



ST JOHN PAYNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Be it known...

5th April 2019

Dear Parents & Carers

Today's non-uniform day raised funds in aid of the CAFOD Cyclone Idai appeal, complemented on Monday by the sixth form organising a handball game in the sports hall during lunchtime.

This week Mrs Mills and Mrs Watson's Year 9 P.E. classes have led sporting activities for students from Columbus College and St. Pius X Catholic school respectively. We are grateful for the positive relations we enjoy with our neighbouring schools; and for the opportunities they provide to develop servant leadership - a guiding principle of our faith.

On Tuesday Mrs Brennan and a group of Year 8 students attended a workshop that raised awareness of safeguarding measures against online grooming. We encourage students to speak with us if they are ever concerned about anything they experience online. Our website has a range of advice <https://www.sjp.essex.sch.uk/pastoralie-safety/>

Last Sunday's Gospel of the prodigal son called us to reflect upon the times that we feel ourselves outside of God's light; times that we are wayward, profligate, and distant from his love. Christ's Passion and Resurrection invite us to find our home with the Father as we are led to the eternal life promised by Christ's sacrifice.

At Easter Christ's humanity appears in stark relief. He breaks bread with friends; he humbles himself to wash his brothers' feet; he foretells his fate, understanding and accepting the betrayal that must further his Father's plan; he pleads in the garden, **'Let this cup pass me by,'** his darkest hour lighting his human frailty and fear.

Yet with his next breath, submitting his body just as he will his spirit on the cross, Christ offers the keystone of the one prayer he teaches be prayed by all who follow his Father, **'Thy will be done.'**

Christ submits to his Passion, assuring his disciples, **'I am with you always, even to the end of the age.'** We take heart from his promise to the thief crucified beside him, **'Today you will be with me in paradise.'** - an eternal promise embodied by his Resurrection; a promise we pray that we all will hear; God's will be done.

I am pleased to conclude the term with an accompanying letter of reflection on its many blessings.

Thomas Coen, Headteacher.

Celebrations & Successes

Congratulations to our Year 11 football team for reaching the final of the Mid Essex Cup following a hard fought semi-final against Ormiston Rivers School. Well done also to our Year 9 girls' netball team for reaching the final of the Essex Cup, where they were unfortunately beaten by Frances Bardsley Academy.

Your brother was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.



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:

Bromfords School: 10.04.19 (Easter break)

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)

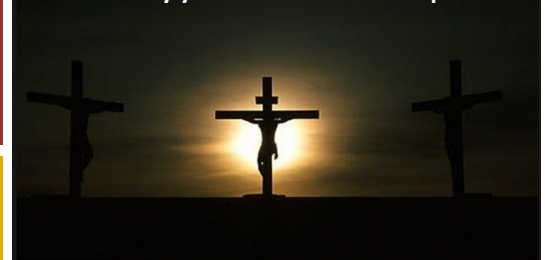
Little 2 Big Voices is an interactive vocal workshop, that coaches 11-18yrs to sing ensemble, solo or as a small group for all styles of music on Mondays from 5.00-6.30pm at The Millennium Centre, Great Baddow. We sing in the community, raising money for charity. We have raised over £1700 in two years.

Cost £165 per term. Concessions available. The group is run by Singing Teacher Jane Parker. For more details see www.little2bigvoices.com 07952610223.

Stay with me



Today you will be with me in paradise



He is not here; he is risen



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.





