

The St John Bosco Arts College

Bosco BULLETIN

December 2023



A warm welcome for Bishop Tom



St John Bosco
ARTS COLLEGE

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Headteacher's welcome

As we approach the end of another enriching term at St John Bosco Arts College, I am filled with pride and the utmost respect for the incredible efforts and achievements of our students, staff, and parents alike.

It has been a term of growth, resilience, and collaborative spirit that truly embodies the ethos of our Salesian school. I want to express my deepest gratitude to you, our supportive families, for your continued partnership in the educational journey of your children. Together, we are fostering an environment where each student can flourish in faith, hope and love.

This term has seen our students engage in a myriad of pursuits, and some of our pinnacle moments are showcased in this newsletter.

As we reflect on the achievements of the last term, let us look forward with optimism and anticipation for the exciting opportunities the future holds for our St John Bosco family.



Mr Gidman

Lord you wait for us to come and see you.
You wait to shine light where there is darkness,
To show love where there is hate,
To share peace where there is conflict.
Lord you wait for us to come and see you.
You wait for us to remember what has been fulfilled,
to prepare for what must still be done.
You wait in hope and expectation, longing for us
To shine your light, To show your love, To share your peace.

Nobody does an open evening like us

Our open evening was a resounding success, with over 250 families in attendance. It was a jam-packed evening showcasing the exceptional qualities of our school.

With departments competing to show why they are the best, the kitchen showing why they are Deliveroo worthy (more on that story to come!), the enthusiastic pupils bursting with pride showing families around their school, a Bosco blazer photo booth, Bosco bug hunt, an admissions village and of course the launch of our very own Bosco balm! It was a fantastic evening – thanks to all who made it possible.



Special moments for the last term

We have had an exceptionally high calibre of special visitors into school this term, each offering an invaluable wealth of knowledge and experience to bestow on staff and pupils!

In September, we welcomed Ian Byrne MP, who shared information about the Hunger Marches in Liverpool, London, and Belfast, which focussed on providing free school meals for all children and also discussed his ongoing campaign work to get justice for the 97 people and their families involved in Hillsborough. Ian praised our pupils after a lively Q&A session: "The students at St John Bosco Arts College were very inquisitive and asked some fantastic questions. It is wonderful to see so many young minds excited and inspired to take action," he said.



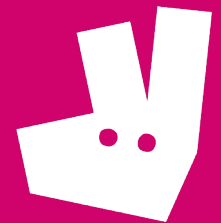
Educate Awards

Our incredible school has recently been recognised and celebrated at the prestigious Educate Awards, where we stood tall as finalists and eventually secured the title of runner-up for the Most Inspirational Sixth Form & College award.

The senior leaders and sixth form team represented us on the night and enjoyed a wonderful evening hosted at the Liverpool Cathedral celebrating the hard work of all schools across the North West. We were honoured to be a part of such a fantastic event. This accolade highlights our high ambitions for every student and the inspirational teaching and learning environment cultivated by our dedicated staff.



Dinner ladies on Deliveroo



deliveroo

This term saw the launch of our partnership with Deliveroo, making us the first-ever UK school to extend its canteen offerings to the public. News is spreading far and wide, with Bosco being featured in the Liverpool Echo and on BBC Radio Merseyside! Orders have started coming in, helping us create a self-sustaining model where the generated profits will support the expansion of our Free School Meals and breakfast programmes.

Mrs Roan, our kitchen manager, shared her thoughts on the new scheme: "It has caused a lot of excitement with the pupils, and we are so proud to be the first UK school on Deliveroo. This venture goes beyond meal service – it's an example of the Bosco spirit of hospitality, honouring our roots and the Salesian Sisters' legacy of care and community. We're not just filling plates; we're fulfilling our mission."

The Bosco Brunch menu is available on Deliveroo [here](#) and features a selection of delicious and nutritionally balanced options, including some breakfast royalty items. [Read more here](#)

Salesian school sleepover

Salesian School sleepover in partnership with The Whitechapel Centre

This year was the first of our Bosco Sleepovers organised by our head of RE and Catholic life, Mrs Tomkins. Fifty lucky Year 7 and 8 pupils took part and raised a whopping £245 for the Whitechapel Centre.



Bishop Tom Williams' visit

November brought with it the distinct honour of hosting Bishop Tom Williams. Sharing a wealth of knowledge and life experiences with the students as he toured the school visiting different curriculum areas. The visit included a meeting with the school student council and RE department for a discussion about the intersection of faith, education and student leadership. He also addressed our Year 8 pupils,

sharing his insights into the significance of Confirmation and its role in the lives of young Catholics. We were incredibly grateful that during his visit he blessed the School Oratory, a support centre designed to cater to the mental health needs of students. The ceremony punctuates the school's commitment to holistic education, emphasising the importance of mental wellbeing.



