The Salesian Academy of St. John Bosco

Proud to be part of Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Trust

AUTUMN 2026

RUAH!

THE SALESIAN ACADEMY OF ST JOHN BOSCO
COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



"It is not enough to love the young; they must know that they are loved."

A FOND FAREWELL TO OUR OLD SCHOOL BUILDING

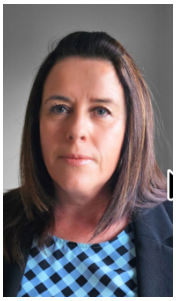
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Headteacher's Welcome



Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils,

What an incredibly busy and emotional end to our first half term! As we packed up our old school building for the final time, there has been a real mixture of nostalgia, excitement and anticipation for the next chapter in the history of the Salesian Academy of St John Bosco. It was wonderful to welcome former pupils and staff back for one last visit, sharing memories and celebrating everything our school has meant to generations of families. It was only fitting that our pupils also had the opportunity to mark this special occasion with a final Bosco Bingo and form quiz competitions celebrating the history of our school, with lots of prizes and fun along the way!

As you will see throughout this edition of RUAH!, there has been so much to celebrate this half term. Our Year 7 pupils have made a fantastic start, enjoying their Welcome Mass and retreats, while our Open Evening was a wonderful opportunity to showcase our Salesian community. We have also celebrated some outstanding sporting achievements, including pupils making their debuts for England Under-15s and Morecambe FC Under-19s. These are just a few examples of the many opportunities and successes that make our school community so special.

Following our two-week half-term break and staff INSET day, we will begin our phased return to the new school building. This is an important part of ensuring that we manage health and safety effectively and give pupils the time and support they need to settle into their new surroundings. Excellent attendance and punctuality will be essential, particularly during this transition. I ask all parents and carers to ensure pupils attend on their allocated return days, arrive on time and are ready to learn. Please check the arrangements carefully so that every pupil can benefit from a positive and successful start in our new school.

A particular reminder to our Year 11 pupils, who will be sitting their mock examinations following half term. All pupils have access to our dedicated revision Padlet, which is packed with resources and web-based revision activities. It is vital that pupils make good use of these materials over the break, establishing regular revision habits and returning fully prepared to give their very best.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere thanks to our pupils, staff, parents and carers for their patience, understanding and continued support throughout this significant period of change. Although we are saying goodbye to a building filled with memories, the heart of the Salesian Academy of St John Bosco has always been its people and our Salesian values. These will remain firmly at the centre of everything we do.

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable half term and look forward to welcoming our pupils into our fantastic new school as we begin this exciting new chapter together.

Sue Bourgade
Headteacher

School News

Goodbye to Our Old Building 1966–2026: One Last Look



School closed Friday 23rd October 2026 – New school to open for staff (INSET) on Monday 9th November 2026. For pupil return please see page 8.

Before we said goodbye to our old building for the final time, we opened our doors to the wider community so that former pupils, staff and friends of the school could walk its corridors one last time.

It was a wonderful, emotional occasion. Visitors toured the chapel, the corridors and the sports hall, sharing stories of lessons, teachers and friendships that have stayed with them for decades. For many, it was the first time they had been back through the doors since leaving school.

A display of memorabilia drew a crowd all afternoon. Among the treasures were a whole-school panoramic photograph of Salesian College, Bootle from June 1967, a prize-giving programme and newspaper cuttings from years gone by. There was plenty of pointing, laughing and “that’s me!” as former pupils searched for their younger selves among the rows of faces.

Old friends were reunited outside the building, and many visitors stopped for a photograph beside the bust of St John Bosco, a fitting reminder that while buildings change, the Salesian spirit of our school carries on.

Thank you to everyone who came along and shared their memories with us. The building may be closing, but the community it created will always be part of who we are. We are now looking forward to opening the doors of our new building on 9th November 2026, the start of an exciting new chapter in our school’s story. We can’t wait to welcome you inside!

Year 7 – Welcome Mass





This term, we were delighted to celebrate our Year 7 Welcome Mass, officially welcoming our newest pupils into our Salesian family. Parents and carers joined us for this special occasion, and it was lovely to share it with so many families.

The Mass was a joyful celebration of new beginnings, with St John Bosco watching over us. Our Year 7s were a credit to the school throughout, taking part with real reverence and maturity.

Thank you to Father Jacob and Deacon Dennis who led the celebration, to Father Augustine and Brother Dominic who helped prepare it and to all the families who came along. Welcome to our Year 7s. We are so glad you are here.

Year 7 – Retreats





Our Year 7 retreats took place this term, building on the welcome theme of our Year 7 Mass. The retreats give our newest pupils the chance to get to know one another, make new friendships and feel truly part of our Salesian family.

Pupils enjoyed time outdoors together, playing games, taking part in activities and having moments of reflection. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow and the laughter flow as they settle into school life.

Thank you to all the staff who make these days so special.

Open Evening 2026

We were delighted to welcome so many families to our Open Evening this term. The hall was packed as prospective pupils and their parents and carers heard all about life at our school and what makes our Salesian community so special.

Visitors then toured the school and joined in a range of activities. In Science, our young visitors put on their safety goggles and sprinkled iron filings into Bunsen burner flames to create sparks, much to their delight. Classrooms were buzzing as families met staff, asked questions and got a real feel for the school.

