

Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians,

I hope this email finds you well.

As Easter people, this time of year is special for us; a time of hope, a time of peace and a time of new life. I very much hope that you find all over the next 17 days.

Cultural Belonging

Culture Day on Wednesday at the School and College was a wonderful thing. Belonging, a key theme for us this year is all about knowing who you are and where you come from. We have worked hard over the last two years particularly, to grow the sense of Salesian belonging in the student psyche. Culture day on Wednesday was about a different type of belonging. It was about remembering your heritage, your roots, where your ancestors and tribe once were and we weren't let down. The colours on show spanned the globe with countries as far afield as the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the Philippines, to China, India, South Africa, Jamaica and many much closer such as Italy, Poland and a healthy spread of the home nations too.

The hope is that students got to learn a little about these different cultures and in doing so we would be even closer as a community. That we, more than ever, would be a school which celebrates our differences and holds our collective arms open to all people regardless of colour, culture, background, gender, sexuality or interests. Salesian is, and will remain, a place for all, where all students should feel loved, should feel connected and should feel that they belong. Thank you to all of you who contributed to your child's experience through buying flags, native dress or cooking wonderful food.

Wellbeing

The Wellbeing Hub provides parents with the latest research and tools to create a happy home life, reduce drama, encourage your children to build independence and resilience and to enable them to thrive. It offers parenting courses, expert-led webinars, an extensive resources library, our A-Z of wellbeing, podcasts and a range of specialist support, all free. If you are interested or would just like a look, click [here](#).

Recognition

We were pleased to hear that we were recognised by SSAT for being among the top performing schools in the country for attainment and progress last year (top 10%). Sue Williamson the Chief Executive of SSAT said *'Congratulations to Salesian School, Chertsey, for winning two SSAT Educational Outcomes Awards. These awards are down to the superb Learning and Teaching, outstanding support and inspirational leadership of students, staff, parents and governors. You have made a huge difference to the lives of the young people in your school. Thank you.'*

Key dates

Date	Event
Monday 15 th April 2024	Start of Summer term
Thursday 2 nd May 2024	Accelerated Day / 2.15pm Finish

I will finish as I started, by wishing you all a lovely and holy Easter break.

God bless,



Paul Gower | Headteacher
Salesian | Chertsey