

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers,

I hope this message finds you well.

### You said, we did

Thank you again for completing the recent parent survey. I have described below updates on areas where comment was made for our consideration.

| You said ...                    | We did ...   |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Information on Progress         | We are working hard to increase the flow and clarity of information relating to your child's progress. We are doing this through: the on-line 'Meet the Tutor Evening' at the beginning of the year, revising the report layout with videos to explain how they should be read (KS3 <a href="https://youtu.be/_nhA3EHSnZA">https://youtu.be/_nhA3EHSnZA</a> , KS4&5 <a href="https://youtu.be/XOW4sJt1QVc">https://youtu.be/XOW4sJt1QVc</a> ), in-person Parent Evenings and more informal contact home via email and post.  |
| Homework                        | Lots of positive comments about homework, but others saying 'too much' or 'too little' in equal measure. Homework is being rigorously monitored by the school and we will continue to do our best to strike the right balance. If you are concerned that your child is receiving 'too much' or 'too little' please contact their Head of Year or Mr Matthews <a href="mailto:jmatthews@salesian.surrey.sch.uk">jmatthews@salesian.surrey.sch.uk</a> who is the Leadership Team lead for homework.  |
| Examinations and Assessments    | With the exception of Year 11 and 13 all year groups officially have one Examination cycle a year which will be timetabled and completed in large venues. Assessment weeks are periods students will be assessed in class. Most of these assessments will fall in this window but sometimes they may fall just outside. We will continue to work hard to get information, including revision lists, to you and your child in good time.  |
| Indoor space during wet weather | We are currently working on a plan to place indoor seating in St.Patrick's Hall and possibly the old school Gym to increase warm and dry indoor space for students to go and eat during inclement weather. This will be in addition to the school hall, the Year 11 common room and existing covered areas such as the patio.  |
| Canteen Food                    | Generally, comments were positive, any of concern relating to the food range, cost and length of queues. At Easter we are changing our supplier to Culinera and I look forwarding to shaping this new offer with students next term. During this period we will look at pricing as well as the menu. Having gauged the queues at lunch over the last two weeks we have found that there are no queues after 1.05pm which is halfway through lunch. It is an area we will continue to monitor.  |
| Co-curricular                   | There has been more Co-curricular than ever this year. Ms Gallagher has been appointed Director of Sport leading on the Physical activities but there is much more beside, the timetable can be found here <a href="#">School Co-Curricular 2023-2024.xlsx (sharepoint.com)</a> . The Physical Education department have improved communication using SOCS which sends fixture information to the parents of the student involved in the activity. All information can be found here <a href="http://sport.salesian.surrey.sch.uk">http://sport.salesian.surrey.sch.uk</a> |
| SEND                            | To continue to support student with SEND and those requiring assessment we have increased staffing in this area. We now have three named SENDCos with specific responsibility: Mrs Rawlins <a href="mailto:erawlins@salesian.surrey.sch.uk">erawlins@salesian.surrey.sch.uk</a> is SENDCo for KS3, Mrs Young <a href="mailto:ryoung@salesian.surrey.sch.uk">ryoung@salesian.surrey.sch.uk</a> for KS4 and 5 and Mrs Wright <a href="mailto:twright@salesian.surrey.sch.uk">twright@salesian.surrey.sch.uk</a> is SENDCo for student inclusion and access arrangements.     |

### The Sunday Times 'Best state and grammar school's list 2024'

Humility is everything but I was really pleased for the whole community when Salesian was placed in the top 10 comprehensive schools in the UK in 2024 Sunday Times list. As I said to the staff on Monday, this is just a recognition of the results, I personally place our culture and ethos as being even stronger than our outcomes. Thank you to you as parents, guardians and carers for your contribution in helping us to this position.

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## Best comprehensive schools in the UK

1. [JFS, Harrow](#) (45)
2. [St Andrew's RC School, Surrey](#) (56)
3. [Tauheedul Islam Girls' High School and Sixth Form College, Blackburn](#) (57)
4. [The St Thomas the Apostle College, London](#) (80)
5. [Lady Margaret School, London](#) (82)
6. [Menorah High School for Girls, London](#) (91)
7. [Hasmonean High School for Girls, London](#) (121=)
8. [The London Oratory School](#) (143)
9. [Waldegrave School, Twickenham](#) (149=)
10. [Salesian School, Chertsey](#) (49=)
11. [Didcot Girls' School](#) (157)

### The run up to Christmas

One of the things that allow us to perform at a high level is the fact that despite our failing rail network student attendance is so strong. It is vital that this is maintained right up until the 21<sup>st</sup> December. In that last week we will be teaching until the last lesson but we will also be sharing experiences like masses, liturgies and the Christmas Video, all things that make us who we are. Please ensure your child is present. If they are ill please email [attendance@salesian.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@salesian.surrey.sch.uk) by 9am on the morning of their absence. We will be monitoring absence, as ever, right up until the last day.

### Key dates

| Date  | Event  |
|---|--|
| 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2023                    | School Christmas Lunch / Christmas Jumper Day  |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2023                    | College Christmas Lunch / Christmas Jumper Day |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> / 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2023 | Blood Brothers Drama Production                |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2023                    | Pre-loved Uniform Sale                         |

Have a lovely weekend.

God bless,

Paul Gower | Headteacher  
Salesian | Chertsey