Pupil spotlight

Chelsea N'drin shines in England's women's under 15 UEFA development tournament

St John Bosco is proud to celebrate the remarkable achievement of one of its own, Chelsea N'drin, who recently secured a spot in England's Women's Under 15 UEFA Development Tournament. In a recent interview, Chelsea shared her journey and experiences during this prestigious event.

Chelsea, a talented footballer who already plays for Merseyside, Liverpool School Girls, expressed her initial shock and joy upon learning about her selection for the tournament. "I didn't really expect to be called up for it, but I was really happy," she said, emphasising her dedication to the sport through her participation in both club and national team activities. [Read more here](#)



Year 9 team building

Our fantastic Year 9 pupils took part in some team-building activities, working together to complete a range of tasks.

By doing so, they successfully developed their communication and problem-solving skills, all whilst having fun. A huge congratulations to our winning team!

Well done to Lexie T, Lexi S, Alyvia B, Elysabeth F, Maisy D, Hayley B, Olivia O, and Grace K.



Year 7s' reflecting on the successes and challenges of their first term



Darcie 7O

"Miss Murphy in RE is my favourite teacher – she's really kind and helpful"

"I would tell new pupils who are starting secondary school it's nothing to worry about"

"I cope with the homework by just getting it done as soon as it's set, I don't let it build-up"



Emily 7B

"I found the transition good; I was excited to meet new people, I've made lots of good friends and we sometime meet up outside of school"

"The trickiest thing about starting secondary school was finding my way from class to class – I only got lost once! But by the second week I knew how to get around to all my lessons"



Paige 7S

"I like the fact that the clubs are with the older years, and I can show them I can play. I enjoy the competition that comes with that"

"I would advise anyone starting to just be kind and you'll soon make friends"

Operation Christmas Child

Thank you to everyone who filled a shoebox of lovely gifts for this wonderful charity!!

311 shoeboxes left our school for destinations around the world. The

mission of Operation Christmas Child is to show God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.



Geography photography competition



During our Year 7 geography field trip, pupils were encouraged to enter a photography competition to showcase the images they captured during the trip. With so many fantastic photos, it was a tough decision as we were blown away by the standard of images captured!

Congratulations to our winners: Esme P, 7J; Liberty R, 7J; Arabella, 7B; Pixie, 7O; Abbie S, 7C; Daisy A, 7S; and Maggie W, 7T.



A visit from Liverpool poet and author

Most recently, we hosted Liverpool poet, author and Cambridge academic Malik Al Nasir.

Mr Al Nasir discussed his extraordinary life and touched on important topics, including discrimination, race, slavery, law, music and more. The session left a lasting impression on students, who described Mr Al Nasir as an inspiration.



Staff recognition

We firmly believe in fostering a culture of appreciation and acknowledgement, not just of our wonderful pupils but for our committed team too.

Each half term, a vote is held and an award is given to recognise the exceptional efforts made by the team, understanding that the heart of the school's success lies in the collective contributions of each individual involved.

First half term saw the award going to our IT department – since September the IT Technicians have had to support the staff through a new server installation, new laptops and new staff logins in addition to a whole raft of issues that were out of their hands such as server outages, broken printers, SIMS issues etc. They have always dealt with these issues professionally and with a

smile on their face. Anytime a member of staff emails IT support, they receive a response quickly and the issue is dealt with as soon as possible. Without IT, it would be very difficult to do our job and the IT technicians are always extremely helpful at making our school run as efficiently as possible. Thank you!



The future is bright at Bosco

A quick glimpse into some events coming up – more information to follow but keep an eye on our socials and website for up-to-date details!

Term starts Monday, 8 January

Year 8 parents' evening Thursday, 18 January

Saint John Bosco Feast Day Wednesday, 31 January

Year 9 parents' evening and Options Thursday, 1 February

Spring half term Monday, 12 February – Friday, 16 February

Deck the halls with creativity: Announcing the winner of our Christmas card design competition!

Year 11 pupils that made the 3D model are Lillie-April, Zoha, Eva, Anna and Justyna.

Year 8 pupil, Katarzyna selected the greeting message, which will be sent to other local schools, organisations and the community.

"May the spirit of Christmas infuse your life and everyone you know and love with hope, positivity and joy. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!"



Students set to shine on ITV

12 of our students are singing as part of the 100 Voices Choir which is set to air on ITV on New Year's Eve!

This really is a once in a lifetime opportunity for these students, and we look forward to seeing them in action on the big night! We hope you will all be tuning in and cheering them on

whilst seeing in the New Year! We will bring you more details of their experience soon.



A final thought

Thank you for your ongoing support.

From everyone at St John Bosco Arts College, may we wish you all a joyous Christmas and a happy New Year.

We look forward to seeing what the New Year brings when we welcome pupils back on Monday, 8 January 2024.

St John Bosco Team