Thank you to all the families who came along, and to our staff and pupils who made the evening such a success. We look forward to welcoming our future Year 7s into our new building next September.





Personal Development – Black History Month

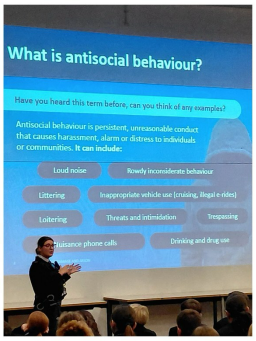
October was Black History Month, and staff across the school celebrated it by championing inspirational role models in their own fields. Each department shone a spotlight on people linked to their subject, helping pupils discover the achievements and contributions of Black pioneers in science, the arts, sport, literature and beyond.

Understanding Hate Crime

This month we also helped our pupils understand the serious issue of hate crime. Our community police officer visited school to speak to pupils about what hate crime is, the different forms it can take and the impact it has on individuals and communities. The talk also covered antisocial behaviour and how to report concerns.

Pupils listened with real maturity and respect, which reflects our Salesian values and our commitment to a school where everyone feels safe and valued. Thank you to our community police officer for such an important and informative session.



Personal Development – Careers and Extra-Curricular

Work Experience – Ready for the World of Work



Work experience placements, May 2026

Last year, our Year 10 pupils took part in work experience for the very first time, and it was a huge success. From children's music sessions to busy offices and engineering sites, pupils gained real insight into the world of work and grew in confidence.

Our current Year 10s have completed their application forms and are looking forward to their placements in May 2027. A huge thank you to all the employers who support our pupils by opening their doors to them.

The Talent Foundry



We are proud to work with The Talent Foundry and leading companies such as KPMG and Dell to help prepare our pupils for the world of work. These partnerships give pupils the chance to meet real employers, explore different careers and start thinking about their own futures.

This half term, our Year 7s got their first taste of an employer encounter. Pupils worked together on activities and asked plenty of questions, showing great curiosity and enthusiasm.

Year 11 – One-to-One Careers Interviews

Year 11 pupils have been having one-to-one careers interviews every Thursday since September. Each pupil gets a 30-minute session to talk through their options, interests and next steps after Year 11. The interviews will continue throughout the year, so every pupil gets the guidance they need to move on with confidence. We are committed to preparing our pupils for the future and helping them make the choices that are right for them.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Our pupils have a full extra-curricular timetable to choose from, and it's been a busy and creative start to the year. Pupils have been busy bringing our old Lambanana to life, baking batches of biscuits, drawing and creating fantastic artwork. For Open Evening, they also created a colourful flower display for the school.



It has been brilliant to see so many pupils getting involved, trying something new and discovering new talents along the way.

Once we move into our new building, we will hold a registration event so that every pupil can sign up for the clubs and activities that interest them. Watch this space for more details!

Celebrating Success

Sporting Success






It has been a fantastic start to the year for sport at our school! We are incredibly proud of two of our pupils who made their debuts this year, one for England Under-15s and the other for Morecambe FC Under-19s. What a brilliant achievement, and a real inspiration to younger pupils with sporting dreams of their own.

Our Year 7 girls have also had their first taste of high school netball, and their enthusiasm and teamwork were great to see.

We look forward to keeping you updated on our pupils' sporting achievements throughout the year. Keep up the great work, everyone!

Results Day 2026: A Celebration of Hard Work



In August, our Year 11 pupils returned to school to collect their GCSE results, and what a morning it was. There was a real sense of excitement as pupils opened their envelopes.

There were smiles, hugs and celebratory photos with friends, as well as plenty of time to talk through results with staff. Every pupil received a "Next Steps" booklet, and staff were on hand all morning to offer advice and support.

These results are the reward for years of hard work, and we are incredibly proud of every one of our pupils. We would also like to thank the families and staff whose encouragement helped them get there.

Our former Year 11s have now begun the next chapter of their lives. Here are some of the Post-16 destinations our pupils have gone on to: South Sefton Sixth Form, Hugh Baird College, Myerscough College, Liverpool Progressive School and St Mary's Sixth Form. We know they will carry our Salesian values with them wherever they go.

We wish them every success and happiness for the future. Once a member of our school community, always a member.

Year 11 Information Evening

To support our current Year 11, we held an information evening. Parents and carers came along to find out how best to support their child. Pupils all received a revision pack and we also signposted the new Padlet that has been created: Year 11 Revision Padlet.

Dates for Your Diary

Date	Event	Who
Tuesday 10th November 2026	Return to school – Half Term 2	Year 7 – 10am Year 11 – 10am
Wednesday 11th November 2026	Return to school – Half Term 2	Years 7, 10 and 11 – 8.35am Years 8 and 9 – 11.15am
Tuesday 22nd December 2026	Term ends	All Years
Monday 4th January 2027	Return to school – Half Term 3	All Years
Friday 12th February 2027	Term ends	All Years
Monday 22nd February 2027	Return to school – Half Term 4	All Years
Thursday 25th March 2027	Term ends	All Years
Wednesday 7th April 2027	Return to school – Half Term 5	All Years
Friday 28th May 2027	Term ends	All Years
Monday 7th June 2027	Return to school – Half Term 6	All Years
Friday 16th July 2027	Term ends for the academic year 2026/2027	All Years

Contact Us

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Social media: Click a button below to follow us.

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