



# ST JOHN PAYNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

*Be it known...*

1st March 2019

## Dear Parents & Carers

Year 11 students who attended the ski trip to Italy during half term returned with many fond and lasting memories. We thank Mrs Watson, Mr Ashton-Tyler, Miss Hyman, Mr Keylock and Mr Folkard for dedicating their week's break to affording the students what I am assured was as ever a fantastic week for all involved.

On Tuesday a group of Year 13 students attended an English language conference in London, hearing a range of world renowned linguists including Professor David Crystal; next week also sees revision conferences for Year 11 P.E. & Year 13 History and Maths students. These opportunities are a vital complement to the curriculum, and we greatly appreciate the dedication of the many members of staff committed to providing students with such enriching experiences.

Also on Tuesday, a number of Year 7 students officiated at the Primary Superstars Sports Festival at Chelmsford Sport & Athletics Centre. Our association with Chelmsford School Sport Partnership offers students opportunities to increase their sporting participation and develop leadership. Elsewhere, on Wednesday the maths department organised for students to compete in a maths feast at KEGS; and on Monday we hold our Junior Chess competition.

Yesterday's consultation evening for parents and carers of Year 9 students was a welcome opportunity to inform students' option choices following our Options evening earlier this month. As Mrs Coleman and Mr Marsh have advised, students are encouraged to select choices that will support their interests and facilitate their progress not only throughout Key Stage 4 but also beyond their Year 11 examinations.

Year 11 students have begun visiting the sixth form centre to become familiar with the surroundings they will enjoy if remaining with us next year. We are pleased to continue our support, and inspired by the hopes and aspirations students reveal during interviews with school leaders as they prepare for their examinations.

Year 8 students begin their Retreats to Abbotswick House of Prayer next Wednesday to Friday. As Lent begins, all students will receive Ashes on Wednesday.

We are grateful to our PTA for hosting this evening's disco for students in Years 7 & 8. The PTA offers great support for the school via a range of events. At the start of the break Miss Cook and Mrs West organised an afternoon tea dance in Aquinas hall. Proceeds will support fundraising for a new school mini bus.

Thomas Coen, Headteacher.

## Celebrations & Successes

Congratulations to Patrick Y11 upon receiving this year's Canon Manning prize. Patrick has been instrumental in strengthening our partnership with Columbus College, facilitating lunchtime visits throughout the last academic year for a number of his Year group. With pending exams placing increased demands on Year 11 students' time, Patrick has arranged for Year 10 students to attend. Our partnership with Columbus epitomises our values, and Patrick's commitment is a wonderful example of the servant leadership that underpins all that we do.

Congratulations also to the many Year 7 & 8 students selected to compete in the indoor athletics finals on Thursday 14th March. This is based on the teams' success at the District competition where they won the overall titles in all age groups.

Please see the accompanying details of a Parent Governor Vacancy. The involvement of a parent in the Governing Body is of particular importance as we plan for the school's future. We are keen to reflect the diversity of our school community and welcome applications from across the parent body. Please contact Anne Rushton for further detail [gov-ar@sjp.essex.sch.uk](mailto:gov-ar@sjp.essex.sch.uk)

SJP is a proud Teacher Training Partnership School to Billericay Education Consortium and West Essex Teacher Training School Alliance. Please contact us if you are interested in a career in teaching and/or work experience.

Information events are offered at:

**Colchester Town Hall:** 28.03.19 4.30-7.30

**Bromfords School:** 05.03.19 08.00-16.00; 18.03.19 08.00-16.00; 10.04.19 (Easter break)

**06.03: Ash Wednesday**

**06.03 - 08.03 & 13.03 -15 .03: Y8 Retreats**

**11.03: Y7 Reconciliation**

**14.03: Y7/8 County Indoor Athletics Final**

**21.03: Y12 Consultation evening**

**21.03.19 4.00p.m.-7.00 p.m. Canon Roche Hall, Billericay: *Get into Teaching: Catholic Education*, a recruitment evening for all interested in teaching in Brentwood Diocese Catholic schools.**

**06.04.19 - *Moving Into Catholic Education* a Saturday networking event and free lunch in Brentwood for teachers working in any non-Catholic school. <http://tiny.cc/catholicteaching> (email [agnusdei@stbons.org](mailto:agnusdei@stbons.org))**

**Governors assure parents & carers that no MAT decision involving SJP will be taken without consultation with all parties.**



*...to all who enter here that Christ is the reason for this school.*

