their best. The first point of contact for parents is your child's form tutor. They see your child each morning at registration and tutor time and will be monitoring your child's attendance, behaviour, and overall progress. Your child's Head of House is also available to support with questions and concerns that may arise. Referrals to the Senior Leadership Team should only be made if the form tutor and Head of House are unable to resolve an issue for you.

## PTFA

Every parent and carer at St John Bosco College is automatically a part of the school's Parent, Teacher and Friends Association. The work of this group is to liaise with school staff to find ways to enhance and support your child's education through fundraising events and sharing of information and ideas. We'd love more of you to be actively involved with the planning and carrying out of these activities. If you're interested in volunteering just a small amount of time to get involved please contact Ms Bennett to find out more [lbennett@sjbc.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:lbennett@sjbc.wandsworth.sch.uk)



### KEY DATES

**Monday 4  
September**

● School opens for Staff  
INSET

**Tuesday 5  
September**

● Year 7 start (8.35am),  
Year 12 start (11.20am)

**Wednesday 6  
September**

● Year 11 return (8.35am)  
Year 10 return (11.10am)

**Thursday 7  
September**

● Year 8 return (9.40am),  
Year 9 return (11.10am)

**Tuesday 12  
September**

● Year 11 Parent event  
(6-7.30pm)  
● PTFA Forum (6pm)

## BOOK REVIEW COMPETITION

**for the best Summer 23 book review**  
students from all year groups can send over entries to Ms Bud as a direct message in Teams between **4th and 10th September**.

The best reviews will be published in the next Bosco Times and the top three rewarded with Amazon gift vouchers.



## FREE BEGINNERS ENGLISH LESSONS

for parents and families of students at St John Bosco College starting Monday 11th September 5:00pm-7:15pm

Please email [dparrott@sjbc.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:dparrott@sjbc.wandsworth.sch.uk) to reserve a place

